



EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC

Newsletter

MAY 2015

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

At our last meeting....

Neville and Roberta Roper surprised all with their attendance. Neville had accepted Honorary Membership of EOC and expressed his delight at being honoured in this manner. He described his original Club Sutherland and EOC as two of the most friendly and congenial Clubs he knew. Neville added more of his Sarcs to the raffle table, and donated further plants to the Auction, along with two of his 'patented' hanging plant stands, one of which fetched \$35.

The Auction returned \$596 and the evening's raffle, a further \$125. Excellent results, reflecting quality auction items and raffle prizes and the generous spirit of Members present.

The new GROCOMP plants were distributed to those present and most of the Cymbidiums which Kevin Hipkins deflasked at the March Workshop were sold.

Helen Marshall was the winner in the Novice Section with a colourful Zgo.B.G. White x John Banks and the Plant of the Night in the Open Section was won by Brian Coulton with his delightful LC. Mona Pink 'Hiromi'.



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

New Growers' Workshop

Saturday 16 May 1.30pm-3.00pm

at Gordon Marion's home

14 Oakes Avenue, Tuross Head.

We'll be looking at Gordon's growing practices, plus repotting Cattleyas.

All welcome



At our next meeting...

13 May 2015 – don't miss it!

Speaker will be **Jane Wright**, who says –

"Every year at Show time, some people are very disappointed that their flowers didn't win ribbons or trophies and I often hear disparaging comments about how judges don't know what they are doing. While that may be the case occasionally, the fact is that most of the time judges are looking at the flowers differently than the grower. In my talk, I hope to explain the basics of orchid judging so that growers will be able to think a bit like a judge and have more understanding of the process."

Jane will be using slides during her presentation, and may draw on plants benched that evening.

New Growing Competition Plant will be issued to those not at last month's Meeting and a few of the Workshop cymbidiums deflasked into sphagnum moss by Kevin Hipkins (Cym Portuguese Passion 'Snow Blossom' 4N x (Foxfire Star x Valley Zenith) #2 will be available. Mature Neville Roper Sarcos will be on the raffle table.

NEXT MEETING

CWA HALL
QUEEN STREET
MORUYA

BENCHING BY:

7PM

MEETING: 7.30PM

SUPPER TO SHARE

13 MAY

Growing Competition Plants

New Grocomp plants issued at the April Meeting are a Zygopetalum cross -

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!

2015 March Workshop, Tuross Head 21& 22 March

Some of us ventured to the Castle Hill Orchid Fair on 17&18 April and bumped into a number of Workshop participants who were still exclaiming the virtues of the EOC Workshop - a triumph for our Club and a hard working group of Members. Our 'intelligence' is that Sapphire Coast Club has three top Speakers and a Merimbula venue lined up for next year's March Workshop.

Peters Fertilisers – A can of Worms?

At the March Workshop, Wally Rhodes mentioned his preference for Peters 20-20-20 fertiliser. Don Hayes took to the keyboard and did some digging. Everris (formerly Scotts Professional) market the Peters range “20-20-20 – the oxide analysis which in Australia is sold in elemental analysis as Peters All Rounder 20-8.7-16.6+TE.” Everris then went on to say – “Most orchid growers in Australia seem to favour the Peters Excel CalMag range which consists of Calmag Grower 14-2.6-11.6+4.6 Ca+1.5Mg+TE and also CalMag Finisher 12-2.6-16.6+4.6Ca+1.2Mg+TE. The reason they are used is for the source of calcium and magnesium in the one mix which saves you having to run A and B tanks with calcium nitrate and magnesium sulphate. The Excel CalMag products also contain organic sulphur which is a new improvement.”

Editors Note – it seems that Everris didn't much like Wally's choice of fertiliser. Technical Fact Sheets on the CalMag Grower range will be available at our next General Meeting. We don't have such sheets for 20-20-20!



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



Club Websites

Most Orchid Clubs now have websites and the amount of information they contain is amazing. Our Webmaster, Diane Hay has helped the Batemans Bay Club with its website which includes a series of articles by Ron Boyd that are commended for your reference. Ron has produced detailed and illustrated papers on growing Cyms, Sarcos and Paphs from the bottle to flowering.

The Batemans Bay Orchid and Foliage Society recently celebrated its tenth anniversary –

CONGRATULATIONS!

Ulladulla Orchid Nursery
200 Princes Highway, Ulladulla



WE STOCK AN EXTENSIVE PRODUCT RANGE
FOR ALL YOUR ORCHID NEEDS.

Campbell's Orchid Fertilizer
Clear Phaleanopsis Pots
White and Coloured Labels
Range of Orchid Growing Media.....and
MORE!

Take advantage of your V.I.P. customer pricing.
PHONE FOR DELIVERY OR VISIT US AT
21 BELLVUE STREET, SOUTH NOWRA.
PH. 4423 2359 FAX. 4423 7180

Monthly Maintenance courtesy Neville Roper

1. Check your plants for emerging flower spikes and put a stake next to them. This way you can easily see which plants are flowering and where the spikes are so that you are less likely to break them off PLUS it will encourage you to stake flower spikes early to maximise their impact on the showbench. Many oncidinae have flower spikes in varying stages of development at this time and early cymbidiums are well on the way.

2. Clean up likely show plants by removing dead/damaged leaves, old leaf stubs on cymbidiums.

Better to do this early to minimise the likelihood of damaging buds or flowers.

3. If you have zygotetalums check the latest growth for flower spikes emerging between the leaves. These will need staking (as above) but remember if you split the bract at the base of the pedicel (the stem between the bud and the raceme) when still in bud the developed flowers will spread out and display themselves better instead of 'looking at the ceiling'. This needs to be done carefully as they are very brittle at this stage.

4. If you have any plants that are a little cold sensitive now is the time to bring them in under cover and cut back on the watering.

5. If you use an extra layer of shade cloth over summer, like I do, now is the time to take it down and let your plants bask in the autumn sunshine.

SPECIAL GUESSING COMPETITION

Who do you think might have said/written the following recently:

“Talking of hobbies/fancies - they are losing membership and not recruiting youngsters who probably have their attention focussed on a screen of some sort.

I guess that in the future, orchid societies will become 'virtual clubs' with benching on-line. I guess that the price of not having to hire a venue and put away tables after a meeting is never meeting your club mates.”

If you think you might know the author of this piece of prophetic wisdom, please write the author's and your name on a slip of paper and place it in the receptacle provided on the Raffle Table at the May Meeting.

The first correct entry drawn will be rewarded.

Membership Renewal (OVERDUE)

\$13 Single, \$16 Couple may be paid to Colin Pearson at next meeting, or snail-mailed to 10 Viewpoint Court TUROSS HEAD 2537.

We welcome the return of all our 2014 Members – reminders are in the form of Red Dots on snail-mail Newsletters, email advice to those on electronic Newsletters.

FOR YOUR DIARY

- May 15-17 Orchids Out West
- 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



**We now have
103 Friends.**

POPULAR VOTE RESULTS - APRIL 2015

<u>Open Section</u>		<u>Novice Section</u>
Species	Vandaceous	Miscellaneous
1st Gordon Marion	1st Jean Swindley	1st Helen Marshall
2nd Robert & Sue Fish	2nd Robert & Sue Fish	
3rd Jean Swindley		
Int. Cym	Oncidiinae	Plant of the Night
1st Colin Pearson & Gwynneth	1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube	Zgo. B.G.White x John Banks
	2nd Jean Swindley	Helen Marshall
	3rd Jean Swindley	
	3rd Gordon Marion	
Cattleya	Seedling	Grow Competition
1st Brian Coulton	1st Robert & Sue Fish	
2nd Gordon Marion		Cymbidium
3rd Gordon Marion		1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube
		2nd Jean Swindley
Paphiopedilum	Miscellaneous	3rd Gordon Marion
1st Jean Swindley	1st Graham Jackson	
Masdevallia	Plant of the Night	LC
1st Brian Coulton	LC. Mona Pink 'Hiromi'	1st Liz Cleaver & Tony Groube
	Brian Coulton	2nd Gordon Marion
Aust. Native		3rd Jean Swindley
1st Jean Swindley		



EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB INC.
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD
AT CWA HALL, MORUYA
Wednesday, 8 April 2015

PRESENT: Members: 30 Apologies: 4 Visitors: 1

President Tony welcomed all members in attendance, thanking them for venturing out in such inclement weather. An extra warm welcome was extended to Honorary Member Neville Roper and his wife Roberta. Tony took great pleasure in presenting Neville with his new club badge. Neville sought leave to address the Meeting and express his delight at being honoured in this manner. He described his original Club, Sutherland, and the Eurobodalla Club as two of the friendliest and most congenial Clubs he'd come across, either as a Member, or when judging.

Popular Vote certificates for last month's meeting were awarded to Tony Groube & Liz Cleaver in the Open Section and Alex & Cecilia Christlo in the Novice Section.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the last General Meeting held on 11 March held at CWA Hall, Moruya having been circulated be accepted as a true copy.

Moved: Diane Hay Seconded: Sylvia Hawkins Carried

BUSINESS ARISING: included in the General Business.

1. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Insurance for trailer
- Orchid Wiz update
- Magazine from Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria
- Newsletters from MUOS, SCOC, OSNSW, BBOFS, BMPD, AOC Conference
- From Lynne & Brian Phelan, Jane Wright, Jan Barrett, the three Speakers & other emails congratulating EOC on a great Workshop.

Moved: Diane Hay Seconded: Brian Coulton Carried

3. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Colin presented two reports.

1. Financial Statement for March 2015

Income: \$1,097.68 Expenditure: \$222.36 Profit for the period: \$875.32

Moved: Colin Pearson Seconded: Robert Fish Carried

2. Orchid Workshop, March 2015

Income: \$5,418.45 Expenditure: \$3,359.85 Profit for the Workshop: \$2,058.60

4. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **Workshop 2015:** Tony spoke of the success of the Workshop (refer to the detail outlined in our last newsletter) and thanked all members who contributed to this success. It is planned that Sapphire Coast Orchid Society will host the next Workshop in Merimbula.
- **Next General Meeting 13 May:** Jane Wright will be our speaker: "Judging of Orchids".
- **Moruya Market Stall 4 July:** We will have our annual stall at Moruya Markets to promote our Winter Show and members are asked to help with set up, manning the stall and pull down.
- **Librarians:** Alex & Cecilia will be overseas for three months and Leanda O'Connor has kindly volunteered to take on their duties.
- **GrowComp plants:** New Zygopetalums (\$10 each from Clive Halls) were distributed free of charge, one per membership. Those Members not at this meeting will be able to collect theirs at either the May or June meetings. Tony asked that all members bring their GrowComp plants to each meeting. This would allow comparison of differences in growth rates and advice on what to do with plants displaying poor growth habits. The overall purpose of a Growing Competition was to generate discussion and share growing knowledge.
- **Kevin Hipkins' Cymbidiums:** These were used during a deflasking demonstration at the Workshop and were for sale at \$5 each.
- **Neville Roper** kindly donated Sarcs for the Raffle Table. He contributed further Sarcs and two of his plant stands to the Auction. (Appreciation was measured, subsequently, by the amounts bid for each item. One plant stand sold for a record \$35, plants \$25-\$30.)

- 5. RAFFLES:** 1. Robert Fish 2. Jo Harding 3. Garry Evans 4. Jean Swindley 5. Garry Evans
6. Jo Harding 7. Helen Marshall 8. Jo Harding 9. Elaine Kelly 10. Helen Marshall
11. Jo Harding 12. Liz Cleaver 13. Graham Jackson 14. Sylvia Hawkins 15. Sue Carroll
16. Helen Marshall 17. Helen Marshall

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE: No:8 Dorothy Kauffman

- 6. PLANT OF THE NIGHT & GROW COMP** winners for the night were announced. See Newsletter.

At the closure of an enjoyable meeting Tony
invited all to share a supper and prepare for a fun filled Auction to follow.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 13 May

CWA Hall, Moruya

Diane Hay

EOC Secretary

Extracts from Alan Merriman's newsletter April 2015

Last month I was invited to attend "The Orchid Workshop 2015" This was organised by the EUROBODALLA ORCHID CLUB Inc. which was held in the Kyla Park Hall Tuross Head just south of Moruya on the South Coast of NSW. This was one of the best workshops that I have been to for some years. There were only three speakers who were given an hour or so to speak on a specific subject. With a day and a half for lectures, which meant all the speakers gave two or three lectures. The speakers were Clive Halls, Kevin Hipkins and Wally Rhodes. The information that came from these three speakers was unbelievable. On Saturday evening we all went off to the Tuross Country Club for dinner. It was indeed a wonderful weekend. When the date of the next one is announced, make a note of it so you can attend. The Society had to close registrations off because of the number of participants – Congratulations to the Society for arranging such a wonderful event!

MILTON – ULLADULLA ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

Over many years I have heard about an orchid society down the south coast near Milton. Very few people seem to know much about the society. Now this has changed as I managed to meet Sylvia Hawkins their President come Secretary of the above club. I was told the club has been going for 41 years! They have two shows per year, a Winter Show and a Spring Show.

July Winter Show will be held on Saturday 25th July 10am – 3.30pm and Sunday 26th July 9am – 2pm.

Both shows will be held in the new Civic Centre, Ulladulla. NSW. Put these dates in your diary and make a big effort to go down and help make their shows a huge success! For further details contact Sylvia Hawkins – sylviamh23@bigpond.com.

TECH PAGE.

In the last issue of these notes I mentioned what is alkaline hydrolysis. A large number of commonly used pesticides, other than those formulated for ULV applications are decomposed quite rapidly in alkaline water. This decomposition is called alkaline hydrolysis. Many chemicals are affected in this way. In Australia, the majority of water mixed with pesticides is alkaline, and therefore decomposition can proceed at a rate rapid enough to affect the degree of control obtained. Nufarm Ltd have U-700 that has been formulated to help control this problem. Most pesticides will be stable within a p.H range of 4.5 to 7.0. Check water to see if the p.H is below p.H 7 BEFORE mixing the chemical in it. Add U-700 to reduce the p.H. Then add the chemical. Which chemicals are affected? Below is a short list of some chemicals that are affected.

GLYPHOSATE (Round Up) - Performs best at pH 4

DIPEL Incompatible in high alkaline water

CARBARYL pH 6 = 150 days pH 8 2 days

ROGOR pH 2 = 21 hours, pH 9 = 48 minutes

MALATHION keep below pH7

For example a spray of ROGOR® will lose half its activity in 48 minutes at a water pH of 9!!

For orchid growers the use of ROVRAL® is very sensitive to high pH of spray water. I hope this enlightens you. PRIMABUFF BB5 does the same thing!

NEWS FROM THE PAST.

Over time many orchid brews get changed, or the recipe had a change when written down. One of these special brews is DENTS COMPOST. The other day I was browsing in a back issue of the Parramatta and District Orchid News, in fact it was the January 1971, volume 7 No 1. Believe it or not I was President and Editor then I then came across a copy of the original way to make DENTS COMPOST. These notes were taken from John Gulbis's notes that we worked off so here it is!

6 Bags fresh hardwood sawdust, 6 Double handfuls of dolomite, 6 Double handfuls of Blood and Bone, 1 Bag dry poultry manure (could use pellets) mix thoroughly wetting sufficiently to make the whole batch moist, not wet. Store on BARE SOIL. Turn over once a week for 4 – 5 weeks. There after once a fortnight. I ready for use in 4months, not before. The moisture will heat and tend to dry out when turning, add water with a hose to keep mixture moist It will heat up to 140 – 160 degrees F (42 – 58degreesC).

As the conversion of raw wood in the sawdust to make food for the plants is accomplished by Bacteria and Fungi which is evidenced by the heat it develops, it is important the air and moisture is adequate, the mixture should therefore be piled no higher than 30 inches. When potting add a handful of fine bone dust to a bucket of compost. This is important. When potting allow plenty of room for future growth. DO NOT LOOSELY PACK, compost should be as firmly as possible, use plenty of water all year round, never let dry out. Pot every year as the plants will grow too big!! So now you have the original. Those growers who had the pleasure of visiting the "Cecil Park" Orchid Nursery would have seen the piles of made up DENTS there!

Not much has changed on the cultural front for April. DO NOT OVER WATER, Fertilise every ten days. Watch for beetles and grubs. Watch spotting – spray with ROVRAL AQUA®

UNTIL NEXT TIME

GOOD GROWING

ALAN & MIRIAM MERRIMAN

MIRIAM ANN ORCHIDS

89 Levy Street, GLENBROOK NSW 2773

Phone 02 4739 5141 FAX 02 4739 8090 MOBILE 0439 514141

Email mirannorchids@pnc.com.au