



EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC

Newsletter

JUNE 2015

WEBSITE: <http://eurobodallaorchidclub.webs.com/>

At our last meeting....

Jane Wright provided an informative and entertaining session on 'the whys and the wherefores' of judging. Why judge? It recognises and encourages superior orchids. Judging acknowledges improvements in plant genetics which leads to full development of plant and culture through discerning breeding. Jane pointed out that the orchids of twenty years ago, whilst *nice*, are probably not as desirable on the Show Bench as those developed more recently.

She described the judging process for Awards HCC/AM/FCC which were awards for the flower and which place equal emphasis on Genetics and Culture. Award of Distinction recognises a stand-out trait or breakthrough in breeding e.g. colour, habit etc. and cultural awards ACC/ACM/ACE provide recognition to the grower himself/herself, rather than the flower.

In Show Judging - Shape, Colour, Substance and Texture (all genetics) and a mix of genetic and cultural considerations such as Floriferousness, Stem, Habit and Arrangement, and Flower Size are all considered.

The question of shape was raised, as was the evolution of preference towards flowers which were symmetrical and circular in outline. In regard to Species and *developmental hybrids*, broader segments were preferred along with filled in flowers.

Jane gave examples of faults in shape – furling/reflexing of petals/sepals, rolling of labellums and mal-formed segments. In regard to colour she demonstrated attractive and appealing combinations with clarity and vibrancy of colour, with well-defined markings being preferred over smudged/muddy events. Her audience was then presented with a number of slides and invited to demonstrate their newfound judging appreciation and skills, by critiquing groups of four flowers at a time.

President:

Tony Groube
44712052

Vice President:

Jean Swindley
44736963

Treasurer:

Colin Pearson
44738387

Secretary:

Diane Hay
44739547

Committee:

Liz Cleaver
Graham Jackson
Sylvia Hawkins
Helen Watson
Barbara Williams



We send our best wishes to any member who is ill or undergoing treatment.

We hope you are soon feeling much better.



At our next meeting....

Jeff Lee will share his thoughts on **Automation in the Orchid House** and describe how he has *harnessed* today's technology.

NEXT MEETING

CWA HALL
QUEEN STREET
MORUYA
BENCHING BY:
7PM
MEETING: 7.30PM
SUPPER TO SHARE
10 JUNE

Plant of the

Night at our last meeting was the very beautiful BLC. George King 'Serendipity' owned by Gordon Marion



Sad News

We were saddened to hear of the passing of former Member Mavis Hogan on 18 May 2015.

Mavis and her late Husband Frank were Members from 1998 – 2009.

Sincere condolences from our Club have been extended to family members.

Growing Competition Plants

A number of Members have not collected the new, and free, Zygotetulum grocomp plant. They will be available at the June meeting as will the three remaining cymbidiums deflasked by Kevin Hipkins at the Tuross Workshop at \$5 each.

New Grocomp plants

Zga Adelaide Meadows 'Braeburn' x Zba Beenak Jester.

On going Grocomp plants are
Laeliocattleya Intercepts 'Fluoro Flash'
and
Cymbidium Dalmeny Splash 'Mystique.'

REMINDER – please bench Grocomp plants at all Meetings for advice on how to *do it* a bit better!

Orchid Crawl, Dalmeny/Narooma, Sat 13 June

We commence at the Van Ests' home at 35 Attunga St, Dalmeny at 10.30am followed by Coffee at Anton's, Dalmeny and then on to Helen Watson's at 55 Eastaway Avenue (North Narooma.)

We plan to lunch at O'Briens Hotel – the Bottom Pub. If you don't have a "Nav Man," a copy of Cartoscope's Eurobodalla Map might be useful to locate the venues.

EOC 2015 Shows

- **Winter, Fri 10& Sat 11 July, Moruya**
- **Spring Fri 21, Sat 22 & Sun 23 August, Narooma**

Preparation is well underway and Show Schedules will be available at the June Meeting & our website.

Alternatively it can be posted on request to those without electronic communication facilities.

Our pre-Winter Show stall at the Moruya Markets is planned for Sat 4 July.

NOTE: July General Meeting brought forward to 1 July.

New Growers' Workshop

Gordon Marion attracted seventeen enthusiastic growers to his workshop at Tuross on 16 May.

Gordon cleared his Living Room to demonstrate division and repotting of Cattleyas and his current potting medium.

The next New Growers' Workshop is on 12 September at Peter and Laurina Van Est's home.

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200 Princes Highway, Ulladulla



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Gordon Marion demonstrating dividing cattleyas at the last New Growers' Workshop.



We now have 107 Friends.

Monthly Maintenance

1. Keep an eye out for bugs and 'bities' around spikes. Neville Roper reminds us that the light and distant misting application of an aerosol surface insect spray on Cymbidium buds can provide an effective deterrent for any 'nasties' that might be about but make sure not to wet the buds. This protection will last until flowers are fully out. Don't hold the can too close to the plant as the spray is cold on exiting the can.

2. Keep training spikes on Cymbids and wait until the warmth of the day before applying too much pressure on the juicier Cymbids – 'snap,' followed by a run of expletives, is what you'll hear if not careful. Plants with buds that are about to pop should be under cover.

3. Cut back on watering and provide optimum light as winter sets in.

South and Western Regional Conference and Show 3&4 October, 2015 Batemans Bay

Helen Marshall has completed the backdrop to EOC's display, Gordon Marion is working on display stands and trialling some new concepts and Jean Swindley is developing designs for plant name cards.

This year's EOC display promises to be bigger and better than the display mounted at the last Conference in Canberra two years ago when we presented 105 orchids. Plants owned by Gloria Gustard, Gordon Marion and Peter and Laurina Van Est were 'Awarded' and Gloria and Gordon each took out Championship ribbons.



Disclaimer: Eurobodalla Orchid Club Inc takes no responsibility for anything said by a member or a visiting speaker.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Have you visited our website lately?

<http://eurobodallaorchidclub.webs.com/>

- June 26th -28th Royale Orchids Open Days
- June 27th & 28th (Sat. & Sun.) 2015 Mingara Orchid Fair & Show
- July 4th & 5th (Sat. & Sun.) 2015 – Tinonee Orchids Open Day & Show
- **July 10 -11 EOC Winter Show - CWA Hall Moruya**
- July 17 & 18 BBOFS Winter Show - Soldiers Club Batemans Bay
- July 25 & 26 MUOS Winter Show - Civic Centre Ulladulla
- August 7th, 8th, 9th (Fri., Sat. & Sun.) 2015 National Orchid Extravaganza - Dural
- August 14th, 15th, 16th (Fri., Sat. & Sun.) 2015 St Ives Orchid Fair
- **August 21-23 EOC Spring Show - Leisure Centre Narooma**
- September 4-6 BBO&FS Spring Show- Soldiers Club Batemans Bay
- September 18th Fri. – 23rd Wed. 2015 - AOC & TQOC Conference & Show - Mackay
- September 19 & 20 MUOS Spring Show - Civic Centre Ulladulla
- October 3 & 4 - South and West Regional Conference and Show - Batemans Bay Soldiers Club

POPULAR VOTE RESULTS - MAY 2015

Open Section

Species

- 1st Jeffrey Lee
2nd Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube
2nd Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube
2nd Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube
2nd Robert & Sue Fish

Std Cym

- 1st Maria Kacarovski

Mini Cym

- 1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

Cattleya

- 1st Gordon Marion
2nd Gordon Marion
3rd Jeffrey Lee
3rd Gordon Marion

Paphiopedilum

- 1st Don & Margaret Hayes
2nd Don & Margaret Hayes

Masdevallia

- 1st Jean Swindley
2nd Peter & Laurina Vanest
3rd Jeffrey Lee
3rd Peter & Laurina Vanest

Aust. Native

- 1st Jean Swindley

Vandaceous

- 1st Ray & Gayle Huddleston

Oncidiinae

- 1st Ray & Gayle Huddleston
2nd Jean Swindley

Seedling

- 1st Gordon Marion

Miscellaneous

- 1st Jean Swindley

Plant of the Night

- Gordon Marion
BLC. George King 'Serendipity'

Novice Section

Species

- 1st Helen Marshall

Masdevallia

- 1st Helen Marshall

Aust. Native

- 1st Helen Marshall

Miscellaneous

- 1st Bob & Barbara Williams

Plant of the Night

- Helen Marshall
Den Star imp 'Lovely Lady' x
(Regal Affair x Rutherford Starburst) 'Nova'

Grow Competition

Cymbidium

- 1st Jean Swindley
2nd Helen Marshall
3rd Gordon Marion

LC

- 1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube
2nd Gordon Marion
3rd Jean Swindley

Zygo.

- 1st Michael Grelck
2nd Jean Swindley
3rd Jo Harding



EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC.
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD
AT CWA HALL, MORUYA
Wednesday, 13 May 2015

PRESENT: Members: 29 Apologies: 2 Visitors: Nil

President Tony declared the meeting open at 7.30pm, welcoming all in attendance and reminding members of the guessing competition, 3 deflasked Kevin Hipkins cymbidiums still for sale and grow comp plants yet to be collected.

With great pleasure Tony introduced our guest speaker for the meeting, Dr Jane Wright, a lady of many & diverse interests, who spoke on "Judging of Orchids". Much appreciation was shown by our Members as her presentation was not only extremely informative and enjoyable but she also involved her audience with actual judging decisions that are often so difficult.

Tony invited Jane to assist with the GrowComp judging and Members benefitted from her observations and considerations.

The General meeting followed a short supper break.

Popular Vote Certificate for last month's meeting was awarded to Helen Marshall
and new Membership Badge presented to Maureen Miller.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last General Meeting held on Wednesday, 8 April 2015 held at CWA Hall, Moruya
having been circulated be accepted as a true copy.

Moved: Diane Hay Seconded: Barbara Williams Carried

BUSINESS ARISING: included in the General Business.

1. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Show trophies arrived
- Letter from Mackay & District Orchid Society thanking EOC for the \$300 donation for Champion Specimen Orchid at the AOC Conference in September
- Newsletter from AOC President Jim Shaughnessy to be read at next General Meeting
- Letter from Council thanking EOC for participating in Seniors' Week
- Email from Jan Robinson SSOS informing the orchid community of the passing of 95 year old Member Gordon Dodd of Sutherland.
- Orchids Australia (April) & Australian Cymbidium magazines
- Notification of our judges for this year's shows
- Mingara Fair pamphlets for distribution
- Newsletters from Batemans Bay, Canberra, Wagga Wagga, Southerland Shire Orchid Societies
- Tony sent congratulations to Wagga Wagga Club on reaching their 30th Anniversary.

Moved: Diane Hay Seconded: Sylvia Hawkins Carried

3. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Colin presented the report for April 2015

Income: \$2,013.94 Expenditure: \$4,268.54 Loss for the period: \$2,254.60

Moved: Colin Pearson Seconded: Sylvia Hawkins Carried

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Tony summarised the April newsletter from AOC President, Jim Shaughnessy.
- A reminder for the Australian Orchid Foundation Essay competition which closes 30th June 2015 'How do you manage your orchid collection without relying on artificial heating and/or cooling'
- Tony provided reports on the health challenges confronting both Neville Roper and Dennis Diehm.
- Next meeting we are hoping to have Jeff Lee talking on 'Automation in the Greenhouse'.
- New Growers' Workshop: Saturday 16 May, 10 – 11.30am at Gordon Marion's home.
- Orchid Crawl: Saturday 13 June, visiting Helen Watson's & Peter & Laurina Van Est's then on to O'Brien's Pub for lunch.
- A request from a Member regarding daytime meetings was considered by Committee, and when the concept was put to this General Meeting Sylvia Hawkins reported that Milton/Ulladulla had run daytime meetings for some years. There were no expressions of support for EOC to contemplate daytime meetings.
- Pamphlets distributed for Mingara Fair, 27 & 28 June.
- Tony welcomed long standing Member, John Richmond, back to the fold.
- Technical Sheets from Everiss on Peters fertilisers were distributed.
- The Club has contributed articles on the Tuross Workshop to Australian Cymbidium Scene and Orchids Australia

5. **RAFFLES:** 1. Michael Grelck 2. Robert Fish 3. Maureen Anderson 4. Leanda O'Connor 5. Ivan Balentovic 6. Maureen Anderson 7. John Richmond 8. Dorothy Kauffman 9. Leanda O'Connor 10. Leanda O'Connor 11. Barbara Williams 12. Maureen Miller 13. Jeff Lee

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE: NO: 32 Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube

GUESSING COMPETITION – First correct answer drawn was Jo Harding's – the answer **NEVILLE ROPER**

6. **PLANT OF THE NIGHT** winners for the night were announced. Results are in the Newsletter.

Meeting closed 9.35pm

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 10 June

CWA Hall, Moruya

Diane Hay

EOC Secretary

Extracts from Alan Merriman's newsletter May 2015

By now our cymbidiums are growing well. Some have already been in flower while others are just pushing through the axis leaves. Make sure you keep staking and tying the racemes up. Watch for snails and the dreaded beetle, I have resorted to some of the insecticide dusts that some of the large stores stock these days. Last year I tried AZAMAX® mixed with ECO OIL® with good results. There is still some CAR-BARYL – BUGMASTER® available with ornamental rego on the containers. In Sydney we have been getting a lot of rain, which means *botrytis spp* has become rampant. This year I hope ROVAL AQUA FLO® will be available in one litre containers. This stops *botrytis* spotting in its tracks. Don't spray, just mist! Watch out for aphids and grubs on your flowering racemes. Aphids can be controlled by the use of CONFIROR® or if you have a large collection spray with PIRIMOR®. With grubs you can spray with DIPEL® or SUCCESS®. If you have mites, white fly, crane flies or moths flying around your greenhouse spray with MAVRIK®. Many growers still hang up moth balls all around the shed with good results. Hang one every two square metres of greenhouse floor space Watch your watering. Water only when needed. This would usually take place every 4 or 5 days here in Sydney. Only water when the sun is up, this could be around 9.30 am till 10am and only on sunny days. Fertilise every 7 days if you flower your plants in a heated shed. If not every 4 – 5 weeks. If heated keep the right temperature around 12 to 14 degrees C night temperature. Watch your night temperature does not become higher than your day temperature. During May some growers will still be potting on seedlings and dividing over grown plants BUT BE CAREFUL.

CATTLEYAS are still growing well many are still throwing up spikes or are in bloom. Watch your watering. DO NOT OVER WATER. No need

to fertilise if the plants are not growing LOOK AT THE ROOTS! If no new roots – no need to fertilise. Watch out for spotting on blooms. Mist with ROVRAL AQUA FLO®. Do not repot until Spring or new roots are showing. Give plants plenty of light for bigger blooms! But not enough to burn the leaves.

SOFT CANE DENDS These lovely plants are now finishing off their summer growths. It is a bit late here in Sydney, but south it is not too late to apply a little extra potash to your plants. A little sulphate of potash sprinkled around the top of the pot, say about half a teaspoon per 150ml plants. Two or three times over a four week period. This is usually done as the maturing growth is just finishing their growing cycle. Here in Sydney – Blue Mountains this has been happening over the last week or so. The heavy rain the east coast has been having has upset other growth cycles. Watch out for BLACK SPOT on their leaves. Two or three applications of MANCOZEB or ZINEB® over a four week period should help to kill the fungal spores. Watch watering or you may damp off these maturing growths. If things look a bit dodgy you could give your plants a soaking with ANTI-ROT® give plants plenty of air and light over the next few months. If you live in a frosty area you could give your plants an application of ENVY®. This will help frost from forming on the leaves. Apply at label rate. DO NOT APPLY any fertiliser until you start to see the little flowering nodes appearing. Then you can apply a low nitrogen with a higher potassium content. PETERS have a few different ratios available such as the good old PETERS BLOSSOM BOOSTER or EXCELL hi K. Use at label rate every ten days or so. Watch for the famous green looper. MAVRIK® or DIPEL® will help to control these pests. The hint of the month is DO NOT OVER WATER these wonderful plants!

AUSSIE NATIVES this large mass of plants are now in bloom, spiking, been or coming! If you are a keen speciosum grower, now is the time to top dress with GYPSUM. This will help control the undiscoverable salts. A few chook pellets around the top of the pot helps the plants to produce big racemes and larger blooms. Start to dry off your plants ready for the flowering season. During May – July an application of potassium nitrate could be applied every 10 days at 0.5 grams per litre of water. Most of our plants that have a lot of kingianum and or speciosum in the back ground could follow the above treatment.

Sarc Hartmanii and **Sarc falcatus** could be fed up a little over the next few months. The application of B-TONIC® every 10 days helps to keep root fungi away and helps to put size into the blooms – but start now! Give your plants a little more sun to increase size. Over the next few years we will start to see more intense colours of the blooms plus size. As more and more growers start hybridizing and more growers buy their off spring we will start to see more colours and size. Look into your plants progeny before putting a toothpick near the plant. Remember only use strong healthy plants to hybridize with!! When I was at Cecil Park it would take us around 2 weeks to decide what plants would receive some pollen! Yes those were the days!

MILTONIA and its many intergenerics have been great this year. I like to divide – repot now before it gets too cold here in the Blue Mountains. DO NOT OVER POT these lovely plants. Keep plants tight! Gordon Marion from the Eurobodalla Society does not keep his small. Large is beautiful hundreds of blooms on his plants!! But he grows them on totems, not in pots. He would be one of the best growers of this section of plants (MILTONIA).

HARD CANE DENDS these are now at their best. Growers up north sure know how to grow them. Large flowers, many flowers on the spike and now a very large range of colours, pots, strips etc. Some growers up north have growers as big as Phals! When I visit my favourite grower up north I am amazed at his production. If you ask him his secret to success his answer is simply is grow in his covered in growing structure, heaps of light, fertilise with MERRI FERT plants just damp. He also applies a very small amount of heat if needed in the winter. That is how he gains his awards and wins grand champions at the local shows! If I grow mine to achieve blooms at 50mm and 10 – 12 on the racemes, he achieves 50 – 75mm blooms and fifteen to twenty blooms on the raceme – it's the climate and a good grower who talks to his plants and of course watches them day by day! Colin has dropped me in some notes that we will publish in our Newsletter in the near future.

PHALAENOPSIS from the beginning of May to the beginning of June try and apply 3 application of Magnesium sulphate at 6 gram per litre on your plants. The first week of June flush the plants to remove all salts. No other fertiliser are needed during this period. Water weekly – give plants plenty of light. In Sydney start to think about heating the glass house. Those living up north will not need heat. Watch for mealy bug. Seedling Phals. need about 500 – 700 foot candles of light. That is about half the light that mature Phals need. Once the leaf span nears 50mm give them the same light as the big ones! Seedlings need around 18 to 24 degrees C.

NOTE DO NOT OVER WATER DURING WINTER. Give plants plenty of light. Only fertilise if you can see active root or plant growth. E.g. Cymbidium raceme development. Watch for eating insects – MAVRIK® - CONFIDOR® Damp- wet weather watch flower spotting – ROVRAL AQUA FLO® - bulb rot use ANTI – ROT or one of the phosphorous acids.

Fertilisers – low nitrogen higher potassium. In frosty areas – treat plants with ENVY® Apply at label rate.

UNTIL NEXT TIME
GOOD GROWING

ALAN & MIRIAM MERRIMAN

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