



Sarcophilus australis

MARIBYRNONG ORCHID SOCIETY

(The FRIENDLY Society)

AUGUST 2007 BULLETIN

www.mosorchid.org

Affiliated with the Australian Orchid Council
Incorporated in Victoria Reg No 1193Z

Disclaimer: The Maribyrnong Orchid Society Committee will not take any responsibility for actions taken on advice or views expressed in: this or any future Monthly Bulletin, or by Guest Speakers. It is always advisable to get a second opinion.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE – 3rd Thursday of the month

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Maribyrnong Orchid Society will be held at the Maribyrnong Community Centre, Randall Street, Maribyrnong on Tuesday the 14th August, 2007.

The Early 'new growers' group starts at 7.15pm and is conducted by the informative Steve Stebbing. This group runs for approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the monthly meeting. We also have 'Pots and Ferts' and plant sales tables operating at every meeting. Members may bring 10 orchids to be sold on the sales table each month. The Society deducts 15% commission on the sale of all plants. Please note that all plants must be labeled correctly and state whether they are hot/cold growing and expected floral colour, if not in flower. Plants are also to be listed on a sales form, available from members on the Sales table, to be filled out by the selling member.

Guest Speaker this month

It was advised in one of our earlier bulletins that the August guest speaker would be Derek from Aussie Shade Houses. Unfortunately Derek has had to cancel, but the Club is pleased to advise our guest speaker this month will be Mr. John Sharam. John will be doing a practical presentation on the different mounts he is using on his orchids.

We thank Mr. Julian Coker for last month's presentation to our club. Julian touched on many topics, but his talk on pesticides and insecticides was extremely informative, and the talk delivered a lot of useful information to our members. We thank Julian for his time.

Supper Roster

For the July meeting we kindly have Alma Bevan and Marge Paul on Supper Duties. All members are welcome to bring a plate of goodies to be enjoyed after the Evening's Speaker has finished their presentation.

JULY 2007 COMPETITION RESULTS As

per judges sheets

OPEN SECTION

Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

1st Dendrobium Toska J Crawford

Paphiopedilum - Exhibition

1st Paph Copperspice J Crawford

Paphiopedilum – Novelty

1st Paph Oriental Spice J Crawford

Oncidium – Hybrid

1st Oncidium Koulani J Crawford

Species Any Genera

1st Osmoglossum pulchellum M Condon

2nd Onc, ornithorhyncum M Condon

Best in Section

Osmoglossum pulchellum M Condon

INTERMEDIATE SECTION

Species any Genera

1st Coelogne fuscescens J & N Marshall

Best in Section

Coelogne fuscescens J & N Marshall

ADVANCED NOVICE SECTION

Cymbidium - Large

1st Cronulla x Tathra R Ryan

Cymbidium - Medium

1st Cymbidium Unknown G Ragg

Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

1st Zip x Sunglow J W Bradley

2nd Cobber J Spiteri

Paphiopedilum – Species

1st Paph villosum M Jurjevic

Cattleya - Exhibition

1st Blc Unkown J Zerafa

Species any Genera

1st Laelia anceps var veitchiana M Jurjevic

2nd Bulb rothschildianum L Halil

Best in Section

Paph villosum M Jurjevic

NOVICE SECTION

1st Oncid Sweet Sugar G & A Hardingham

2nd Osmoglossom pulchellum G & A Hardingham

3rd Paph ceres L Somerville

G & A Hardingham has now been promoted to Advanced Novice Section for Competition.

NON SECTIONAL

Seedling Flowering for 1st time

1st Paph primulinum concolor J Crawford

Best Cultivated

Oncidium Sweet Sugar G & A Hardingham

Popular Vote

Oncidium Sweet Sugar G & A Hardingham

Judges Vote

Paph villosum M Jurjevic

New Members

The club wishes to welcome Garry Bourtzis, Gayle & Bec Raudino, Viny Dinh, and Jan Sanders to our club. We look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting, where you will be presented with your name tag and complimentary orchid.

Seedling Competition

Joe Beggs was the winner of the seedling competition at the July meeting. Only 30 seedlings were returned on the night. Julian Coker gave a commentary on the seedlings and gave members a few good tips on the growing of seedlings.

Mini Bark

There were about 10 bags on Mini bark left after the Winter show. Anyone wanting a bag of mini bark can phone Eric on 5283 1364 and it can be brought up to the next meeting - the cost will be \$20 per bag. This size was specifically requested by some of our members. It will not be ordered again if members do not pick it up after asking for it.

Badges

The Club has sourced a new Badge manufacturer to supply those members wanting to purchase sturdy metal badges.

The badges will no longer be bronze colour. The new badges will be an eye-catching white colour with a red orchid appearing on the badge along with the member's name.

The cost of the badges will be \$8 for badges with a clip pin and \$9 for badges ordered with a magnetic clip.

Members wishing to order badges must pay for the badges in advance. Please see Eric to order your badge.

Progressive Totals Competition

The Progressive Totals competition runs from December to November, so that the prizes can be given out at our Christmas Function.

For the benefit of our new members, points are awarded at monthly meetings as follows:

- First 3 points
- Second 2 points
- Bonus 1 point

A bonus point is awarded to each member who exhibits, regardless of the number of plants exhibited. No points are awarded in the Novice section. All points are doubled during the Maribyrnong Orchid Society Orchid Shows.

Any member, who is still unsure or confused about how the scores are arrived at, can approach George Downie at any meeting or show and he will endeavor to further explain.



Accumulated Points from December 2006 to July 2007 (including the Winter Show)

Open

J Crawford	161
J & M Lattimore	148
B Duncan	63
E & F Wilde	51
M Pearce	40

Intermediate

J & D Portelli	59
L Walker	50
J & N Marshall	47
K Weyers	30

Adv Novice

R Brooks	26
R Ryan	26
L Halil	26
M Jurjevic	25

ORCHID SHOW CALENDAR

Maribyrnong 2007 Orchid Shows

Spring Show: 8th & 9th September

Sarcochilus Festival: 10th & 11th November

All Maribyrnong Orchid shows are conducted at our club rooms, which are located at Maribyrnong Community Centre in Randall Street.

Maribyrnong Spring Orchid Show

Members are reminded that only orchid plants can be exhibited or sold at the Spring Show, this includes Floral Art. Please make sure you read the floral Art Schedule.

Sales tickets, entry forms and schedule for the Spring Show will be distributed at the August meeting.

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE –

Tickets from your unsold plants at our shows, will NOT be accepted until 4.30p.m. At the last show a couple of members brought in their tickets early causing a few problems that we could have done without, as the public are still allowed to purchase orchids up to 4.30p.m.

Guest Grower for the Spring Show

Our Guest Grower for the Spring Show will be Kevin Western from Adelaide his email address is western@arcom.com.au He and his wife Helen have attended twice before. They enjoy taking part in the Spring Show, just as much as we enjoy their participation, as well as the beautiful flasks of orchids they bring over each year. Members who are interested may visit their web site at the following web address:-
<http://www.arcomnet.net.au/~western/index.html>

Bon Voyage

Our President Anthony Scerri is currently on a Mediterranean holiday and he will be returning early September. We wish Anthony and his family a safe and happy holiday.

While Anthony is away our tireless and dedicated Vice President, Liz Walker will be back on stage at our club rooms, entertaining the faithful.

Autumn Show 2007 Awards

Major Awards

Grand Champion Orchid of the Show	
Phal Taisulo Kalladian x Cygnus	J & M Lattimore
Reserve Champion Orchid of the Show	
Paph Red Pepper x Wizard of Oz	Francis/Martin
Champion Cymbidium	
Khan Fury	S Stebbing
Champion Australian Native Orchid	
D Jonathons Glory x speciosum	E & F Wilde
Champion Laeliinae Orchid	
Slc Dream Catcher 'Little X'	J & M Lattimore
Champion Paphiopedilum Hybrid Orchid	
Paph Red Pepper x Wizard of Oz	Francis/Martin
Champion Paphiopedilum Species Orchid	
Paph primulinum	Cusack/Hayman
Champion Masdevallia Orchid	
Masdevallia Lehmannii	Cusack/Hayman
Champion Hybrid, any other genera	
Phal (Taisulo x Kalladian) x Cygnus	J & M Lattimore
Champion Species Orchid	
Osmoglossum pulchellum	A Evans
Champion Specimen Orchid	
Oncidium Sweet Sugar	G & A Hardingham
Champion exhibit by an Intermediate Grower	
Cym Lancashire Khan 'Evie'	Viny Dinh
Champion exhibit by a Novice Grower	
Paph villosum	M Jurjevic
Champion Stand	Francis/ Martin
Champion Basket of Orchids	Cusack/Hayman
Champion Junior Orchid	No Entry
Champion Plant (Non Orchid)	
Fern	A Evans
Champion Cacti	
Mammillaria	D Colquhoun
Champion Bromeliad	C Hack
Best Open Floral Art	H Randall
Best Intermediate Floral Art	D Williamson
Best Novice Floral Art	No Entry
Best Junior Floral Art	Loren Jurjevic
Best Wired Work	H Randall

Minor Awards (Sash)

Best Stand by an Intermediate	Viny Dinh
Best Stand by a Novice	No Entry
Best Cultivated Orchid	
Osmoglossum pulchellum	A Evans
Best Seedling Orchid Flowering for the 1 st Time	
Paph prinulinum	Cusack/Hayman
Best Fern Exhibit	A Evans
Best Foliage Exhibit	No Prize given
Best Flowering Exhibit (Non orchid)	A Evans

18th AOC CONFERENCE AND ORCHID SHOW

Sept 8th - 13th 2009 at Werribee

Orchid enthusiasts please log onto our web site: www.mosorchid.org and follow the prompts to 'Conference', to read the latest happenings with the Maribryngong Orchid Society Sponsored AOC Conference in 2009.

New "Wasp" Orchids Tempt Male Bugs



July 17, 2007—It may look enticing, but this "female wasp" (left) is all stalk.

That's because this temptress is actually a recently discovered hammer orchid, a flower that has evolved to resemble the body of a female wasp. Hapless male wasps are lured to land on—and thus pollinate—the flower.

The orchid is one of six new species found in the biologically rich region of south-western Australia.

Other orchid species have evolved to use similar cunning to attract male wasps, such as emitting an airborne chemical that mimics a female's pheromone.

Andrew Brown of Western Australia's Department of Environment and Conservation worked with Royal Botanic Gardens director Stephen Hopper to study the newfound species.

"This is an exciting discovery because it highlights the fact that so much of our natural environment is yet to be discovered and documented," Brown said in a statement.

Several of the orchid species are threatened by pressures such as invasive species and illegal harvesting.

—ChristineDell'Amore

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2007/07/070717-orchid-wasp.html>

Social Functions

The bus trip on Sunday the 19th of August, traveling to Wayne Turville's Nursery and the Orchid Spectacular, has been fully booked. The bus will be departing from our Club room at 9a.m.

The club has organized a group admission into the Orchid Spectacular, so please remember to wear your Club badge. Collectors Corner also offer 10% discount on most plants in their nursery, but only if you have your name badge or membership card with you at the time of purchase.

The second bus trip on Sunday the 28th of October to Castle Creek Orchids, has also been fully booked. A lot of members have unfortunately missed out on securing a spot to attend these trips. My only advice to members is to be quick to put your name down for bus trips because the bus seats are quickly occupied. The early birds get the worm, so to speak.

Zygopetalums

The first thing you notice about this orchid is its beautiful fragrance, its range of colours from apple, purple, reddish brown to blackberry and a combination of these colours, its long lasting flowers and its ease to grow.

Zygopetalums are both tree (epiphytes) dwellers and terrestrial (ground dwellers) found grown on the forest floor amongst leaf litter. So to grow them in cultivated conditions you have to have them potted in a fairly open orchid mixture. That is, one that allows the water to flush through the bottom of the pot. Most commercially prepared orchid mixes are suitable. Again the mixture should be open to give the drainage required. A good indicator is to water the pot and watch the immediate reaction of the water escaping through the holes at the bottom of the pot. Also make sure that the pot is off the ground so that it can be flushed out.

Watering

During the spring to autumn periods, they require lots of water. As we are under water restrictions, the current Sunday and Wednesday is sufficient. Preferred time is early morning or late night. Never water during the heat of the day. Remember these orchids are also known tree dwellers and do not like their roots water logged. Zygopetalums are prone to black spot caused by cold wet winter conditions, so avoid all overhead watering during winter.

Fertilising

Apply a fertilizer at least once a week. Fertilisers such as Aquasol™ or NitrSol™ can be used. Fertilising should be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Better to apply a weaker solution. The flowering period is between autumn and spring. Switch to a blossom booster type fertilizer to encourage the flowering process. An all round fertiliser can be also considered.

Repotting

Repotting should be done after the flowering. Repotting can be either a time to divide the plant or move it into a larger pot. It is the time to tidy up the plant and take away old backbulbs. Backbulbs are ones that have contributed towards the flowering process and a source of food storage. Too many backbulbs actually hinder the plant because instead of concentrating on the new growth towards flowering, the plant tends to continue the storage process in the bulbs. Backbulbs are the ones that usually look green without leaves.

Position

I have left the most important to last. Zygopetalums need a good location with plenty of sunlight and airflow. Direct sunlight in hot summer days should be avoided. Indicators are the leaves are yellowish from too much sunlight. Shadecloth coverage of 50% to 70% is ideal. Winter time is when increased sunlight is required. WATCH OUT FOR FROST. Frost can destroy young flower spikes. Consider some protection. Suggestion is a north east brick wall – under a carport could also be considered.

Pests

Most common pest experienced with Zygopetalums growers are snails and grubs of cabbage white butterfly and cabbage moth. These pests cause damage to the young buds of the flowers. Sprinkle snail bait around your plants, especially after rain as these pests are most active. Cabbage grubs can be eradicated with either House and Garden™ spray or a Hortico™ cabbage dust.

Diseases

Zygopetalums are subject to **black fungal spots** on the leaves. This is a harmless fungus spotting and will not damage the plant. Control spray with Mancozeb™. Refer back to the watering section.

Growing tips are found on the Web site of the Bankstown Orchid Society.

<http://www.bankstownorchidsociety.org.au/Zygopetalum.htm>