



Sarcophilus australis

MARIBYRNONG ORCHID SOCIETY

(The FRIENDLY Society)

AUGUST 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 12th August, 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.

Guest Speaker this month

Our guest speaker this month is Mr Glen Brown and he will be speaking on the work involved in setting up a winning display at the Exhibition Gardens.

Supper Roster

For the August meeting we kindly have Dennis Kennedy and Margot Lattimore 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.

New Members

The club wishes to welcome Susan & Marcus Higgs, Margaret Smith, Heather & Ken Mair, Joanne Schembri & Glenn Farrugia 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.

JULY 2008 COMPETITION RESULTS

As per judges sheets

OPEN SECTION

Dendrobium – Australian Hybrid Hybrid

1st Den Avrils Gold G Garrett
2nd Den Annes Rainbow G Garrett

Paphiopedilum - Exhibition

1st Paph Clifford Peter G Garrett
2nd Paph insigne 'Sanderæ' x
Battersea 'Consilk' J Crawford

Paphiopedilum – Maudiae/Callosum

1st Paph Redstart x Holdenii J Crawford

Paphiopedilum - Species

1st Paph sukhakuli J Crawford
2nd Paph insigne G Campbell

Cattleya – Novelty

1st Slc Charming Jewel H&R J & Y McIntyre
2nd Slc Red Elf J Crawford

Oncidium – Hybrid

1st Onc River of Gold x Arila J Crawford

Odontoglossum – Hybrid

1st Oda Enchanson x Moselle G Campbell

Masdevallia – Species

1st Masd infracta J Crawford
2nd Masd veitchiana G Garrett

Species Any Genera

1st Epigenium cymbidiodes G Campbell

Best in Section

Dendrobium Avril's Gold G Garrett

INTERMEDIATE SECTION

Cymbidium – Small

1st Cym Morialta Falls A Scerri

Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

1st Elegant Autumn 'Annetta' K Weyers
2nd Gai Ellen x Sun Glow A Scerri

Terrestrials – Australian Native

1st Diflodium aff. robustum A Scerri

Paphiopedilum - Exhibition

1st Paph Maginot Hill 'Julie' G Bourtzis

Any other Hybrid

1st Zygo Artur Elle x Titanic G Bourtzis

Species any Genera

1st Laelia anceps G Bourtzis
2nd Stenoglottis longifolia A Scerri

Best in Section

Zygo Artur Elle x Titanic G Bourtzis

ADVANCED NOVICE SECTION

Cymbidium - Large

1st Vieux Rose x Lochlomond R Ryan
2nd Champagne R Ryan

Cymbidium - Small

1st Sweetheart Lillian Reed B Whearem

Dendrobium – Australian Native Hybrid

1st Gilleston Gem D Brus
2nd Kurungai Milk Coffee H Milburn

Paphiopedilum – Exhibition

1st Hamana x Luther Slaughter D & J Walker

Paphiopedilum – Species

1st insigne 'Harefield Hall' H Young
2nd gratixianum M Mally

Cattleya - Novelty

1st Slc Highland Bubble x
Rocket Burst D McAuslan

Oncidium Hybrid

1st Sultamyre x Enderianum G & A Hardingham

Masdevallia Hybrid

1st Kara Delight 'Black Legs' M & S Hurwood

Any other Hybrid

1st Zgna Adelaide Parklands M & S Hurwood

Species any Genera

1st Cym tracyanum R Ryan

Best in Section

Onc Sultamyre x Enderianum G & A Hardingham

NOVICE SECTION

1st Cym tracyanum C & G Cunliffe

C & G Cunliffe have now been promoted to Advanced Novice Section for Competition.

NON SECTIONAL

Seedling Flowering for 1st time

1st Den Graham Hewitt J Crawford
2nd Cym (king Arthur x Sunbreeze)
x Vangard 'Miss Beauty' G Bourtzis

Best Cultivated

Angraecum eburneum H Dieter Breuer

Popular Vote

Den Avrils Gold G Garrett

Judges Vote

Den Avils Gold G Garrett

G Garrett's Dendrobium Avrils Gold 'Highclere' was awarded an AM with 80.6 points.

Autumn Show 2008 Awards

Major Awards

Grand Champion Orchid of the Show	
Phrag Living Fire 'Queenscliffe'	M Pearce
Reserve Champion Orchid of the Show	
Slc Dream Catcher 'Little Gem'	J & M Lattimore
Champion Cymbidium	
Khan Flame 'Lucifer'	M Pearce
Champion Australian Native Orchid	
Den Gilleston Gem x Ellen	J Crawford
Champion Laeliinae Orchid	
Slc Dream Catcher 'Little Gem'	J & M Lattimore
Champion Paphiopedilum Hybrid Orchid	
Paph Emerald Fijansford	M Pearce
Champion Paphiopedilum Species Orchid	
Paph villosum	M Jurjevic
Champion Masdevallia Orchid	
Masd Morning Glory 'Trixie'	M Pearce
Champion Hybrid, any other genera	
Phrag Living Fire 'Queenscliffe'	M Pearce
Champion Species Orchid	
Rhy gigantean 'Spots' x sib	Francis/Martin
Champion Specimen Orchid	
Cym Sarah Jean x Pure Destiny	A Evans
Champion exhibit by an Intermediate Grower	
Paph insigne	E Walker
Champion exhibit by a Novice Grower	
Paph villosum	M Jurjevic
Champion Stand	M Pearce
Champion Basket of Orchids	J & N Marshall
Champion Junior Orchid	No Entry
Champion Plant (Non Orchid)	
Persian Shield	A Evans
Champion Cacti	Loan Do
Champion Bromeliad	E & F Wilde
Best Open Floral Art	H Randall
Best Intermediate Floral Art	D Sharam
Best Novice Floral Art	A Scerri
Best Junior Floral Art	No Entry
Best Wired Work	No Entry

Minor Awards (Rosette)

Best Stand by an Intermediate	E Walker
Best Stand by a Novice	No Entry
Best Cultivated Orchid	
Paph villosum	M Jurjevic
Best Seedling Orchid Flowering for the 1 st Time	
Paph Black Jazz x Hsing Web	Francis/Martin
Best Fern Exhibit	A Evans
Best Foliage Exhibit	A Evans
Best Flowering Exhibit (Non orchid)	
Poinsettia	J & M Lattimore

ORCHID SHOW CALENDAR

Maribyrnong 2008 Orchid Shows

Spring Show: 13th & 14th September
Sarcochilus 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. Orchid Spectacular
15th – 17th August
Collectors Corner, Springvale
2. Australasian Native Orchid Show
1st to 2nd November
10am to 4pm
Masonic Centre
Regaent Street, Belmont
Mel: 451 H 10

Vale

Joan Rowland

We wish to advise members of the tragic death of our Club member Joan Rowland as a result of a car accident on Thursday 17th July.

Joan joined our club in 1995. She and husband Bob grew lovely cymbidiums to large specimen size. We send our deepest condolences to her husband Bob.

Orchid Bark

There are quite a few bags of bark left after the Winter Show which had to be moved to an address in Brooklyn. If you would like bark before the Spring Show, phone Ron on 0438 098 267 in order to make arrangements to collect it.

Vale

Rene Queck

It is with deep regret that we must advise that Rene Queck sadly passed away in July after a long battle with illness. Rene joined our club in 1996 and he liked to grow species.

Our sincere condolences are extended to his family.

Show Committee

It is with deep regret that the Committee has accepted two resignations from the Show Committee - Peter Kiernan as Show Co-ordinator and Eric Wilde as Show Secretary.

Both these members have worked tirelessly for many years in these positions and need a break. Peter is doing a lot of work surveying terrestrials with the DS & E and Eric is heavily involved with the Conference we are staging next year.

Everyone's favourite friend, Ronny Ryan has accepted the position as Show Co-ordinator and the Club thanks him for taking this role.

However there is still another position that needs to be filled. If you think you could help the show Committee, see Anthony and offer your assistance. Your support will be appreciated.

Reading Glasses

A pair of glasses was left with Frances at the last show for safekeeping. The glasses were in a black soft cover. However the owner did not pick them up and Frances cannot remember who gave them to her. The glasses will be bought to the next meeting, can the owner please retrieve your property.

Bus Trip

The next Bus trip on 17th August which is traveling to the Orchid Spectacular in Springvale can fit 4 more people, as there have been some cancellations. If you would like to attend, please see Wilma at the August meeting. The cost is \$20 and this includes lunch and morning and afternoon tea.

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.

Vanity of Vanities

A middle aged woman has a heart attack and was taken to the hospital.

Whilst on the operating table she had a near death experience. Upon seeing God she asked, "Is my time up?"

God replied, "No, you have another 43 years, 2 months and 8 days to live.

Upon recovery, the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a face lift, liposuction and a tummy tuck. She even had someone come in and change her hair colour.

Since she had so much more time to live, she figured she might as well make the most of it.

After her last operation, she was released from hospital.

While crossing the street on her way home, she was hit and killed by an ambulance. Arriving in front of God, she demanded, "I thought you said I had another 40 years? Why didn't you pull me from out of the path of the ambulance?"

God replied, "I didn't recognize you."

Conference Stamp.

At the August meeting, we will be bringing along a page of stamps especially 'struck' to commemorate the 18th AOC Orchid Conference in 2009. If you would like to order any stamps, please see Frances Wilde at the meeting. They are 50c stamps but when you get them specially struck, they cost more, so a page of 20 stamps will be \$25 - this will include a small profit for the conference account.

AIDS WARNING

News Just in! Senior Citizens are the leading carriers of AIDS.

- * Hearing Aids
- * Band Aids
- * Walking Aids
- * Medical Aids
- * Government Aids
- * Most of All, Monetary Aid to their kids!

Tongue Orchids' Sexual Guile: Utterly Convincing

By **CAROL KAESUK YOON**



Orchids, gorgeous and elegant, are also some of the most deceitful flowers, having evolved sometimes elaborate ruses to lure pollinators.

In a new study of the most brazen of these botanical cheats, the species that entice pollinators with false promises of sex, scientists have discovered that one group of orchids has taken the art of manipulation to shameless heights.

Sexually deceptive orchids, as biologists have long known, look and can even smell so much like a female insect that males will try to mate with the flower in a sometimes vigorous process that can result in pollination. But scientists now report that the tongue orchids of Australia are such thoroughly convincing mimics of female wasps that males not only try to mate with them, but they actually do mate with them — to the point of ejaculation.

"It's always been described as pseudocopulation," said Anne Gaskett, a graduate student at Macquarie University in Australia and the lead author of the study. "But it looked like true copulation to me."

The discovery that orchids can induce such an extreme response is more than just bizarre natural history, because biologists have always assumed that the sexual misrepresentations of orchids were harmless to the duped males, no more than a comical exercise in frustration.

Yet the study, published last month in *The American Naturalist*, suggests a potentially huge cost to the wasps.

"If males waste all their sperm on orchids," Ms. Gaskett asked, "what have they got to offer a real female?"

Beyond that, why, scientists asked, would orchids do such an evolutionarily foolish thing? Why would a flower evolve to compromise the ability of its pollinator to reproduce?

So many orchids treat their pollinators so nastily, with false promises of food and sex or the occasional dunking of insect visitors into bucket-shaped petals full of liquid that naturalists have puzzled over the relationship for more than a century.

Darwin was so consumed by the odd interactions that after "The Origin of Species," his next book was an entire volume on the subject, "The Various Contrivances by Which Orchids Are Fertilized by Insects."

In the case of the tongue orchids and their dupe wasps, at least, scientists say they may have deciphered why these flowers abuse their visitors: the treatment of the wasps may, in fact, be very much to the orchids' advantage.

In wasps, the sex of an individual, male or female, is determined by a peculiar genetic system known as haplodiploidy. In this system, females are produced by an egg from their mother and a sperm from their father. But males have just half of the genetic complement and are produced by females from just an egg, without the aid of a male or a single drop of sperm.

For an orchid that is pollinated just by males, depleting sperm that would be used just to produce females might not be a drawback at all. It could even be a plus, because some female wasps without sufficient sperm tend to produce more sons — or, from the orchid's perspective, more pollinators.

Increasing the numbers of males, scientists say, could even make males a bit more desperate and less discriminating — another potential advantage for an orchid trying to fool a male into giving the not-quite-right-looking fake female sitting immobile inside its petals a try.

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New York Times

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/15/science/15was.html?ex=1373774400&en=846dbf79e20f864d&ei=5124&partner=permalink&exprod=permalink>