



Monthly Bulletin vol. 47 no. 11

NOVEMBER 2009

<u>President</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Editor</u>
Murray Aldridge	Louise Gannon 9524 9072	Jan Robinson 9520 6920	Mike Hitchcock Mlh001 @bigpond.net .au 0407 553 693

Correspondence to: The Secretary, 36 Raglan Road, Miranda, NSW 2228.

Web Site: www.ssos.org.au

Venue: The Uniting Church Hall at the intersection of Flora and Merton Sts., Sutherland on the second Monday of each Month. All visitors are welcome.

SUTHERLAND SHIRE ORCHID SOCIETY OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the last meeting as printed in the Bulletin were declared accurate. Motion was made by R. Ettrick and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Orchids Australia
- Australian Orchid Review
- Enfield Produce New Price List (enough for all members)
- Flyer from Revesby Worker's Australian Native Orchid Club in regard to their Show to be held at the Panania Senior Citizens' Centre on the Sat.24th Oct. Members of Affiliated OSNSW Societies, are welcomed to exhibit. Details on Front desk.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

NEW MEMBER

Mr. Robert Hedison was welcomed to the Society.

GUEST SPEAKER

The President advised our Speaker for tonight will be well known Paph. grower Nicky Zurcher from South Australia.

SHARKIES SPECTACULAR REPORT

After a very successful 3 days, vendors and organisers were very happy. Visitor attendance was up and by mid afternoon Saturday the numbers had surpassed last year's total.

- Thank you to SSOS members on the Sharkies Spectacular Committee. Also, to the members who volunteered their time during the show.
- Our Display was awarded 1st place. Murray thanked Bob Moar who created the structure and Jan, Sandra, May and Louise who created the Display. It was a great team effort. The large silver winner's cup was on display tonight for all members to see.
- Thank you also to everyone who exhibited orchids.
- Congratulations to Neville Roper on winning the Grand Champion Trophy, Eric Marygold Trophy, Champion Hybrid, Champion Species, 21 firsts, 3 AM's, 2 HCC's and various other certificates.

Murray congratulated all Prize winners and handed out their certificates.

AWARD PRESENTATION

Present at the meeting was Paul Wheeler, who has been unable to attend for a number of months, due to work commitments. Paul was presented with an Award for his.....

SHOW SECRETARY

Diane Hannah has decided that after 3 years as Show Secretary, that she would like to pass it on to another member. Diane has done a fantastic job and she would gladly show the ropes to anyone interested. Please speak to Diane or see Louise if you are interested.

Russell Ettrick is ordering a bulk quantity of SUPER COARSE PERLITE. The price is \$33 a bag. Please add your name to the list at the front if you are interested.

GUEST SPEAKER

After Supper, Nicky Zurcher spoke to us on how he grows his Paphs.

- Under 70% shade
- Small pots and pot bound
- 10ml bark/coco-chips, with charcoal and perlite
- Keep moist, but not in winter
- Nicky uses Charlie Carp fish emulsion at half the recommended strength
- Nicky also Uses organic fertilizer
- Uses Confidor on mealy bug. They will hide in the bark so drench the plant).

Nicky then showed us a number of slides of Paphs. Many that are a result of his own hybridising.

On behalf of all members, the President thanked Nicky for his informative talk.

LUCKY PLANTS:

G. HART, G. BIRSS, D. WOOD

JUDGES CHOICE

Results were announced and are detailed in the monthly judging results.

PLANT RAFFLE WINNERS

Visitor, O. Sutton, J. Lui (Visitor), A. Kalas, L. Gannon, M. Aldridge, O. Sutton, V. Burtenshaw, Visitor, M. Luk, O. Sutton, A. Mitsios

SSOS T-SHIRTS

Any member who would like to order a Society T. Shirt, please see Jan Robinson. Price is \$25.

NOVEMBER MEETING JUDGES ROSTER			
	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3
Lead Judge	W Chapman	D Brooks	K Wilson
Judge	E Beehag	I Chalmers	N Roper
Judge	G Hart	I Ware	ST Ho
Assoc/Trainee	J Moss	R Bisetto	G Birss
Writer	M Hitchcock	S Crosby	Jan Robinson

**MONTHLY
JUDGING
RESULTS**

For : **October**

**OPEN JUDGES
CHOICE
HYBRID**

Winner Den Mousmee 'Robert' R Bisetto

SPECIES

Winner Bapt echinata R Bisetto

**NOVICE & JUNIOR
JUDGES CHOICE**

Winner Phal Minh's Princess R Dimon

INTERMEDIATE

Winner Sarc Yvonne 'Pink Cups' D Coulton

**CLASS # 1
AUSTRALIAN
NATIVES**

1st Sarc fitzgeraldii D Wood
2nd Sarc fitzgeraldii D Wood
3rd Den kingianum G Birss

**CLASS # 2 SPECIES
PAPHIOPEDILUM**

1st Paph walterianum S T Ho
2nd Paph venustum G Hart

**CLASS # 3 CATTLEYA
OVER 110mm**

1st C Lynn Spencer 'Cha' T Costa/S Crosby

**CLASS # 4 NOVELTY
PAPHIOPEDILUM**

1st Paph Impulse S T Ho
2nd Paph Primvaal S T Ho

**CLASS #5 CATTLEYA
80 TO 110MM**

1st Lc Jewel Box 'Deep Water' T Thorburn

**CLASS # 8 CATTLEYA
UP TO 80mm**

1st Lc Trick or Treat 'Orange Magic' T Costa/S Crosby
2nd Lc Trick or Treat 'Orange Magic' T Costa/S Crosby

**CLASS # 9
AUSTRALIAN NATIVE
HYBRID**

1st Den Sarah Jane G Birss

**CLASS # 10 SPECIES
ASIAN**

1st Liparis nigra R Bisetto
2nd Dendro filiforme G Birss
3rd Dendro latifolium G Hart
4th Den amethystoglossum R Bisetto

**CLASS # 11
PHALAEENOPSIS**

1st Dtps I-Hsin 'Sesame' T Costa/S Crosby
2nd Phal Hsingying Mosa x Phal Yubriaian T Costa/S Crosby

**CLASS # 12
SEEDLING**

3rd Dtps Nobby Pink Lady x Sinica Prince T Costa/S Crosby

1st Masd Copperwing x Yellow Doll G Hart

2nd Sarc hartmanii x Velvet D Wood

3rd Masd Yellow Doll x Bellisimo G Hart

4th Sarc Cherie x Velvet D Wood

CLASS #13 ONCIDIUM

1st Onc Jihubao Gold 'JBR' T Costa/S Crosby
2nd Onc Sang Chan JW Moss

**CLASS # 14 NOVELTY
PHALAEENOPSIS
UNDER 75mm**

1st Phal Brother Girl x Brother Passat T Costa/S Crosby

2nd Phal Brother Stripes x Chih Shiang Stripes T Costa/S Crosby

3rd Ptps I-Hsin Lisa Prince T Costa/S Crosby

4th Phal Sogo David T Thorburn

**CLASS # 15
ONCIDIUM
INTERGENERIC
ALLIANCE**

1st Wils Hilda Plumtree 'Purple Wings' S T Ho

2nd Odcdm Fudge Carmela S T Ho

3rd Odcdm Wildcat 'Bloodshot' S T Ho

4th Odcdm Golden Afternoon T Thorburn

**CLASS # 16
MISCELLANEOUS**

1st Lyc Macama 'Trowena' D Wood

2nd Coel Wilhelm Micholitz D Wood

**CLASS # 17
DENDROBIUM
HYBRIDS**

1st Den Mousmee R Bisetto

2nd Den Mousmee T Costa/S Crosby

3rd Den Mahime 'Beauty' E & A Marks

4th Den Kasugano 'Evening' E & A Marks

**CLASS # 19
MASDEVALLIA &
DRACULA SPECIES**

1st Masd schroederiana G Hart

2nd Drac riplejana G Hart

**CLASS # 21A
PLEUROTHALLIDINAE
HYBRIDS**

1st Masd Latin Sun G Hart

2nd Masd Volcano Queen G Birss

3rd Masd Latin Sun G Hart

4th Masd Fuschia Queen G Hart

5th Drac Quasimodo G Hart

**CLASS # 22 MINITURE
CYMBIDIUM UNDER
60mm**

- 1st Cym Vogel's Magic
'Waikane'
2nd Cym Cricket

**CLASS # 33
INTERMEDIATE -
NATIVE SPECIES &
NATIVE HYBRID**

- E & A Marks
T Costa/S
Crosby
1st Sarc Yvonne 'Pink Cups'
2nd Sarc Dove x Fitzhart
3rd Sarc Dove x hartmanii
4th Sarc Izzy's Rainbow x
Fitzhart
D Coulton
D Coulton
D Coulton
J Robinson

**CLASS # 23 SPECIES
OTHER THAN ASIAN
OR PAPHIOPEDILUM**

- 1st Bapt echinata
2nd Max cogniauxiana
3rd Arpo giganteum
4th Max jurgensii

**CLASS # 35
INTERMEDIATE -
MISCELLANEOUS**

- R Bisett
G Birss
R Bisetto
R Moar
1st Cym pumillum 'Album'
2nd
M Hitchcock

**CLASS # 23A OTHER
PLEUROTHALLIDINAE
SPECIES**

- 1st Rest cuprea
2nd Rest sanguinea
3rd Rest elegans
4th Pleuro flexuosa

**CLASS # 36
INTERMEDIATE -
SPECIES**

- G Hart
G Hart
G Hart
G Hart
1st Paph villosum
2nd Lyc guatemalensis
J Robinson
D Coulton

**CLASS # 24A NATIVE
SARCANTHINAE
HYBRID**

- 1st Sarc hartmanii x Dove
2nd Sarc Weihart
3rd Sarc Heidi 'Red Bull'
4th Sarc Snowhart x Cheria
Snow
5th Sarc Karen Ann x Heidi

**2009 SOUTHERN ORCHID
SPECTACULAR
SOS - MEMBER RESULTS**

John Moss:
1st Class 20(a)
Den. Yukidaruma 'The King'

**CLASS # 26 NOVICE -
CYMBIDIUM**

- 1st Cym Peewee
2nd Cym unknown
3rd Cym unknown

Kevin Wilson:
2nd Class 18(d)
Paph. sukhakulii x Paph. Venture

**CLASS # 27 - NOVICE
- NATIVE & NATIVE
HYBRID**

- 1st Sarc Snowhart x
spathulatis
2nd Sarc unknown

May Luk:
2nd Class 23(d) V. Tricolour

**CLASS # 28 NOVICE -
CATTLEYA**

- 1st Ctna Why Not
2nd Cat unknown
3rd Cat unknown
4th Cat unknown

Robert Bisetto:
2nd Class 20(f) Den. Mousmee

**CLASS # 29 NOVICE -
MISCELLANEOUS**

- 1st Phal unknown
2nd Phal Sophie Robertson x
Judy Chapman

Richard Dimon:
2nd Class 23(b) Bapt. echinata
M Luk
M Luk
1st Class 11(a) Phal. Mingher Princess

**CLASS #30 NOVICE -
SPECIES**

- 1st Bif harrisoniae

Robert Coulton:
1st Class 26 & Champion Orchid Exhibited
by a Novice

**CLASS # 32
INTERMEDIATE -
CYMBIDIUM**

- 1st Cym Miss Muffet 'Black
Emerald'

**Sandra Crosby &
Tony Costa:**
2nd Class 11(a)
Dtps. I-Hsin 'Sesame'

1st Class 11(c)
Phal. Nob's Amy
M Hitchcock

2nd Class 11 (c)

Phal. Purple Haze 'Pearl'

2nd Class 11(f)

Phal. (Princess Kaiulani x Sogo John) x
Golden Peoker

Barry Warren:

2nd Class 20(b)

Den. Malones 'Jupiter'

1st Class 31

Den. Malones 'Jupiter'

Dennis Wood:

1st Class 5(a) Sarco. Melba

2nd Class 5(c)

Sarco. Burgundy on Ice

1st Class 5(d)

Sarco. Weinhart

2nd Class 8(a)

Cym. Valley Vampire 'Blood'

2nd Class 19(c)

McIna. Pagan Lovesong

2nd Class 19(d)

Oda. Top Pot x Oda. Red Cougar

2nd Class 22(c)

Lyc. Isabella 'Pink'

Daniel Coulten:

2nd Class 22(d)

Rstp. guttulata x cuprea

Diane Phillips:

1st Class 27(a)

Cym. Unknown

John Costa:

1st Class 9(c)

Cym. Doctor Len 'Ruby Sunset'

1st Class 20(b)

Den. Yodogimi 'No 1'

2nd Class 20(d)

Den. Golden Blossom

William Hoogwerf

1st Class 11(b)

Phal. Taipei Gold x (Narare Evening x
Parade Abenbu 'Maree')

2nd Class 11(d)

Phal. Taipei Gold x Phal. Brother Dendi

1st Class 11(f)

Phal. (Isaribi x Karla's Blush) x
(Channel Rose x Morning Mist)

1st Class 13(b)

C. Lyn Spencer x Rlc. Dundas

pot. They should not be allowed to overgrow the pot.

When they fill the 50mm (2") tube, they are then repotted into a 100mm (4") pot using Medium Aus-Gro® Orchid Bark (15mm). They are left in these pots until the pot is full, but again make sure they do not overgrow the pot. If the plant is allowed to outgrow the pot then when it is repotted it does not grow as vigorously as those plants not in an overgrown state. I use standard pots (not squat pots), but crock 25-30% with Styrofoam lumps.

When the plant has filled the 100mm (4") pot it is then potted into a 200mm (8") pot using Large Aus-Gro® Orchid Bark (20mm). After potting, 1/2 a handful of a 50/50 mix of Blood & Bone and Hoof & Horn is applied around the top of a 200mm pot (one handful for a 250mm pot or larger) and watered in lightly. The plants are then

HOW TO GROW DENDROBIUM SPECIOSUM THE TED WALMSLEY WAY

Over many years I have been asked how I grow my Dendrobium speciosums. So I put together this little guide to explain.

HOUSING

When the plants are first deflasked they are put under 70% shade cloth where they remain until they reach the size of a 200mm (8") pot. They are then placed with the more mature plants under 50% shade cloth for the rest of their growing and flowering life.

POTTING

When plants are first deflasked they are potted into 50mm (2") tubes using Mini Aus-Gro® (Van Schaik's Quality Products) Orchid Bark (10mm). The plants are left in these pots until they fill the

left to dry for 2 to 3 weeks before normal watering is recommenced. Repotting should then be done every two or at most every three years using the 20mm bark. Plants only show optimum growth when the bark is changed in this way – plants do not progress in old, stale bark. At the 200mm pot size, most plants will flower. Under my conditions, providing regular repotting into new bark is done, I find that the period between deflasking and first flowering is generally about 6 years.

FERTILISING

I believe the best procedure is to water one day and to fertilise the next day. I never fertilise into a dry potting mix because, while the plants must never be waterlogged, I feel that if the mix and roots are damp and fresh they will be more able to make use of the fertiliser as the roots will be more active than if the mix is dry. However, it is always better to be on the dry side with your plants rather than having them too wet.

Every two (2) months during the growing season I apply a solution of Condyl's crystals (potassium permanganate) and Epsom Salts (magnesium sulphate heptahydrate). This is made up by dissolving 10 grams of Condyl's crystals and 100 grams of Epsom Salts in 20 litres of water. This solution is then applied through a 1/16 fertilizer/water mixer. The solution as applied to the plant therefore contains about 1 gram of Condyl's crystals and 10 grams of Epsom Salts per 32 litres of water. Both Condyl's crystals and Epsom Salts are available, for example, through Selby Biolab (national customer service no 13 2991, minimum amount 500g).

In addition to the above, every six months I like to top dress the plants with the 50/50 Blood & Bone and Hoof & Horn mix at the rate of one (1) teaspoon for a 100mm (4") pot and half a handful for a 200mm (8") pot. I also use a soluble fertiliser (Grow Force Flowfeed® GF9) two to three times a year during the growing season at the manufacturer's recommended concentration (in the case of Grow Force® that is about 3g/L).

I am a firm believer in liming your plants, and have the philosophy that TOO MUCH LIME IS NOT ENOUGH. I use hydrated lime or Brickies'

lime (calcium hydroxide). I lime my plants as often as they need it, even up to six (6) to eight (8) times a year depending on the weather. I put the lime on as thick as it is needed to give good coverage on the plant.

PEST AND DISEASES

Prevention is the best cure for all ailments or pests which may affect your plants.

For insects, I rotate the use of Rogor® (dimethoate) [e.g. mfd by Richgrow Garden Products] and Lorsban® (active ingredient is chlorpyrifos – an equivalent active is in Richgrow Lawn, Beetle & Grub Killer) at two monthly intervals of spraying so I end up spraying for insects six (6) times a year. Take care to read and act on all manufacturers' safety directions before using these products.

For fungal problems I also spray every two (2) months alternating with the spraying for pests. For this I use Agri-Fos® (mfd by Agrichem Manufacturing Industries based on a phosphorous acid containing active). Another product based on the same active is Yates Anti Rot Phosacid Systemic Fungicide (where the phosphorous acid is present in the form of the mono and di potassium salts). As an alternative, I also use Mancozeb®. Products containing this active (which is sometimes in combination with sulphur) are supplied, for example, by Yates (Mancozeb Plus) and by Garden King Products (Mancozeb).

With all my pesticide and fungicide solutions I add a low level of a wetting agent. For this I use Morning Fresh® dishwashing liquid (Cussons Australia Pty Ltd).

Finally, to prevent viral infections, I sterilise my cutting implements in straight Alginox® (an algicide made by Waterco Ltd, but distributed through for example Big W and Mitre 10 stores and independent swimming pool product suppliers). Remember that you must allow the implements to soak for 20 min before use. Note also that the bush house must be kept spotless with no dead rubbish left about such as old leaves and dead plants or sick plants that won't grow. A

gravel floor which is raked and limed regularly to keep it fresh is a must in my opinion. If you are a dirty, untidy housekeeper then sterilising your cutting implements is like shutting the gate when the horse has bolted.

These are the essential points of my speciosum culture.

I hope you have the best of luck and happy growing.

Ted Walmsley.

Kempsey, NSW - Sept 2005

Author's Note: These cultural notes refer to my conditions and I do not recommend that you selectively use aspects of the above without thinking through the consequences. For example, some fertiliser solutions form insoluble precipitates with lime, in which case the regular application of limewater between fertilising may be more appropriate for you. Similarly, the use of squat pots in cooler areas such as Melbourne may be more appropriate (in which case crocking with Styrofoam isn't necessary). Be prepared to experiment to get things right for your conditions and draw on all sources of knowledge.

Editor's Note: Not included in this article is a somewhat surprising fact in regard to Ted's repotting methods. Using whatever method necessary to separate mature plants into growing divisions Ted then proceeds to virtually shave the division of all roots, both dead and healthy. These divisions are then potted in what are relatively small pots. Ted also occasionally hangs the unpotted divisions under his bench and awaits the commencement of active root growth prior to potting. Please note that this method is not used for 'potting on'.

MAXILLARIAS: PLEASE DON'T DISTURB by Brian Milligan

The genus *Maxillaria* comprises at least 700 species that are distributed throughout the Americas between Florida and northern Argentina. Most species carry only one leaf per pseudo-bulb, although some carry up to four. Each stem carries a single flower but some species compensate for this by producing several flowering stems from each pseudo-bulb. Most species require a heated glasshouse but a few may be successfully grown in a shade-house fitted with a solid roof.

By far the most common of the cool-growing species is *Maxillaria porphyrostele*, which produces its yellow flowers on rather short stems in October (if grown without heat). The column of the flower is purple (*porphyrostele* means purple column). In common with many other maxillarias, this species resents being divided. Its divisions may take a year or more to settle down before they flower again.

Another species that grows and flowers well for me without heat is *M. cucullata*, which has orange/yellow flowers in spring. According to the books, *M. densa* should do the same but it has refused to flower ever since I moved it out of my glasshouse five years ago. *M. tenuifolia* also grows well for me outdoors but no longer flowers as prolifically as it did when grown with heat. It produces its brick-red flowers, smelling of desiccated coconut, in December when grown in the glasshouse. Regrettably, there is no longer room for it there.

Another fairly common Maxillaria species is the miniature *Maxillaria sophronitis*, which grows well for me under either cool or intermediate conditions. The species epithet indicates that the flowers have the same colour as those of *Sophronitis coccinea*, that is, bright red. Unfortunately, *M. sophronitis* produces its flowers reluctantly. My plant in the shade house produced five flowers in September, while that in the glasshouse provided only two! Occasionally one sees spectacular specimen plants in flower but that is the exception, not the rule!

Other Maxillaria species that grow and flower regularly for me in the glasshouse, and that I recommend, are *M. cogniauxiana*, *M. grandiflora*, *M. juergensii*, *M. luteo-alba*, *M. meleagris*, *M. picta* and *M. variabilis*. The large, white flowers of *M. grandiflora* are especially attractive, while those of *M. juergensii* and *M. cogniauxiana* are small and dark in colour - their small plants and flowers are curious, rather than showy. In all cases, I find that re-potting or division sets back their growth, so I carry out these operations as infrequently as possible.

SSOS Bulletins

Sending the bulletin out by email has proved to be quite successful and the list of members who receive it this way is growing, if you would like to receive your bulletin this way please send our Editor, Mike an email at mlh001@bigpond.net.au with your return address and we will start sending it to you immediately.

