

The next Meeting of the
Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.
will be held on
Wednesday 22 July 2009
at the
Burnside Community Centre
401 Greenhill Road Tasmore SA

**Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday
of each month February to November**

Program

- 7.00 pm Auditorium opens, benching of plants and trading table
- 7.15 pm Beginners Class. Note early start time (All Welcome)
- 7.45 pm Viewing of Plants and Popular Vote
- 8.00 pm Official Opening and Presidents Report
- 8.15 pm Seedlings on the Show-bench
- 8.20 pm Judges Forum and Showbench
- 9.00 pm Plant Raffle Draw
- 9.15 pm Popular Vote and Judging Results
- 9.30 pm Close of Meeting and Supper.

THE NEW

CYMBIDIUM NEWS

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Australia Inc.

<http://www.cymorchids.com.au>

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**JUDGE'S CHOICE—BEST SMALL STANDARD
SEEDLING**

(Mutawa x Baltic Snow) x Fair Delight
Grown by Pauline Hockey

Volume 10 Number 6 July 2009

The New Cymbidium News Vol 10 No 6—July 2009

The New Cymbidium News is published monthly – February to November inclusive and is the Official Newsletter of the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc

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SUPPER ROSTER 2009

Wednesday 22 July	Pam Leske and Rosemary
Wednesday 26 August	Coralie Hime and Rosemary
Wednesday 23 September	Rosemary and Carmel
Wednesday 28 October	Geoff, Lucy and Wendy Schiller
Wednesday 25 November	Jeanne

Please see Yvonne or Mary Heddle to include your name on the roster. All help appreciated—Thank you

PROGRAM 2009

Wednesday 22 July	Judges Forum and Showbench
Wednesday 26 August	Kevin McLean—hybridizing and lab work
Wednesday 23 September	National Show Report
Wednesday 28 October	Kevin Hipkins—Tracyanum
Wednesday 25 November	Roger Herraman—canaliculatum—and Christmas Breakup

GRAND CHAMPION—WINTER SHOW

The Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc congratulates:

Murray Weston

On winning Grand Champion at the COCSA Winter Show—
Munno Para Shopping Centre with
Cym. Artistic Impression 'Snow Drop'

NOTICE BOARD

WINTER / SPRING / NATIONAL SHOWS

Winter Show—Munno Para Shopping Centre

Sunday 12 July 2009 to Saturday 18 July 2009

Put-in—Saturday 11 July 2009 after 5.00pm

Spring Show—Westfield—West Lakes

Sunday 23 August 2009 to Saturday 29 August 2009

Put-in—Saturday 22 August 2009 after 5.00pm

National Cymbidium Orchid Show

Springvale—Victoria

Friday 4 September 2009 to Sunday 6 September 2009

Please see page 14 for bus trip information.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY—Cymbidium Registrations

If you wish to receive the latest cymbidium registrations from the Royal Horticultural Society by email, please send your details to Jeanne Hall—pejeh@optusnet.com.au

Jeanne will add your name to the email list and send when new registrations are published. This service available by email only.

WANTED / FOUND

Cym erythrostylum

2 x required, flowering or near flowering plants

Contact: Peter Hall (details below)

Don't forget our Wanted Section

Please contact: Peter Hall—pejeh@optusnet.com.au

Telephone: 08 8294 5562 or 0416 179 019



NEUTROG PRODUCTS

- Strike Back for orchids 20 Kg bag \$22
- Sudden Impact for Roses 10 Kg pail \$23
- Sudden Impact for Roses 20 Kg bag \$22
- Seamungus 20 Kg bag \$14.50
- Sudden Impact for Lawns 20 Kg bag \$24.50
- Rapid Raiser 20 Kg bag \$13.50

Please place your orders and payment with John and Yvonne Longbottom—(cheques to be made out to COCSA)

NB: product to be picked up from Graham Morris at Valley Orchids



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

July 2009

Recently at our committee meeting a number of issues had to be urgently dealt with so that we could continue our success rate. We continually ask people to take up various roles within the club, but very little response is given, even when we explain that you will be taught and not left to fend for yourself. We still have to have judges, and that doesn't mean you have to be a super grower or been growing for many years. It is a learning procedure.

Over the years we have asked for people to learn how to photograph orchids. The club has it's own photographic equipment and we will organise for you to learn. Just about everyone on the committee has been involved for some time and can't do them forever and would like to see new faces to put up their hands to learn. A lot of satisfaction can be had, just as growing and improving your ability with orchids.

The Munno Para Winter Show will be over by the time this edition reaches you and I hope everyone has had some input in this event. Many of you do not realise the difficulty in getting places to run a show, especially one that is sponsored. I hope all of you who took part enjoyed being part of a successful event and won some of the categories of your class.

The next twelve months may see many changes within the ACS with Victoria hosting a national show in Melbourne and not in a country town. Western Australia is about to hold its first national show and requires the support of each state to be successful.

At a later meeting you will receive all the relevant details for our spring show at West Lakes, from Wayne Baylis, and he needs all our support.

Ray Brady—President

WILDCATT ORCHIDS DATABASE

I have decided to discontinue sales of the Wildcatt Orchids database and the Wildcatt database update. I do however intend to make these products available on line for free download and will continue to support them with data updates in the Spring and Fall. This is being done so that I can concentrate work on a new Wildcatt program which I hope to release within a year.

You can download the current Wildcatt update at the following link for FREE:

<http://www.wildcattdata.com/NewWeb/WcUpdateF2008.EXE>. You will be asked whether you want to run the program file or download, choose download.

Downloading by dial up modem may take an hour or more. Once the download is complete, double-click to run the program. You will be asked for a password-it is fafnir. Running this program will install the current version on your computer.

The full Wildcatt program can be downloaded for FREE at: <http://www.wildcattdata.com/NewWeb/WcAppF2008.EXE>. You will be asked whether you want to run the program file or download, choose download.

Downloading by modem may take an hour or more. Once the download is complete, double-click to run the program. You will be asked for a password-it is fafnir. Running this program will install the current version on your computer.

Also be sure to print and review the following document:

<http://www.wildcattdata.com/NewWeb/CattleyaChanges.pdf> which contains notes about the recent nomenclature changes in the Cattleya group and how they affect Wildcatt.

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e-mail: Orchids@WildcattData.com
web site: www.Wildcattdata.com

Thanks to Terry Honor for providing this information.

MURRAY BRIDGE ORCHID CLUB WINTER SHOW—3, 4, 5 JULY 2009

Jeanne and I are members of the Murray Bridge Orchid Club and we took part in their winter show.

I took up 5 plants for sale and seven plants for showing. I didn't expect to win anything, I just wanted the show to have lots of colourful orchids on display. We won a best in intermediate pink with the Cymbidium—Valley Olympic 'Rose'. The multi genera display was excellent, very colourful with lots of 'must have' orchids on display.

It was unfortunate that we were unable to have the show in the Town Hall because of renovations, never the less, it was a very good show.

The club is a very friendly club with lots of willing helpers that make it a user friendly and successful club. We enjoy the monthly meetings because the people make you feel welcome—it is a fun club with nobody taking themselves too seriously.

Below are some photographs of the show.



Display at entrance



Lots of orchids



A couple of familiar faces



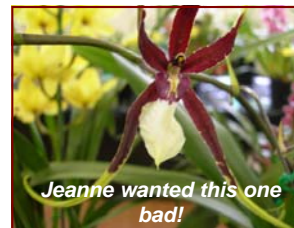
As usual, superb tucker!



Colourful!



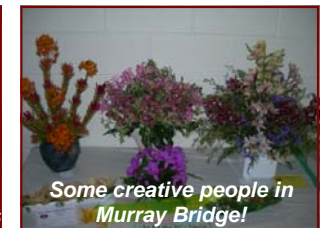
Many genera



Jeanne wanted this one bad!



Floral arrangement displays



Some creative people in Murray Bridge!

JUDGES CHOICE—BEST IN OPEN DIVISION

Peggy Sue 'Five'

grown by: Elmore and Pamela Leske

Well grown with four upright spikes, shapely dark pink flowers above arching foliage. Grown in an 8" pot.



JUDGES CHOICE—BEST IN SECOND DIVISION

Jessie Blakiston x Yowie Flame

grown by: Wilf Purchase

Dark red flower grown in a 7" pot with two spikes above the foliage. Each pike had eleven flowers with dark maroon lips, white pollen cap and a yellow throat. Three green bulbs, one back blub.



NUTRI-TECH BIO ORGANICS—ORGANIC BASED FERTILISERS

It seemed like most of our members enjoyed the presentation by John Norton on organic fertilisers and there was plenty of questions after the talk.

Wayne Baylis and I have been using Nutri-Tech Bio Organics for three years and we are very happy with the results. I suppose it gets back to the old adage, if you ask 30 cymbidium orchid growers how and what fertilizer they use you would get 30 different stories.

The following week after our club meeting, Wayne Baylis, Ray O'Donoghue and I went out to see John Norton to draw up a plan using these organic fertilisers. We finished up with a 12 month fertilizing program.

I will list how, when and what I use as my program. I'm sure it won't be the same as Wayne and Ray's. When I report I use 60% coco husk chips (medium), 35% pink bark chips and 5% perlite, I also add marble chips 3mm, kanundra shell and OF10—OF10 at no more than 5% of the total mix. I know that all this adds up to more than 100%, but the kanundra shell and the OF10 humptes is so fine that it doesn't tak up a lot of space within the mix. I also add Rapid Raiser, Seamungus and Macra Coat.

I mix my fertilisers in 200 litre barrels. I start with adding 350ml of the liquid concentrate to a 9 litre watering can. I also add Seamungus, Rapid Raiser and Strike Back which I have been soaking in a 20 litre barrel for several days, using it as a tea. I don't like the pellets on the top of the mix. I add approximately 7 litres of this to the concentrate in the can and I then empty the contents from the can to the 200 litre barrel. The 200 litre barrel is connected to a rainwater tank that is above the level of the barrel and I release the rainwater into the bottom of the barrel and fill it to about 150 litres. Also connected to the barrel is a pump with 30 metres of hose and a triggered watering wand attachment. I then proceed to fertilise all my plants.

This fertilizing program is suitable for mature flowering sized plants. The program that we came up with is:

June, July, August, September, October, November:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Week 1 | Shuttle seven and triple ten (use three days apart) |
| Week 2 | Calcium Fulvate |
| Week 3 | Calcium Fulvate |
| Week 4 | Silico Sulfonate |

December, January, February:

Week 1 Calcium Fulvate
Week 2 Shuttle Seven
Week 3 Calcium Fulvate
Week 4 Shuttle Seven

NOTE: do not use silico sulfonate with any other fertilizer.

NOTE: All these fertilisers are mixed at a rate of 40ml / ten litres.

I also use Myco-Tea™ (Task-Force of solid friendly fungus with supporting beneficial bacteria).

CYMPPLICITY FOR JULY

It is now mid winter and we usually struggle to go outside yet inside the *Cym* house things are really on the move. Spikes now begin to break sheath and we get our first look at potential flowering. At the same time the spikes begin to lengthen considerably. They are also now at a very vulnerable stage. They are top tucker for the caterpillar and slug brigade, even if they don't chew right through their tell tale marks will enlarge and go brown as the spike grows and can be rather detractive in a showing situation. Slugs and snails can be controlled with baits in the pot or some cotton wool wrapped around the stem of the spike. Copper strip around the pot will stop slugs and snails coming in from the ground to the pot but if they are already in the mix then baits and cotton wool are suggested. Check the drainage holes for slugs.

Water lodging in amongst the buds will lead to fungal spots that will either disfigure the flower or cause the bud to abort. Either way your show bench plant has now become a display plant. Caterpillars are rarely a real problem and I find that any caterpillar on my *Cyms* has found its way there from another unrelated plant. By keeping known caterpillar delicacies such as my babies' tears, *Lycastes* and *Zygopetalums* well sprayed will ensure they cause me little grief.

Aim to keep flowering plants moist, not wet and feed fortnightly with a high potassium feed unless they are non flowering, small plants in which case you have to feed with more nitrogen to keep them moving. Most hybrid *Cyms* don't removing dry husks etc. Apart from being unsightly they also provide shelter

PLANT WRITE UP JUNE 2009

JUDGES CHOICE— BEST OVERALL / BEST IN FIRST
DIVISION

One Tree Hill 'Golden Ball'

grown by: Peter Hall

2 tall spikes, 17 flower and 14 flowers. Grown in a 7" pot with bark and pearlite. 2 large bulbs, 1 new growth and 2 back bulbs. Very well grown.



FIRST DIVISION

Small Standard Polychrome First Prize	Beaconsfield 'Tasmania'	Pauline Hockey
Intermediate Pink First Prize	Magic Jessie	Pauline Hockey
Intermediate Yellow First Prize	One Tree Hill 'Golden Ball'	Peter and Jeanne Hall
Intermediate Green First Prize	Millennium Bride	Pauline Hockey
Intermediate Brown First Prize	Bonnie's Pride 'Pure Gold'	Peter and Jeanne Hall
Miniature Pink First Prize	Cherry Blossom 'Kirsty Anne'	Peter and Jeanne Hall
Miniature Green First Prize	pumilum x Woorak 'Star Fire'	Peter and Jeanne Hall
Miniature Green Second Prize	Millennium Love	Pauline Hockey
Miniature Polychrome First Prize	Morialta 'Morialta Falls'	Rod and Judy McRedmond
Miniature Other Colour First Prize	Sundaani Autumn 'Nellie'	Pauline Hockey

SECOND DIVISION

Intermediate Other Colour First Prize	Stone Free Lachie	Wendy Schiller
Miniature Pink First Prize	Autumn Elf 'Keely'	Steve Howlett
Miniature Red First Prize	Jesse Blakeston x Yowie Flame	Wilf Purchase

require a rest and are always in growth. Keep weeds out of the mix and keep for pests such as scale and earwigs. I tend not to spray my *Cyms* from now but if I have to, I cover the spike with a rough cone of paper to protect them. Still, I don't hear of too many problems with sprays and dusts nowadays. Pays to practice on a crappy flower if you are unsure and wait a week or so.

With the spikes showing most stakes should be in final positions and the training of spikes into their preferred positions begins. This can be straightening, spreading and stretching. Obviously the treatment they get depends on the hybrid concerned and its here that experience of those particular plants requirements need to be known. In the case of seedlings knowledge of the parent's characteristics will determine what you need to do. Straightening is self explanatory, stretching is for those with bunchy flowers or those that love to hide in amongst the leaves and spreading more for the pendulous types so we can get an even spread around the pot and not all spikes crowded in one half.

Caution is required because whilst small the spikes are brittle and more so in the mornings before the sap moves. I do more adjustments a little later as the spikes lengthen further and become suppler.

Watch out now for any buds that get caught up in the sheath as they break out, these will break easily if handled carelessly and will result in a flower offset against the others if left. Cut the sheath first and pull it gently away from the flower.

Very soon we will need to start looking at our light requirements for the various colours so make sure you have some bright areas for the reds, browns, pinks and some shadier areas for the whites and greens.

This year things will be a little slower thanks to the continuing very cold dry conditions that winter has served up this year. Hopefully things warm up a little earlier this year and things go well for the spring shows, If you do have to force a flower to open up it is usually a bit of warmth that will help but be careful as many a show plant has been ruined by over zealous growers. I place my plants in the laundry. Temperatures here are usually 18° to 20°C; the air is dry and the light not too bad. I do not like to leave them much more than 2 weeks here.

Cyms are not an indoor plant and an extended stay indoors will lead to rubbery buds that will terminate and then your plant is not even display material. Under no circumstances throw them into a hot heated room to speed things up, the temperature change is too dramatic and the air too dry and these rooms are generally darker than what the *Cym*. needs. Remember they are a living plant.

As we enter August we are now a mere 7 weeks away from the spring shows. This final 7 weeks shape up as the most important in the flowering calendar so will be placing more emphasis on preparation for display in the next month.

Steve Howard

CULTURE NOTES FOR JULY

Winter bears its teeth this month with strong winds and rain but fortunately we find that the nights are warmer, well, a bit anyway compared to what we experienced in May and June.

Despite the cold there is much to do in the orchid house. By now we all have a good idea of what's going to flower during the peak of late winter/early spring flowering. Watering and feeding is part reduced so we should have more time to attend to our plants. Many will be under stress, over wet and cold and more prone to pests and diseases. There are many signs to look for. Firstly any plant covered with scale and aphids is most likely stressed and the bug infestation is not helping. Some of the frost sensitive plants will have Junes damage showing through now ranging from white/brown cell collapse in the leaf tissue right through to total defoliation. Rubbery looking *Cym.* spikes and buds are also signs of cold damage and they will most likely abort. And what of the plant covered in brown, water soaked spots or with rotting canes and bulbs. These are serious problems and there is only one cause, us! Every year I find a few plants that are not in the best of health and realise I am doing something wrong. Firstly I identify the problem and then take steps to correct it. There are many causes, so many you could write a book on the subject but common ones are almost invariably cultural. Too wet, too shady, too cold, too draughty, fed at the wrong time, too close to other plants already bugged, fed too strong during the growing season; blah blah blah.

I try and make a judgement of the problem and correct it. If I am right it lives, if wrong I might get another chance next year or I have a new vacant pot! Actually I ditch the pot. Virus and disease can survive on a pot and infect a new plant put in so unless you want to go to the effort of sterilisation, I find a few cents for a new pot is easier.

With so many plants approaching flowering we place the best ones under cover. Staking etc starts now as the spikes grow, don't leave them till the nite before a show. As with Cyms take note of the light requirements for the other genera that display various colours, bright for reds and pinks, shadier for whites, creams and yellows. If you move them under cover, ensure they face

OPEN DIVISION

Small Standard White First Prize	Fair Delight 'Polar Bear'	Ben Knobben
Intermediate White First Prize	Elegant Elf 'Nan'	John and Sandra Nicholls
Intermediate Pink First Prize	Kaulani 'Concordia'	Helmuth Gerber
Intermediate Red First Prize	Valley Regent x Willunga Regal	Ben Knobben
Intermediate Red Second Prize	Willunga Regal 'Red Velvet Glow'	John and Sandra Nicholls
Intermediate Other Colour First Prize	Pendragon x Mill	Helmuth Gerber
Miniature Pink First Prize	Peggy Sue 'Five'	Elmore and Pamela Leske
Miniature Pink Second Prize	Kaulani 'Princess Royal'	Helmuth Gerber
Miniature Pink Third Prize	Kaulani 'Mayfair'	Helmuth Gerber
Miniature Green First Prize	Sarah Jean 'Baritta'	Helmuth Gerber
Miniature Green Second Prize	Maureen Grapes x Earlisue 'Zoe'	John and Sandra Nicholls

FIRST DIVISION

Small Standard White First Prize	(Mutawa x Baltic Snow) x Fair Delight	Pauline Hockey
Small Standard Yellow First Prize	One Valley 'Fire'	Pauline Hockey

Monthly Competition Results For 24 June 2009

POPULAR VOTE

Best Species	Tracyanum	John and Sandra Nicholls
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JUDGE'S CHOICE

Best Overall	One Tree Hill 'Golden Ball'	Peter and Jeanne Hall
Best in Open Division	Peggy Sue 'Five'	Elmore and Pamela Leske
Best in First Division	One Tree Hill 'Golden Ball'	Peter and Jeanne Hall
Best in Second Division	Jessie Blakiston x Yowie Flame	Wilf Purchase
Best Large Standard Seedling	Eternal Torch	Pauline Hockey
Best Small Standard Seedling	(Mutawa x Baltic Snow) x Fair Delight	Pauline Hockey
Best Intermediate Seedling	Valley Regent x Willunga Regal	Ben Knobben
Best Miniature Seedling	Millennium Love	Pauline Hockey
Best Small Standard First Shown	Khan Flame 'Luke'	Pauline Hockey

the same way in respect to the sun. Any change in sunlight angle will result in twisted spikes and ruin presentation. A spray with fungicide is advisable now on newly spiking plants. A small brown spot becomes a big brown spot as the buds enlarge and that's if you are lucky, more often than not the bud falls off. Main spikers now are the *Paphs*, *Cyms*, natives both terrestrial and the epiphytes and even spring flowering *Cattleyas* will soon show swelling in the sheaths.

Ensure these sheaths stay dry. If they yellow or brown and show signs of any fungal problem remove the sheath and dust a fungicide on the small buds inside and keep dry. This may save them, neglect will surely rot off this years flowers and if you are unlucky the fungus may enter the psuedo bulbs and cause real problems. Keep an eye out for black rot too this time of year. This usually affects the rhizomes and pseudo bulbs. This is an easy problem to identify. It's black and has a clearly defined edge to it.

Flowering and near flowering plants should be watered when dry, usually every 7 to 10 days if under cover and always mid morning and never at night. Feeding is the next day, usually a weaker concentration than the growing season (say half) and more as a foliar feed than a full pot drench. Even so, sometimes I get slack and they miss out for a month. Doesn't really matter too much because the plants are usually slower in their metabolism and apart from the developing flowers are generally not doing much in the growth stakes.

Unless in active growth, and there are some that grow more in winter than summer, feeding remains low nitrogen and higher in phosphorous and potassium with an organic liquid feed thrown in for good measure.

Bug issue this month is slugs and snails looking for flower spikes, aphids are still over wintering on the thistles and this year's crop of woolly bear caterpillars will be packing on the weight and will soon be on the move looking for orchids.

As we enter August the realism of another growing season is almost upon us. A year is too short in orchid growing unless that champion plant you had got creamed by the weather or a bug in which case a year is an eternity!

Steve Howard

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TISSUE CULTURE

CONTACT PAULINE OR KEV McLEAN

PHONE... (08) 8386 0430

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S.A. 5169

EMAIL.... pkmclean@arcom.com.au

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ON 0412 391 989**

FOR FURTHER DETAILS.