



Sarcochilus australis

MARIBYRNONG ORCHID SOCIETY

(The FRIENDLY Society)

JULY 2008 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 8th July, 2008.

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.

Supper Roster

For the July meeting we kindly have Wilma Carlesso and Gail Cunliffe 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.

Guest Speaker this month

Our guest speakers this month will be Mr. Peter Keirnan and Mr. Colin Rowan. Their topic of choice is terrestrials in the West.

Winter Show Floral Art Demonstration

We are sad to advise you that our Floral Art Judge Yvonne Feben, who was to give Floral demonstrations at the next show is unable to do so. She has broken her arm. We wish her a speedy recovery.

GROWING PAPHIOPEDILUMS by Bernie & Merle Arrah

Regardless of where you live there are three important elements for the successful growing of Paphiopedilums. They are :- **Light, Air Movement & Water**

If you can master these requirements in your environment you will be rewarded with well grown, flowering Paphiopedilums, or Paphs. Slippers as they are commonly known.

We have been growing Paphs since 1980 and found that they grown best facing north to get the best advantage of the sun, especially in Winter. All of our Paphs are grown under Polycarbonate roofing, opaque in colour, not clear or green and beneath this we have loosely draped 70% shade cloth due to the intense summer heat we get here in Perth. (Some products e.g. Laserlite, advise that it is best to have the shade cloth underneath.) This is particularly important when the sheeting is brand new as it darkens slightly in colour as it ages. The benches run in an east west direction so that the sun passes over the plants and the benches are only 36cm high with old mix and ferns underneath to create humidity. An **important point** here to remember is that if you are installing polycarbonate roofing, to take the label off **after** the sheet has been fixed in place so that the correct side is facing the sun.

When we are repotting in early Spring, we prefer tall black pots of various sizes with maximum holes for good drainage. Paphs do not like to be over potted so we choose the smallest pot suitable for the root system. Our mix is bark and Perlite as this suits our watering program, and you should consider the type of mix you use in this way otherwise you may find that it keeps your plants too wet as Paphs do not like to have wet feet, especially in cold Winters. (Always wear a mask when mixing your mix as Perlite as it contains a lot of dust.) When repotting Paphs we dampen down the mix as we never repot them dry. We repot all our plants every year, with the exception of the multiflorals which we only repot every two years.

For pots up 100mm in size we use small bark (1/2 bag to 4 1/2 x 1kg yoghurt container of Perlite), 125mm and over we use medium bark (1/2 bag to 6 x 1kg yoghurt container of Perlite.) Before adding the final 20-30cm of mix, depending of the size of the pot, we add a pinch of hoof and horn when available and trace elements. Give the plants a light spray of water and leave for a couple of days before starting usual watering program.

Paphs prefer rainwater as rainwater has a Ph of around 6.5 which is ideal for growing Paphs. We have rainwater storage as well as excess rainwater stored in clean 2 litre plastic milk bottles under the benches where it is usually the right temperature for watering or fertilising as the rainwater tank can vary in temperature depending on the season. When watering make sure that the plants are dry by nightfall as fungal problems will arise otherwise. A good preventive disease program is important. We spray Anti Rot twice a year and use Octave and Mancozeb in March & October. In November and May we use Envy to protect the plants from heat and frost.

We foliage fertilise every 2 to 3 weeks, preferring a fertiliser with a high rate of K (Potassium) and in addition to this we add a good pinch of Trace Elements to the pot when repotting. The addition of Trace Elements provides the plants with additional Calcium, Manganese etc during the early growing stages after repotting. Calcium Nitrate is also used monthly as an additional tonic of Calcium and Nitrogen.

If you use Dolomite Lime to correct the Ph of the mix, bear in mind that there are some Paphs (and Phrags) that do not like Dolomite Lime, as they grow in leaf mould and moss not in areas of limestone. These can include *delenatii* crosses and species such as *wardii*, *druryi*, a good section of *barbatum* genus such as *appletonianum*, *argus*, *callosum*, *hennisianum*, *barbatum*, *purpuratum*, *sukhakulii venustum* to name a few.

These are some of the useful methods that we use to help eradicate pests with our orchid collection.

Mealy bug methylated spirits 100ml to 1 litre of water in a spray bottle kills them instantly rather than use a systemic spray, however if you have a large infestation we recommend that you spray with a systemic spray, not forgetting the follow up spray seven to ten days later.

Crickets Bait powder in margarine containers remove when you water and then place out them again.

Slugs and snails saucer of old beer will keep them away or product called Escargo which you can spray bench uprights and bottom of large pots and it keeps them away for a long time.

Cockroaches, spiders, ants, mosquitoes and flies. We use a product called Outdoor Insect Spray by Hovex which is an OUTSIDE SPRAY ONLY. Do not spray in a confined area such as a glasshouse or intermediate house with limited air movement. We spray outside the buildings to prevent them from entering.

The following is a selection of Paphs that can be grown without requiring heat provided they are grown under a polycarbonate roof and not shade cloth. The species grow in areas that have an average Winter temperature of 5 – 25 C and Summer temperature of 14 – 32C, 60 -80 % humidity and moderate to bright light. We grow all these plants without any heat in Winter and our temperatures fall to as low as 0C. These plants include any Complex Hybrids, Primary Hybrids that contain the following species :- appletonianum, armeniacum, callosum, charlesworthii, concolor, delenatii, druryi, esquirolei, fairrieanum glaucophyllum haynaldianum, malipoense, micranthum, parishii, primulinum, spicerianum sukhakulii, venustum victoria-mariae, villosum, wardii, wolterianum and naturally the species themselves.

Should you want more information relating to growing Paphs please feel free to contact us through your Secretary and we will endeavour to assist you.

PRESIDENT REPORT JULY 2008

The next bus trip on the 17 August 2008 is full. Can all members that placed their name down at the June meeting, to attend the next bus trip, please pay at the July meeting. Unpaid seats may be forfeited to persons who are on the waiting list that would like to attend this trip.

Our next show (Winter Show) will be held on the 11th, 12th & 13th July 2008, the club requires people to help over this weekend and your help would be very much appreciated.

We have a new web site, that looks great, and I would like to thank Jenny and Terry Dark for all their hard work, in setting up the new pages.

At the June meeting we had a draw for people who entered plants in a show for the first time and another draw for all other exhibitor who entered a plant in the show, You can win a great prize just by entering your plants in the next show. Ken Box won a \$30 voucher picked from all exhibitors.

Don't forget that if members wear their name badge to a show you will receive FREE entry.

I look forward to seeing you at our July meeting.

Anthony Scerri
President

Friday Plant Sales before the Show

Plant sales on the Friday before a show, is strictly reserved for members who are exhibiting plants in the Show, Judges and those members working setting up the show.

However there will not be anyone just sitting around waiting to sell a plant to you, as these members also have other tasks to do in setting up their displays etc. So please be patient.

JUNE 2007 COMPETITION RESULTS

As per judges sheets

OPEN SECTION

Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

- 1st Jonathon's Glory x Aussie Wow
J Crawford
2nd Anne's Rainbow 'Perth' G Garrett

Paphiopedilum – Maudiae/Callosum

- 1st Paph Emerald Fyansford M Pearce
2nd Papah Maudiae G Garrett

Cattleya Exhibition

- 1st Blc Dals Girl J & M Lattimore

Cattleya Novelty Type

- 1st Slc Dream Catcher '005' J & M Lattimore

Oncidium – Hybrid

- 1st Aloha Iwanago J & M Lattimore
2nd Twinkle 'Red Frangrance' J & M Lattimore

Dendrobium – Hybrid/Species (Not Aust)

- 1st Sandra Kurake x Kristen Ann x
Dals Classic Deborah J & M Lattimore

Phragmipedium

- 1st Phrag Don Wimber G Garrett

Phalaenopsis – Hybrid

- 1st ?
2nd Phal Golden Peoker x Dor Pulcherrima
J & M Lattimore

Masdevallia Hybrid

- 1st Masd Red Wing M Pearce
2nd Masd Marguritte J Crawford

Any Other Hybrid

- 1st Eira coronaria J Crawford
2nd Phrag Hanna Popov J Crawford

Species Any Genera

- 1st Tuberolabium kotoense J & M Lattimore

Best in Section

- Phrag Don Wimber G Garrett**

INTERMEDIATE SECTION

Cymbidium – Medium

- 1st Mesa Zia Preview A Scerri
2nd Sue Waitohis A Scerri

Cymbidium – Small

- 1st Mini Splendour 'April love' G Bourtzis

Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

- 1st Gia – Ellen A Scerri
2nd Racemosum x linguiforme K Weyers

Australian Native Terrestrials

- 1st Deplodium Aff Robustum A Scerri

Paphiopedilum – Species

- 1st Paph villosum E Walker
2nd Paph insigne E Walker

Miltonia Hybrid

- 1st Guana Bara G Bourtzis

Species any Genera

- 1st Zyg mackayi A Scerri

Best in Section

- Paph villosum E Walker**

ADVANCED NOVICE SECTION

Cymbidium - Medium

- 1st Mesa Zia R Ryan

Cymbidium – Small

- 1st Morialta Falls B Whearem
2nd Elegant Elf L Halil

Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

- 1st Ellen Surprise x Aussie Victory G Ragg
2nd Jonathons Glory G Ragg

Phalaenopsis – Hybrid

- 1st Unknown O Boicos

Masdevallia Hybrid

- 1st Pixie Leopard S & M Hurwood

Species any Genera

- 1st Cym tracyanum R Ryan
2nd Laelia anceps D & J Walker

Best in Section

- Cymbidium tracyanum R Ryan**

NOVICE SECTION

- Den Graham Hewitt D Brus

D Brus has now been promoted to Advanced Novice Section for Competition.

NON SECTIONAL

Seedling Flowering for 1st time

- Sartylis Janine Banks Red spotter J & M Lattimore

Best Cultivated

- Tuberolabium kotoense J & M Lattimore

Popular Vote

- Cym Morialta Falls B Whearem

Judges Vote

- Phrag Don Wimber G Garrett

We would like to thank the following Major sponsors for their financial support for the 18th AOC Orchid Conference in 2009 being held in Werribee.

Australian Orchid Council, Orchids Australia, Retire Invest Werribee, Italian Sports Club Werribee, Wyndham City Council, J & B Scott, Multicrop (Aust) Pty Ltd and the Australian Orchid Nursery.

Their support is very much appreciated.

Thank you also to Boulderstone Hornibrook for their donation of envelopes that will be used to send out conference paperwork to registrants.

ORCHID SHOW CALENDAR

Maribyrnong 2008 Orchid Shows

Winter Show: 12th and 13th July
Spring Show: 13th & 14th September
Sarcocochilus Festival: 8th & 9th November

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

Other 2008 Orchid Club Show Dates:-

1. Country Club's Challenge
Easy Orchids will be attending
Saturday 5th July – Sunday 6th July
Kangaroo Flat Leisure Centre
Browning Street,
Kangaroo Flat (Bendigo)
2. Maroondah Orchid Society
Sunday 13th July 2008
9.00am to 3.00pm
Entry \$3.00
Blackburn High School Hall
Cnr Springfield Rd and Williams Rd
North Blackburn
3. Winter Miracles Orchid Show
B & T Ferns and Orchids
Saturday 19th July to Sunday 20th July
Free Entry
30 Wiseman Road,
Silvan Melways: 123 E7
4. Victorian Orchid Club Winter Show
Saturday 19th July to Sunday 20th July
Red Cross Centre
Repatriation Hospital
Enter via Gate 8
Waterdale Road, Heidelberg
5. Werribee Orchid Society
Winter Show at the
Werribee Racecourse on
Saturday 19th July to Sunday 20th July
6. Orchid Spectacular
15th – 17th August
Collectors Corner, Springvale

Sales Tickets and Plant Entry

Members are asked to please carefully read the following especially if you are one of those who exhibit and sell plants at our shows.

If you exhibit plants you are then able to sell plants. For every plant you exhibit, the Club allows you ten plants to sell, with a limit of 100

sales (this makes 10 plus exhibits) which is more than reasonable. Everyone has to abide by the same rules, and no one gets special treatment.

The aim of having a show is to make the display really spectacular for both our club members and the general public. Because we try to cover the costs of renting the hall for the weekend we allow you to sell plants, with the club taking 15% commission to help cover expenses incurred over the weekend. The tickets we provide for our sales plants cost approx 6c each, so please only take the quantity that you know you are able to use at one show. Price your plants to the nearest dollar, **don't add 50c** to the price.

Sales tickets, entry forms and schedule will be available at the meeting before each show. In the case of the Winter show this year, tickets will have been brought along to the June meeting and also the July meeting. This will allow you to fill in your tickets at home making it easier for all concerned. Fill out your sales sheet starting at the lowest number, keeping them in the right numerical order down the sheet. Members who cannot get along to the meetings are asked to phone early to make arrangements for posting them.

Show plant entries start at 1.30pm and close at 6.30pm on the Friday night of each show. We will accommodate you if you notify us earlier that you will be running late. We will then hold up proceedings until the judging starts which is between 7 and 7.30pm, but you **MUST** notify us before hand.

Please be aware we hire the hall from 12.30pm and not before. At this time the carpets, kitchen, and all rooms are checked to see if there is any damage before we take responsibility for the hall. If you happen to have a mishap with a cup of coffee or drop a plant on the carpet during the weekend please let someone know immediately so it can be cleaned.

The **sales area closes at 4.30pm Sunday**. We ask members who have had plants in the sales area to come promptly at that time to remove any sales tickets (not before) that are on their unsold plants and check them off with members who have the sales sheets before taking your plants outside.

The show **closes on the Sunday at 5pm**. Please be there on time to pick up your Display plants at that time and not before.