

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au



Newsletter March 2013



Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.

PO Box 5949 Red Hill Qld. 4702

Founded 1955

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 26/3/13

at 7.30pm

Plants to be tabled by
7.15pm

President Jeff Bloxsom 49286582
jmbloxsom@hotmail.com
Vice President Terry Dean 49282278
terryellie@optusnet.com.au
Secretary Gloria Wakefeild 49224289
rwa13788@bigpond.net.au
Treasurer Bill Richardson 49275759
william.r@optusnet.com
Committee Jeff Glover 49287701
Peter & June Shelton 49266889
Ellie Dean 49282278
Trish Craig 49226621
Jenny Moore 49237234
P. Jenkinson 419725173
New Grower's Leader:
Keith Marsden 49282752
Public Relations Ellie Dean
Technical Advisers John Frisch
Jeff Glover
Registrar Terry Dean
Providers Jan Rawlings
Door Monitors/ Hostesses
Ellie Dean / Lorraine Weaver
Librarian Jack Martin
Raffle Plant Caretaker Terry Dean
Property Officers
B&F English 49222637
Editor: P&J Shelton 49266889
sheltonpj@optusnet.com.au
Asst Editor: Trish Craig 49226621
trishcraig@bigpond.com
Webmaster: R.Lakey 49288093
r.lakey@bigpond.com

Judges for the Meeting

J.Glover, J.Shelton
B. Hilse, M.Handley

Editors notes.

Bus to Bundy is leaving Lawrence Motors at **5am SHARP.** on Saturday the 23/03/13, don't be late. Hopefully we will have lovely weather in which to have a great time.

June and I have just returned from a few days in the big smoke staying with Albert and Anne Gibbard who whilst there took us to the Beenleigh Orchid sales, if you have been to Bray Park sales and thought they were crowded well they were nothing on this, with only about a metre or so between the vendors and crowds of people it made for a very cuddly day. Which I considered unfortunate because you didn't get to see each vendor's wares as people were about 3 deep at every seller's bench. Ran into Ken & Rosie also Pete & Toni who like me loosened up their purse strings.

In this months newsletter we have another exceptional article from Friendii. **PLEASE** won't somebody write an article, it doesn't have to be on diseases or chemicals or the like, tell the story about how you started in orchids, what happened on the way to becoming the good grower that you are now. Really my knees are getting sore from groveling.

There is an article on how I grow my Oncidiums, although I haven't got many now as I'm just starting out again, it may not interest you but I hope you get something out of it.

After our trip to Bundy, our show will be here too swift hopefully good weather will prevail. I hope we are all contenders for Grand Champion.

Pete & June

Notice to Members please assist with cleaning the hall after the meeting

The closing date for articles for the next newsletter are to be received by the 10th of March; articles received after this date will be included in the following month. Ed.

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
General Meeting Tuesday 26/2/2013

Attendance: As per register

Apologies: As per register

New members:

Visitor:

Lucky Member: 31 Roger & Gloria Wakefield.

Minutes: of previous monthly meeting approved as correct and accurate, Moved Keith Marsden second Clary Smith Carried.

Correspondence:

In = Newsletters, Nightcliff Orchid Society of the NT, The Sunshine Coast Orchid Society Inc. Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc, Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc, Blackwater & District Orchid & Foliage Club, Central QLD Bush house & Orchid Society, Caboolture Orchid Society Inc, Pioneer River Orchid & Plant Association. Rockhampton Horticultural Society Inc. Mid-Murry Orchid Club Inc. Nambour Orchid News. Mackay & District Orchid Society Inc, Maryborough District Orchid Society Inc. Redcliff District Orchid Society Inc. Capricorn Orchid & Foliage Club Inc. Gladstone Orchid & Foliage Society Inc. Townsville Orchid Society Inc. Orchid News NSW. The Rock, Memberships Welch, Hine, Kane. Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc Show. QLD Government, Merrylands Music, QLD International Orchid Fair, QLD Orchid Society (Calendar),

OUT = Moved Gloria Wakefield Second by Sharyn Frisch Carried.

Treasurers Report: Read and moved by Bill Richardson Second Sandra Rowcliffe Carried.

New Growers: Keith Marsden said weather permitting the first new growers will be on the 2nd of March at his & Pam's house.

General Business: Trip to Bundaberg bus will leave Lawrence's Holden at 5 am Sharp. We are also planning a day trip to Boyne- Tannum Show on the 25th May. The Theme for our show will be "The Magic world of Orchids" At the show this year Karen Carr will be in charge in the kitchen.

Plant Commentary: John Frisch spoke on all the flowers on display, thanks John. Terry Dean was asked to say how they came up with the Judges choice winning Orchids, thanks Terry.

Lucky exhibitor: Bernard Hilse

Raffle: Jack Martin, Bernard Hilse, Jan Rawlings, Terry Breingan, Jan Rawlings, Peter Shelton, Karen Carr, June Shelton, Laurence Lucke.

Meeting closed: 9.55 pm.

Next Meeting: 26th March 2013

Jeff Bloxsom President

Gloria Wakefield Secretary

Monthly Competition Results. February 2013

(Plants tabled: Advanced: 41: Novice: 15)

Judges Choice

<i>Vasco. Alice's Anie</i>	W&M Richardson
<i>Paph. Transvaal</i>	B&N Hilse
<i>Den. "Salaya Blue"</i> (name not registered)	B&N Lakey

Popular Vote, Advanced.

Cattleya over 75mm	<i>Rlc. Dora Louise Capen</i>	K&R Smith
Cattleya up to 75mm	<i>Ctt. Susan Holcombe</i>	K&R Smith
Vandaceous	<i>Vasco. Alice's Anie</i>	W&M Richardson
<i>Dendrobium</i>	<i>Den. "Salaya Blue"</i>	B&N Lakey
Paphiopedilum	<i>Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz</i>	T&E Dean
Oncidiinae	<i>Brs. Rex x Mtssa. Goodale's Gift</i>	K&R Smith
Species	<i>Rhy. retusa</i>	J&M Bloxsom
Miscellaneous	<i>Ctsm. russellianum x Ctsm. Orchidglade</i>	K&R Smith

Popular Vote, Novice.

Cattleya	<i>Blc. Glenlee Dawn</i>	G&M Maunder
Dendrobium	<i>Den. Sonia</i>	S. Rowcliffe
Species	<i>C. intermedia</i>	G&M Maunder
Miscellaneous	<i>Ascda. Suksamran Gold x ? x V. Doctor Anek</i>	P&T Jenkinson



Paph. Transvaal



Vasco. Alice's Anie



Den. "Salaya Blue"
(name not registered)

New Growers Report.

On Saturday the 2nd the new growers met at our place for the 1st meeting for 2013.

We were very fortunate that the weather stayed fine, although it was very wet under foot we were able to conduct the meeting under dry conditions. (No rain that is).

Pam and I were very pleased with the number of brave members who braved the suspect weather.

As in past years the idea was to talk about what the members were hoping to achieve this year and to ask for invitations to places where we can hold our meetings.

I am happy to report that we are now ready to face the year to come.

Afternoon tea was enjoyed by all, then President Jeff talked about our trip away to Bundy and the April show. We were extremely fortunate to have John and Sharon Frisch with us for the meeting, John kindly gave the members a talk on some of the problems we have with orchid growing and methods by which they can be treated. Thank you John for sharing your knowledge with us.

The afternoon raffle completed the meeting, at this point I would like to give my thanks to the advanced growers who give of their time and knowledge to our new growers, also my thanks must go to the generous donors to our raffle.

Keith Marsden

Phone- 49282752

Story with a moral.

A couple went on a fishing holiday to a resort in N.S.W, the husband likes to fish at the crack of dawn and the wife likes to read.

One morning the husband returns from fishing and decides to take a nap.

Although not familiar with the lake the wife takes the boat out, she motors a short distance out, anchors and commences to read her book.

Along comes the fisheries ranger in his boat pulls up alongside and says "Good morning, what are you doing", "Reading a book she replies", and thinking that it was quite obvious. "You're in a restricted fishing area" he informs her, I'm going to give you a ticket. She is bemused "I'm sorry Officer, I'm reading a book not fishing", "Yes but you have all the equipment, for all I know you could start fishing at any moment so I'll have to give you a ticket." "If you do I'll charge you with sexual assault" says the woman. "But I haven't touched you" replies the ranger. "That's true but you have all the equipment, for all I know you could start at any moment." "Have a nice day" said the ranger.

Moral of this story. - Never argue with a woman who reads.
(From Morningside News)

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc. Autumn Show
at Rockhampton High School Assembly Hall on 20th & 21st April 2013

Major Prizes

Grand Champion:	\$100.00 plus Trophy, Rosette & Card
Reserve Champion:	\$100.00 plus Rosette & Card
Best Specimen:	\$50.00 plus Trophy, Rosette & Card
Best Exotic Species:	\$20.00 plus Trophy, Rosette & Card
Best Aust. Species:	\$20.00 plus Trophy, Rosette & Card
Best Orchid by Novice Grower:	\$20.00 plus Trophy, Rosette & Card
Runner up to best Novice Grower	\$10.00 plus Ribbon
Class Champions (Classes 1 to 6 & 8)	\$20.00 plus Rosette & Card
Runner up to Class Champions & Best Species	\$10.00 plus Ribbon
Class Sections:	1 st \$5.00: 2 nd \$3.00 plus Ribbons & Cards

<u>Floral Art</u> (Class 9) Container Garden:-	1 st \$40.00; 2 nd \$20.00 plus Ribbon & Card
Arrangement :-	1 st \$20.00 2 nd \$10.00 plus Ribbon & Card
Corsage :-	1 st \$10.00 2 nd \$5.00 plus Ribbon & Card

Displays

Large Display (Max. 2 meters x 1.5 meters)	1 st \$80.00 plus \$50.00, Rosette & Card
	2 nd \$60.00 plus Ribbon & Card
Small Display (Table, approx. 1 sq. metre)	1 st \$40.00 plus \$50.00, Rosette & Card
	2 nd \$40.00 plus Ribbon & Card

Class 1.00 Laeliinae

- 1.01 Standard shape, bloom size over 100mm, predominately White
- 1.02 Standard shape, bloom size over 100mm, Mauve/ Purple shades
- 1.03 Standard shape, bloom size over 100mm, any other colour
- 1.04 Standard shape, bloom size up to 100mm, predominately White
- 1.05 Standard shape, bloom size up to 100mm, Mauve/ Purple shades
- 1.06 Standard shape, bloom size up to 100mm, any other colour
- 1.07 Standard shape, miniature plant size, bloom size up to 75mm
- 1.08 Non standard, Cluster, not less than five (5) blooms per stem
- 1.09 Non standard, any other

Class 2.00 Vandaeae

- 2.01 Vanda / Ascocenda, bloom size over 60mm
- 2.02 Vanda / Ascocenda, bloom size up to 60mm
- 2.03 Vandaeae any other, bloom size over 60mm
- 2.04 Vandaeae any other, bloom size up to 60mm
- 2.05 Phalaenopsis / Doritis hybrid

Class 3.00 Dendrobium.

- 3.01 Phalaenanthe type, predominately White
- 3.02 Phalaenanthe type, predominately Purple
- 3.03 Phalaenanthe type any other colour.
- 3.04 Phalaenanthe /Peloric (Pansy or Ekapol types)
- 3.05 Intermediate type
- 3.06 Spatulata type
- 3.07 Any Other type

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc. Autumn Show cont.

Class 4.00 Oncidiinae

- 4.01 Oncidium, Varicosum type
- 4.02 Oncidium, Equitant type
- 4.03 Oncidiinae, Inter-generic hybrid
- 4.04 Oncidiinae, any other

Class 5.00 Paphiopedilum

- 5.01 Standard type
- 5.02 Maudiae type characteristics
- 5.03 Brachypetalum / Parvisepalum type characteristics
- 5.04 Any other type (including Multi-florals & Phragmipedium)

Class 6.00 Other Genera

- 6.01 Genus Catasetum or alliance hybrid
- 6.02 Genus Epidendrum
- 6.03 Any Other Hybrid

Class 7.00 Species

- 7.01 Laeliinae (Cattleya, Laelia, Sophronitis, or Brassavola, or new renamed genus names)
- 7.02 Vandeae (excluding Phalaenopsis & Doritis)
- 7.03 Phalaenopsis or Doritis
- 7.04 Dendrobium, Australian
- 7.05 Dendrobium, Exotic
- 7.06 Oncidiinae
- 7.07 Paphiopedilum or Phragmipedium
- 7.08 Catasetum
- 7.09 Any other Exotic species
- 7.10 Any other Australian Species

Class 8.00 Foliage / Fern

- 8.01 Anthurium (var. andreanum or schizeraenum)
- 8.02 Bromelaid
- 8.03 Tillandsia or Cryptanthus
- 8.04 Succulent or Cactus
- 8.05 Bonsai
- 8.06 Any other foliage
- 8.07 Adiantum (Maiden Hair Fern)
- 8.08 Lycopodium (Tassel Fern)
- 8.09 Nephrolepis (Boston Fern)
- 8.10 Any other fern

Class 9 Floral Art

- 9.01 Container Garden - Area 50cm x 50cm. (see rule 23)
 - 9.02 Arrangement - using predominately orchid blooms with embellishments
 - 9.03 Corsage - using predominately orchid blooms
- (Please note: No Class Champion Ribbon is awarded in Class 9.00)

Judging Rules
Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
Autumn Show - 20th – 21st April 2013
Rockhampton High School Assembly Hall, Campbell Street, Rockhampton.

- (1) Entries are free and open to all current financial members of Orchid Societies in Rockhampton Regional Council area.
- (2) Requests for display space should be with the Secretary by Tuesday 9th April.
- (3) Plants, displays and floral art may be entered between 5pm and 10pm on the Friday. **Additionally, tabled plants** (max. 3 per member) and Floral Art may be entered up to **7.30am on Saturday** with judging to commence as soon as possible
- (6) Displays are to be judged first. Points allocated - Arrangement & effect 40, Quality 25, Variety 25, Labels 10.
- (7) Show judging shall conform to the judging standards of the Aust. Orchid Council.
- (8) All plants entered shall be the property of the exhibitor. The plants shall have been in the possession of the exhibitor for the preceding six months.
- (9) The only flowers other than orchids to be included in displays shall be Bromelads, Anthuriums, or related types. Foliage and fern must be accessible at the front / sides of displays, or tabled, to enable judging.
- (10) Cut blooms are allowed in displays, but are not eligible for judging.
- (11) Classes refer to orchid hybrids unless otherwise indicated. Plants are only eligible for judging in one section in a class.
- (12) Exhibitors are responsible to see that all plants are correctly labelled with their member number on the reverse side of the label or on the pot. Novice growers must attach identifying sticker to front of label.
- (13) If there are five or more plants in a specific group, an extra section **may** be created by the Show Marshall together with two committee members.
- (14) A bloom or blooms damaged or broken from an inflorescence in transit to the show will not disqualify that inflorescence, provided the damaged or detached bloom/s is placed on the pot. A bloom/s missing from an inflorescence of a plant that flowers progressively shall not disqualify that inflorescence.
- (15) Staking and tying for support will be permitted. In all genera, no inflorescence is to be tied or supported on any part of the flower or its attachment to the inflorescence. Parafilm or florists tapes are not allowed as ties.
- (16) The Judge/s shall have the power to withhold any prize in any section. The Judge/s decision will be final.
- (17) The Show Marshall in conjunction with the Chief Steward shall have the right to refuse the exhibition of any plant which, in their opinion, appears diseased or pest infected.
- (18) Both plant sales supervisors will have the authority to accept or reject any plant/s submitted for sale. Commission to the Society on plant sales is 20%.
- (19) Class Champions shall be selected from the winners of each section in that class. **Best Aust. Species and Best Exotic Species** shall be selected from the species class.
The judge will also select from all other plants in their class the plant deemed to be runner up to the Class Champion, and best Aust. Species, and best Exotic Species. **Best Specimen Orchid** shall be selected from all plants exhibited. **Best Orchid by R.O.S. Novice Grower** plus the runner up shall be selected from plants identified on plant label as “novice grower”.
- (20) Grand Champion of the show shall be selected from the Class Champions plus **both** “Best Species” and “Best Specimen”.
- (21) The Reserve Champion of the show shall be selected from the remaining Class Champions, or Best Species, or Best Specimen, plus the plant previously chosen as runner up, in the section from which the Grand Champion was selected.
- (22) The Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc. or its agents will accept no responsibility for theft, loss, destruction or damage to plants or property
- (23) Container Gardens. The container may be a pot, saucer, basket, part of hollow tree or other device to house and support the display. Overall dimensions shall fit within a 50cm. square area. At least one flowering orchid plant along with cut flowers shall be in the display plus embellishments using ferns and/or foliage plants and other props which may be used to highlight a theme. The only flowers allowed in display other than orchids are bromeliads and anthuriums or related types. Plants in container gardens will not be judged individually. Judging will be based on the overall aesthetic appearance and the quality of the plants included.

PLAY IT SAFE....Comparative toxicity of some common chemicals

Orchids, like all plants, are subject to attack by pests and diseases which, if left uncontrolled, may have devastating effects on our orchid collections. The implementation of appropriate cultural techniques and the growing of resistant plants should always be foremost in combatting the problem. However, situations arise where acceptable levels of control can only be achieved through the use of chemicals. It is then our obligation to choose the most appropriate chemicals for each particular circumstance and to use them in a manner that minimises any detrimental effects they may have both on ourselves and on the general environment. The first step in this process is to choose chemicals that are not only effective in controlling the problem but are also the least toxic to non-target species, including ourselves. It is beyond the scope of this article to consider the effectiveness of individual chemicals. Rather, the focus is on the comparative toxicity of a range of chemicals most likely to be used by hobby growers for the control of orchid pests and diseases. ***How is toxicity measured?***

The international standard is based on the amount of the chemical required to kill 50% of the population of the test animals, usually rats, mice or rabbits. This value, which relates solely to the immediate (ie. up to two weeks) effect of the test chemical alone, is referred to as the LD₅₀ (ie. the **Lethal Dose** required to kill **50%** of the test animals). Toxicity, expressed as the LD₅₀, is quantified as milligrams (mg) of the chemical per kilogram (kg) of body weight (ie. mg/kg). The LD₅₀ for different chemicals allows comparisons of lethal doses but gives no indication of doses that may cause other, non-lethal, effects.

The route of accidental exposure to chemicals may be by ingestion or by absorption through the skin, eyes or lungs. The respective LD₅₀ is then expressed as the Oral, Dermal or Inhalation dose rate. Toxicity ratings vary with both the test animal and the route of exposure. However, as a generalisation, the lower the LD₅₀ for test animals, the higher the toxicity to humans. Conversely, the higher the LD₅₀, the less toxic the chemical is to humans. Thus, if either of two chemicals provides adequate control of the pest or disease problem, the chemical with the higher LD₅₀ should be the chemical of choice. The most common measure of toxicity is the Oral LD₅₀ and it is a sample of these values that is presented below.

Chemicals may have acute and/or long-term effects on health and well-being and it is presumptuous to conclude that because no symptoms arise in the short-term that the chemical is perfectly safe regardless of how, or how long, exposure to the chemical occurs. In general, the higher the dose, the longer the exposure time and the greater the number of exposures, the greater the risk of long-term effects. Remember, all pesticides can be hazardous if used incorrectly. Any pesticide usage must therefore comply strictly with manufacturer's instructions including those relating to the use of protective measures designed to minimise exposure to the pesticide.

How does LD₅₀ relate to toxicity to humans?

Toxicity classes do vary between authors but as a rule of thumb, chemicals with Oral LD₅₀ values of 1-50mg/kg are classified as highly toxic, those from >50-500mg/kg as moderately toxic, from >500-5000mg/kg as slightly toxic and those >5000mg/kg as having relatively low toxicity. These equate to probable lethal doses for a 70kg man of <4ml, 30ml, 600ml and 1 litre of the chemical respectively. It should be noted that many pesticide products available to hobby growers contain only small amounts of the active ingredient. The Oral LD₅₀ for the product is then quite different to that of the active ingredient. For example, Mavrik (Mavrik Chewing & Sucking Insect Pest Killer—Yates) contains only 0.75% of the active ingredient, fluvalinate. While the Oral LD₅₀ for fluvalinate in rats has been reported as 261-282mg/kg (and is therefore classified as moderately toxic), its concentration in Mavrik is so low (0.75%) that, according to Yates (the supplier), Mavrik is classified as a NON-HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE by Worksafe Australia. When used for insect control on ornamental plants, Mavrik is diluted at the rate of 10ml of Mavrik /litre of water. Thus, the concentration of fluvalinate in the spray solution is then 0.0075%. The LD₅₀ for the spray solution is then so high that the solution is classified as relatively non-toxic to humans. Similarly, although the Oral LD₅₀ for Bifenthrin is reported to be 54-70 mg/kg, the Oral LD₅₀ for Talstar

Professional, which contains 0.06% bifenthrin, is >5000mg/kg and is therefore classified as relatively non-toxic to humans. However, both fluvalinate and bifenthrin belong to the synthetic pyrethroid group of pesticides, a group that has very high toxicity to aquatic organisms, including fish and crustaceans. Any run-off of spray solution into waterways can therefore have devastating effects on aquatic life. Again, this is a reminder of the importance of adhering to the manufacturer's instructions relating to the use of any pesticide no matter how safe it may appear to be.

Table 1. Comparative Oral LD₅₀ values (mg/kg)

Reference Chemicals			Insecticides		
<i>Active Ingredient</i>	<i>Trade Names</i>	<i>Oral LD₅₀</i>	<i>Active Ingredient</i>	<i>Trade Names</i>	<i>Oral LD₅₀</i>
Nicotine	Tobacco Products	55	Azadirachtin	Neem	>5000
Caffeine	Coffee, Tea etc	192	Bifenthrin	Talstar	>5000
Asprin	Disprin, Aspro	200	Cyfluthrin	Baythroid	870-1270
Sodium Chloride	Table Salt	3320	Carbaryl	Bugmaster	500-800
DEET	Aerogard etc	2000	Chlorpyrifos	Lorsban	96-270
Fungicides			Diazinon	Diazinon	300-400
Benzalkonium chloride	Alginox	1412	Fluvalinate	Mavrik	>5000
Copper Sulphate	Bluestone	1000	Imidicloprid	Confidor	380-500
Copper Hydroxide	Kocide	1000	Malathion	Malathon	>5000
Chlorothalonil	Bravo	>10,000	Methidathion	Supracide	44
Etridiazole	Terrazole	1077	Permethrin	Ambush	4000
Furalaxyl	Fongarid	940	Pyrethrum	Pyrethrum	1500
Iprodione	Rovral	4,400	Miticides		
Mancozeb	Dithane	11,200	Dificol	Kelthane	570
Phosphorus acid	Fosject	*	Sulphur	Sulphur	>5000
Metalaxyl	Ridomil	669	Rodenticide		
Triforine	Triforine	>16,000	Brodifacoum	Talon	0.4
Herbicide Molluscicides			Iron EDTA	Snail/Slug Bait	>2000
Glyphosate	Roundup	>5000	Metaldehyde	Snail/Slug Bait	600

* Not determined but assumed non-hazardous

It should be noted that the list of Trade Names is far from complete. It should also be noted that the concentration of active ingredient in any pesticide formulation may vary from manufacturer to manufacturer. The Oral LD₅₀ values for those formulations will vary accordingly.

The conclusion that can be drawn from Table 1 is that pesticides that have comparatively low acute toxicity to humans are available for use by hobby growers. When the need to use chemicals arises, it is our responsibility to not only choose those of low toxicity but also use them according to the manufacturer's instructions.

References

Canadian Center for Occupational Health & Safety. www.ccohs.ca

Penn State University Pesticide Safety Fact Sheet, 2006.

New England Apple Pest Management Guide. Acute Toxicity of Pesticides. 1996-7.

Friendii.

Oncidium orchids (Inc' Intergenerics)

Oncidium intergenerics are a group that have been bred using orchids from several different families that belong in the group classed as Oncidiinae. This group comes from Central and South America and can tolerate many different bush house conditions which we have in Rocky.

Growing conditions. – As mentioned these orchids are tolerant of many conditions but perhaps the best is in a bush house with 50 – 70% shade cloth cover. They can withstand temperature ranges from 2 – 38 degrees Celsius, having said that I've known them to tolerate extremes outside this range and flourish. I've seen them growing mounted on trees giving intermittent shade and doing quite well, if you have a Frangipanni growing in your garden put some on the trunk they will add to the beauty of your garden, the deciduous type is the best as when it loses its leaves in winter the plant has full sun.

Flowering. – Dependant on what type of Oncidium you have and your growing conditions they can flower at various times of the year. Some of the hybrids will flower 2 or 3 times a year, whereas some will only flower once a year. When your plant starts to initiate buds show care not to get any water in the sheath or on the buds as this can sometimes cause rot to set in. Where possible hang them high so as they get the best of the air movement.

Watering. – Oncidiums like to be kept moist but NOT wet, water them on a regular basis but allow the excess water to drain off (once every 3 to 4 days - every day outside - in the winter once or twice a week) of course nobody can tell you how to water your plants, because as I've said many times before the micro climate in your bush house is different to the block down the road and your plants might dry out quicker or maybe slower than theirs. Study your plants they'll tell you when to water.

Fertilizers. – The easy way to fertilize your Oncidiums is to use slow release; there are many different brands on the market but take note of the N.P.K. it varies considerably. Regular applications of a liquid fertilizer will help. Don't be afraid to ask your plant adviser on a meeting night what you should use, these men can give you a lot of good advice.

Repotting. - Repot when your plant is actively growing roots, when you can see little green tips on the roots is the best time but one must take special care not to damage these growing tips as once they have gone they're gone for good. Some species and hybrids as well like to be repotted after flowering, remember don't overpot as the plant will expend all its energy trying to fill the pot instead of initiating flower buds. The potting mix should be as all orchids well drained yet still maintain a certain amount of water, I use a medium bark with a percentage of jumbo perlite to hold moisture but you will have your secret mix I'm sure. After potting the orchid sprinkle a 1/2 tea spoon of Dolomite on the top of the mix to add calcium, this stops any acidity, then add on your slow release fertilizer at the recommended rate.

Diseases. – Oncidiums are susceptible to any of the diseases affecting your other orchids, to keep your Oncidiums clean of black spots give them a regular spray with Triforine rose spray. Diseases will be dealt with in future articles through the year.

Hymn.



8 and 9 June 2013

President: Jim Evans 0754826962
leanneevans@westnet.com.au

Secretary: John Rees 0754822574
lavina.rees@bigpond.com

Co-ordinator: John Green 0754832764
johnandkayegreen@southernphone.com.au

P.O. Box 52

GYMPIE

Q 4570

*In support of Little Haven Palliative Care, Gympie
A TRIENNIAL SHOW AND CONFERENCE OF THE SUB TROPIC
ORCHID COUNCIL QUEENSLAND*

Don't forget our **SOCIETY - STORE** (members only)

For all you Orchid Supplies



49222637 Barry & Faye English

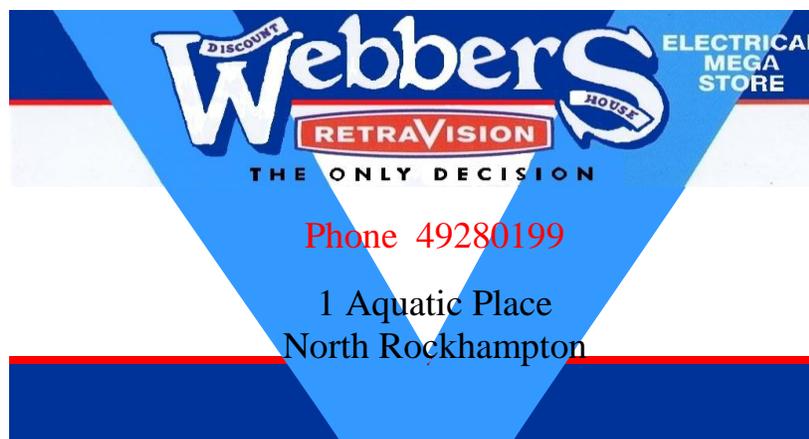
Hours of Business: 8am -12 – 2- 5pm (Closed: 'Thursdays' and 'Lunchtime' each day)

No cheques please

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
If undelivered, please return to
Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
PO Box 5949
Central Queensland Mail Centre, Qld 4702

Print Post Approval PP 448679/00002

**Postage Paid
Central Queensland
Mail Centre
Qld. 4702
AUSTRALIA**



Sponsors of the Rockhampton Orchid Society

Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au

Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month (excluding December) at St Stephens Presbyterian Church Hall, Burnett Street, Nth. Rockhampton. Meetings commence at 7.30pm and plants must be tabled by 7.15pm

Disclaimer

Rockhampton Orchid society Inc. disclaims all responsibility for any losses or damage, which may be attributed to the use or misuse of any material published in this Newsletter

Your Orchid Diary 2012

March 23 -24 - March **Bundy field day**
March 29-April 1 **Gladstone O&F Show**
March 30 Nambour OS Coolum
April 11-13 Sunshine Coast OS Show
April 20 South Burnett Orchid Show
April 20-21 **Rockhampton**
May 4-5 Gympie Expo
May 10-12 Noosa
May 10-11-12 **Bundaberg OS**
May 25-26 **Boyne/Tannum (33)OS**
July 6th – 8th Caboolture Orchid Soc
August 11 – 12th Maroochydore Orchid Soc
August 31 Sept 1 Childers & Isis District Orchid Society Spring Show
August 31 Sept 1 Nambour Orchid Soc

2013 **June 8-9 STOQC Orchidfest Gympie**

2014 TQOC Atherton
2015 TQOC Mackay