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MONTHLY BULLETIN

VOLUME 43 NO 1

Meetings held at the Uniting Church Hall, cnr. Flora and Merton St., Sutherland on the Second Monday of the Month. All Visitors Welcomed. Visit our Website on www.ssos.org.au

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JANUARY 2007

Minutes from the December 06 Meeting.

The President, in declaring the meeting open, welcomed all present, including the members and guests. He then called for a motion that minutes of the December meeting as printed in the Bulletin, be passed as a true record . Mrs. Dianne Hannah moved the motion.

Murray went on to thank Simone Flynn for her work as our Treasurer, who leaves that position at the end of December.

He then announced that Mr. George Birss will be the incoming Treasurer, that he should be very busy almost immediately now that the Annual Membership **FEES ARE NOW DUE**.

Thank you for a job well done Simone over many years.

The January meeting will be our annual seedling night. Where members have the opportunity to vote on what they think is the best seedling of the year from slides. A thank you to Dennis Wood, who does this job, every year.

Pamphlets on Pests , Diseases and Viruses are on order, and should be available from the Sales Bench in the near future.

The Beginners classes will begin again in February, at 7:30 p.m.

In announcing the Annual prizes and Point Score, the President congratulated all the members who received a trophy or certificate, and these were won by the following:

Gary Hart --- Annual Point Score Trophy
--- Paphiopedilum Trophy
--- Species Trophy

Madge Errington ---Miscellaneous Trophy
Colin Fraser ---Cymbidium Trophy
Spiros Vavayis --- Novice Trophy
Neville Roper --- Native Trophy
Ted Beehag --- Cattleya Trophy

He then went on to announce that 5 members had been elevated from novice to the Intermediate Section, Spiros Vavayis, George Birss, Dianne & Michael Hannah, and Louise Gannon.

Two members have been elevated from novice, to open Section.—Sandra Crosby & Tony Costa. Congratulations!

After the formalities of prize giving, members enjoyed the bounty of the Xmas Party. A thanks to the Committee for organizing the hot food, drinks, tables, etc.and to all the members who supplied a wonderful assortment of prizes for the monster raffle, and food for everyone to enjoy.

Murray also thanked all those members, who every month judge the plants, do the writing for the point score, collate the point score , conduct our sales table or in fact in any small way. Without your contributions, the Society couldn't function.

We would be remiss if “Auntie Madge” wasn’t thanked personally, for her contribution for not only the suppers she prepares for us monthly, but for the judges suppers at our shows. A huge job, well done. If you, whether male or female, could help in the serving supper, please see Madge, she would be only to pleased for your help.

CORRESPONDENCE

The President of the OS N.S.W., Mr Graham Larkham, wishing all members, a Merry Xmas. Mt. Beenak catalogue.

LUCKY PLANTS

E.Beehag, SCrosby/T Costa, J.Hart

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 8 th. January ---SSOS Monthly Meeting -Point Score- Seedling Comp. Slides And Judging.
- 12 th. February –SSOS Monthly Meeting -Point Score- Novice Classes 7:30 p.m.

Judges Roster Jan. 2007

	TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3
LEAD JUDGE	K WILSON	E BEEHAG	I CHALMER
JUDGE	N ROPER	G HART	D BROOKS
JUDGE	S T HO	J HART	W CHAPMAN
ASSOC./	J MOSS		
WRITER	K HUGHES	I WARE	G BIRSS

Editor’s Corner

Discussion Group – S T Ho is planning a discussion group for 2007. Depending on numbers, it is anticipated to hire the hall where our Xmas party is held for a weeknight, say commencing 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm. It will be open to all members, see Ho for more information. The cost of the Hall hire will be paid by participating members. If you are interested, contact HO on 9521 4972 by latest end of Jan 07.

Website - A volunteer is needed to be our contact for the Society website. It involves finding stuff and new ideas for the website and working with Toni Benton (Our webmaster) You do not need to know anything about how to do the website, Toni will take care of that, you only need to provide her with information etc. If anyone is interested , please see Murray or Louise. Contributions are welcomed. Contact S T Ho for the time being.

Have you a wish list/ Let us know and we will put it in the Bulletin for you.

Ray Anthony is after Cymbidium Cricket. If you have one to sell, see the sales bench.

REMINDER - Fees are now due, you must be financial by February otherwise you will not be receiving your bulletin

Wishing all members & their family a Happy & prosperous new year.

LIMING – Alan Merriman

There have been so many growers who are not quite sure on what lime to use to combat low pH and calcium and magnesium deficiency. Well, here is your answer :

Liming Material : add 2 parts by weight dolomite to one part by weight agricultural lime. This combination results in a 2-1 calcium to Magnesium in solution in the short term but settles down to 4-1 in about five months. Anything above 6-1 up to 8-1 results in magnesium deficiency.

Although Calcium and Magnesium have equal positive electrical charge, Magnesium is more soluble than Calcium and tends to leach more quickly than Calcium.

Cymbidiums with a magnesium deficiency have an even mottle along the entire leaf. Over recent times I have seen many plants with a magnesium problem. Calcium and magnesium seem to be the main problem today. Over past years, iron was always a problem. Don’t worry, don’t be complacent, iron can still be a problem.

Foliar Vs Soil Applied Nutrients – Did you know your plants receive more nutrients from foliar applications compared to soil applications? The results are as follows “

Nutrient	Foliar	Soil
Nitrogen	1 kg replaces	4 kg
Magnesium	1 kg replaces	75 kg
Zinc	1 kg replaces	12 kg
Iron	1 kg replaces	100 kg
Boron	1 kg replaces	4 kg

MONTHLY JUDGING RESULTS

For : Dec-06

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Cymb. Little Beauty E & A. Marks

INTERMEDIATE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Paph. Magic Gem xTuxedo Junction G. Birss

NOVICE & JUNIOR JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Neofinita falcata D. Coulton

CLASS # 1 AUSTRALIAN NATIVES

- 1st Sarco. ceciliae I. Chalmers
- 2nd Sarco. ceciliae K.Wilson
- 3rd Cymb. maddidum Crosby & Costa

CLASS # 2 SPECIES PAPHIOPEDILUM

- 1st P. haynaldianum G. Hart
- 2nd P. moquettianum W&J. Chapman
- 3rd P. wilhelminae G. Hart
- 4th P. laevigatum K.Wilson

CLASS # 3 CATTLEYA OVER 110mm

- 1st C. Netrasiri Beauty x Lc. Pixie Gold M. Errington

CLASS # 4 NOVELTY PAPHIOPEDILUM

- 1st P. Julius x philippenense G.Hart
- 2nd P.Harvest Hues x malipoense Crosby & Costa
- 3rd P. Unknown M&J. Chapman
- 4th P. Rowena `McFarlane` K. Wilson

CLASS # 5 CATTLEYA OVER 80 TO 110mm

- 1st Lc. Peggy San x Sc.Mem E. Beehag
- 2nd C. Intercepts `Ellen Littman` A.&E. Moulang
- 3rd Lc. Aussie Sunset `Cosmic Fire` E. Beehag

CLASS # 6 PAPHIOPEDILUM

- 1st P. Harvest Hues K. Wilson

CLASS # 7 CATTLEYA INTERGENERIC (Up to 70mm)

- 1st Ctn. Cherry Vanilla J. Hart
- 2nd Ctna. Why Not E.Beehag
- 3rd Lctna.Tina E.Beehag
- 4th Lctna. Cosmo-Samquinea E.Beehag

CLASS # 8 CATTLEYA UP TO 80mm

- 1st Slc. Pal's Rags #1 E.Beehag
- 2nd C. Everything Nice `Exquisite` T&J. Hyde
- 3rd Slc. Pal's Rags #1 E.Beehag

CLASS # 9 AUSTRALIAN NATIVE HYBRID

- 1st Cymb. Little Black Sambo N.Roper

CLASS # 10 SPECIES ASIAN

- 1st Aerides flabelatte M. Errington
- 2nd Aer houletiana I.Chalmers
- 3rd Coel. pandurata D. Wood
- 4th Phal. mannii Crosby & Costa

CLASS # 11 PHALAEOPSIS

- 1st Phal. unknown Crosby & Costa
- 2nd Dpts. Akebona x Dpts. Happy Valentine Crosby & Costa
- 3rd Phal. Maki `Wantanab `Carmela` T & J.Hyde
- 4th Dpts.Happy Valentine Crosby & Costa

CLASS # 12 SEEDLING

- 1st Prom. Norman Gaunt N.Roper
- 2nd Prom. Crawshayana xDina Albright N.Roper
- 3rd Prom. Firefly x Crawshayana N.Roper
- 4th Prom. Florafest Cheetah x Chameleon N.Roper

CLASS # 13 ONCIDIUM

- 1st Onc. Sydney E.Beehag

CLASS # 14 NOVELTY PHALAEOPSIS UNDER 75mm

- 1st P. Hysing Webber T & J. Hyde
- 2nd P. Brite Lites X Goldberry `Melting Point` T & J. Hyde
- 3rd Dpts.Queen Beer `Red Sky` A. Holsted
- 4th P. Pirate King T & J.Hyde

CLASS # 15 ONCIDIUM INTERGENERIC ALLIANCE

- 1st Onc. Dark Charmer `Antigua` Crosby & Costa
- 2nd Colm. Wildcat `Bobcat` Crosby & Costa
- 3rd Odonta. Debutante x Onc. maculatum W & J,Chapman
- 4th Tol. Durras E.Beehag

CLASS # 16 MISCELLANEOUS

- 1st Prom. Catarina N.Roper
- 2nd Prom. Norman Gaunt `Ice Green` N.Roper
- 3rd Prom. Norman Gaunt `Ice Green` N.Roper
- 4th Prom. Catarina `Top Gold` N.Roper

CLASS # 17 DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS

- 1st Den. Roy Torunaga G.Hart
- 2nd Den. Gatton Sunray E & A. Marks

CLASS # 18 VANDACEOUS NOT VANDA

- 1st Ascda. Sufun Beauty `Orange Belle` J. Hart
- 2nd Ascda. Sufun Beauty `Vibbon` M. Errington
- 3rd Ascda. Sufun Beauty N.Roper
- 4th Ascda. Pralor `Hildos` M. Errington

CLASS # 19 MASDEVALLIA & DRACULA SPECIES

- 1st Drac. astota G. Hart
- 2nd Drac. erythrocale G. Hart
- 3rd Masd. eurinogassla G. Hart

CLASS # 21 ODONTOGLOSSUM INCLUDING ODONTIODA

- 1st Odm.(Stropheon x Tontor)x Vuyl. Riddel's Ck. E.Beehag
- 2nd Oda. Mornington E.Beehag

CLASS # 21A PLEUROTHALLIDINAE HYBRIDS

- 1st Masd. Susan `Coralton` K. Wilson
- 2nd Masd. Peach Fuzz x ignea G.Hart

CLASS # 21B LAELINAE SPECIES

- 1st Laelia purpurata I. Chalmers
- 2nd Laelia purpurata Crosby & Costa
- 3rd Enc. cochleata G.Hart
- 4th Enc. diota G.Hart

CLASS # 22 MINITURE CYMBIDIUM UNDER 60mm

- 1st Cymb. Little Beauty E & A. Marks
- 2nd Cymb. Australian Midnight E & A. Marks

CLASS # 23 SPECIES OTHER THAN ASIAN OR PAPHIOPEDILUM

- 1st Max. tenuifolia R & J. Ettrick
- 2nd Prom. ovatiloba N.Roper
- 3rd Bifrenara modala N.Roper
- 4th Max. marginata G.Hart

CLASS # 23A OTHER PLEUROTHALLIDINAE SPECIES

- 1st Restrepia wagneice G.Hart

CLASS # 24A NATIVE SARCANTHINAE HYBRID

- 1st Sarc. Lois K.Wilson
- 2nd Sarc. Elise N.Roper

CLASS # 30 NOVICE -SPECIES

- 1st Oncid. unknown Gordon Dodd

CLASS # 31 INTERMEDIATE - PAPHIOPEDILUM

- 1st P.Magic Gem x Tuxedo Junction G.Birss

CLASS # 35 INTERMEDIATE - MISCELLANEOUS

- 1st Phal. Unknown G.Birss

CLASS # 36 INTERMEDIATE - SPECIES

- 1st Brassia verrucosa S.Vavayis
- 2nd Coel. tamautosa L. Gannon

CLASS # 41 JUNIORS

- 1st Neofinita falcata D. Coulton
- 2nd Brassia verrucosa D. Coulton
- 3rd Epid. excasperatum D. Coulton

ANNUAL POINT SCORE

<u>Open</u>	<u>Points</u>
HART, G	458
BEEHAG, E	267
ROPER, N	226
ERRINGTON, M	183
HO, S T	164
WILSON, K	155
HART, J	146
THORBURN, T	115
HOLSTED, A	110
WOOD, D	92
MOSS, J & M	87
CHAPMAN, W & J	80
MOAR, R	75
HYDE, T & J	67
ETTRICK, J & R	47
MACKENZIE, P	45
WHEELER, P	44
MARKS, E & A	42
FRASER, C	40
ALDRIDGE, M & L	27
MOULANG, A	19
COSTA, J	16
CHALMERS, I	14
MAR, H	14
HOOGWERF, W	11
<u>Novice</u>	
VAVAYIS, S	76
HANNAH, D & M	68
BIRSS, G	65
GANNON, L	51
CROSBY, S & COSTA,	40
DRURY, M	30
HITCHCOCK, M	30
HOWARD, O	19
ROBINSON, J	17
GILLROY, B	9
KAY, G	9
DODD, G	8
KORPI, E	5
MILLS, P & R	5
<u>Junior</u>	
COULTON, D	62

Congratulations to All

Annual Point Score Winner
- Gary Hart

Rona Gouldie Trophy Winner
- Kevin Wilson

EVERYTHING HAS A GENDER

Ziplock bags are Male, because they hold everything in, but you can see right through them.

A Tyre is Male, because it goes bald and is often over-inflated

A hot air Ballon is Male, because to get it to go anywhere you have to light a fire under it and of course there's the hot air part.

Sponges are Female because they are soft, squeezable and retains water.

A Web page is Female because it is always being hit upon.

Copiers are Female because once turned off, it takes a while to warm up again. It's an effective reproduction device if the right buttons are pushed, but can wreak havoc if the wrong buttons are pushed.

A Hammer is Male because it hasn't changed much over the last 5000 years, but its handy to have around.

An Hour glass is female because over time the weight shifts to the bottom.

A Remote Control is Female. Ha! You thought it would be male, didn't you? But consider this, it gives a man pleasure, he'd be lost without it and while he doesn't always know the right buttons to push, he keeps trying.

BACTERIAL BROWN ROT – by Nette Meggetto

Caused by *Pseudomonas gladioli*, *Pseudomonas cauleya* and several other *Pseudomonas* spp.

This disease becomes destructive particularly during humid conditions. Infecting traditionally *Phalaenopsis*, but becoming more prevalent in genera such as *Cattleya*, *Dendrobium*, *Miltoniopsis*, *Oncidium*, *Phragmipedium*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Vanda* and *Zygopetalum*.

Symptoms

The disease usually appearing on the leaf as a small circular, water soaked spot which enlarges rapidly and is light brown in colour. The affected parts normally have a wet and soft appearance.

This blister is full of watery exudates, which is a pure culture of bacteria. The disease spreads so quickly in Phalaenopsis that within one or two days it may reach the stem and completely destroy the plant.

Prevention

The growing area should be well ventilated and drained. Avoid growing plants too densely.

Hygiene is essential. Remove dead plants from growing area, keeping the floor free of dead plant material and debris. Do not reuse potting mixtures.

Water plants as needed and preferably when plant foliage will dry off quickly.

Periodic scrubbing of floors and staging with a disinfectant, such as Alginox, keeps down both bacterial numbers and fungi spores.

At the first sign of disease or pest outbreaks, remove, isolate and apply appropriate treatment to affected plants.

Treatment

Pseudomonas is a bacterial problem and cannot be controlled with a fungicide. Diseased plants should be handled carefully so as not to spread the disease to other plants in the vicinity. Cut off affected parts along with a generous amount of healthy tissue. 'Flower of Sulphur' is then rubbed neat into the resulting open wound. ON large leaved plants such as Phalaenopsis it may be possible to save the leaf by cross cutting the diseased area making sure to have a clean deep cut horizontal to the stem of the plants and packing the wound with sulphur.

Control

Reduce the amount of nitrogen fertilizer and try to increase potassium levels in the formula.

Cease using organic fertilizer, as this may be a source of food for the bacteria.

Stop watering young plants, especially community pots during an outbreak of disease.

Although unsightly, an application of Kocide or other copper based bactericide will provide residual protection for 3 to 4 weeks.

Potassium – the vital element – Murray Shergold

The author of this paper is an experienced orchid grower over many years, raising many genera of orchids, and growing them on. He has chosen to take a different approach to fungicide control because he believes it to be true and he sees this paper will promote thought and discussion ...

It is his belief that if orchids are fed properly, they will grow and carry themselves in such a way that fungicide will not normally be required. Of course, we all know that in the wild orchids with very little nutrient and survive. However, those who have ventured into the wild and compared wild grown orchids with nursery raised plants is far superior in plant health to its wild brother.

The answer is quite simple, by providing adequate nutrition we can feed the plants so that it may develop such a strong cell wall structure that it is not attractive to any pathogen or insect. The most important aspect is Potassium which is a vital element in the structure.

It is most important to feed your orchid with the same regularity that you feed yourself to build a strong healthy plants. The plant will then become much more tolerant to extremes of heat, cold, wind and rain ...just because it is strong and healthy. Predators attack the weakest parts of the weakest plants, ALWAYS.

The author is aware that a leading orchid nursery north of Brisbane has not used fungicide for three years, yet their plants are wonderfully healthy. Their feeding regime is well thought out and as regular as clockwork. We can be sure that irregular feeding brings irregular results. Treat your orchids like yourself ... feed them every week .. To an orchid regular, food is strength and protection from all predatorsdoesn't that sound reasonable.

Good Growing.

Juniors Journey- Dan Coulton

Hi my name is Daniel Coulton and I am a junior member of the Sutherland Shire Orchid Society. Lately on a number of occasions I have been asked how I started growing orchids, and on all occasions I have avoided giving an answer but when S.T. Ho asked me to write an article I stupidly said yes. So here I am writing this article.

Okay well I'll start from the very beginning, it all started about four years ago. As with many gardening stories it starts with the humble strawberry plant (yes I know its cheesy) but it's true. Coming home from a friends birthday party I found out that my father had bought three plants, one for each of us kids, though both my sisters ignored theirs, I cared for mine. I still can't explain why but I did and even though it never produced any sizeable fruit but it was the start of it all.

So from there came a series of random plants and then bonsai came on to the scene but though I could grow the plants well I found that I did have the eye for it or the patience so after just a year of being interested in that I started to neglect them but I was still interested in plants and still liked the satisfaction of growing.

So while down at a local market at Berry I came across a man selling orchids (what I now know was a cymbidium) for an okay price of \$25 so I brought it home and cared for it with no special treatment. After about six months of owning this plant and buying a couple of others, in May of 2005 I attended the first meeting, it was auction night that night and I bought a further three plants.

After having an enjoyable experience I returned for the June meeting, at this meeting I was almost locked into and became hooked on orchids when I was approached by Neville Roper with the offer of a selection of orchid seedlings. I was delighted and know I was hooked.

At the September meeting I became a member of the society which was 'so expensive' at two dollars. I then competed for the first time in the society's spring show at Swanes and being the only junior cleaned up the class with that first plant that I had bought such a while ago. It was a great event and I had lots of fun.

Moving on and in May of 2006 I started going to Ho's orchid classes which were very helpful both in meeting more members and growing orchids. In June two more important milestones arrived, one I reached 100 plants (I know that pitifull little orchid that I began with looks sad) and I finally got a shadehouse only three metres by three metres but it's a start.

In October of 2006 another major event, my very first placing in an open class a second with a softcane dendrobium, a plant which I purchased at the auction at that very first meeting though I think that there were only two or three plants entered into that class it still gave me a sense of achievement and a feel that I was actually getting somewhere in growing orchids.

So that is the story of how it all started, along the way I have met many great people and had a fabulous time. I've learned so much and hope to continue with this great little hobby. So to all of you that asked here is the answer of how it all started.

Daniel Coulton
November 2006