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PO Box 5949 Red Hill Qld. 4702 Founded 1955

# **Newsletter June 2014**

### **Editors notes.**

The Queen's weekend on which we convened the STOCQ meeting has been and gone with a feeling amongst us of a job well done. The venue was superb, the food was fit for a king, the bush housing on Sunday a successful jaunt, the only disappointment was the number of attendees. I know Rocky is a long way from anywhere but they (they being the powers that be) expect us to journey down to meetings held in the south; I can see no difference, maybe its just sour grapes on my part so I'll let it rest.

I hope you have all got your blankets on your bush house because Sunday was just a token of things to come; the chill factor of that wind went straight through you. Imagine how your orchids whose habitat is the tropical rain forest felt. I was talking last week with two gentlemen who are growers extraordinaire and we were talking on the pros and cons of *Envy*, they were all in agreement that it was an unnecessary task that needn't be performed if you had your bush house wrapped up. One of the men spoke lengthily on the virtues of wrapping up saying that *Botrytis* was a huge problem for him but since he has been wrapping up it has almost diminished. The other thing he noticed was the growing tips on his Cattleya hybrids used to burn off with the cold; not now that he wraps it up.

I was shown a Catasetum this week making a valiant attempt to stay alive; it had put out a keiki on the last pseudo bulb that had any life in it. When I asked did they water this through the winter I received the answer of yes it is watered with everything else. Death awaits any of the Catasetum family if they are watered in their rest period; I put mine where they receive little water, sometimes none and they flourish. If you want to learn how to grow Catasetums to their full potential take a lesson from Rosie or Ken they will put you on the right track. While I'm on the subject of no water in the winter, if you have any species, they too have a rest period. It pays to check your plants habitat then proceed to try and emulate it

I'll try to put an article in next months news letter on the way to grow Catasetums, so until our effort at a newsy letter reaches your mail box; God bless and stay healthy a long with your orchids.

Pete & Kate

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

The closing date for articles to be included in the next newsletter are to be received by the  $g^{th}$  of July; articles received after (57) that date will be included in the following month. Ed.

# **Orchid Society Stores**

For all your orchid supplies.

Pots many & various as well as many different potting mixes.

### BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Barry and Faye English: Ph 49222637

For Members Only

Closed Thursday and lunchtime **12 – 2pm.** 

(Please note: This work is carried out 7 days a week voluntarily)



Phone 49280199

1 Aquatic Place North Rockhampton

Sponsors of the Rockhampton Orchid Society

Judges for the Meeting

J. Glover T.Dean

**B** Hilse B.Lakey

NEXT MEETING Tuesday. 24/6/14 at 7.30pm Plants to be tabled by 7.15pm **President:** Jeff Bloxsom

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## **New Growers Report.**

On Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup> last month the new growers had the pleasure of having their meeting at the home of Michael and Carolyn Dahler at Bajool.

The afternoon started with a nice drive down to Bajool. On arrival the members were welcomed by Michael and Carol and invited to look over their fern and orchid houses.

Afternoon tea was next giving all present to enjoy a cuppa with a country view. The trouble plant discussion was next giving everybody a chance to ask their questions and receive answers from the advanced growers present.

Carol then addressed the gathering with a very interesting talk on the growing and repotting of tassel ferns. Everyone enjoyed Carol's talk on these plants and were able to purchase a plant to add to their collections. Thank you Carol for a very informative talk on these beautiful ferns; we all came away much wiser for the experience. Then the usual afternoon raffle completed the afternoon.

My sincere thanks to Michael and Carol for allowing us at your place, thanks to all who donated to the raffle and to all who helped to make the afternoon as enjoyable as it was.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> of June, commencing at 2 P.M. at the home of Bob and Nat Lakey, 4 Webber Avenue, North Rockhampton. The usual plate and folding chair please.

*Keith Marsden*Phone- 49282752

#### LIBRARY USAGE.

Especially New growers: We have in the society an extensive library with books on how to grow the majority of genera. This facility is not being utilised the way it was envisaged. You can take out one book per month, at no cost to you. Try it you won't be disappointed.

#### **NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS.**

The AOC does not accept *Phaius.tankervilleae* as an Australian native orchid; we do recognise *Phaius.australis* as Australian. People have said that *Phaius. tankervilleae* grows on Townsville common but there is no proof that someone didn't drop it there rather than it growing there for ever. If an orchid is native to Australia and New Guinea AOC recognises it as an Australasian orchid and not an Australian (*Phal. amabilis*). The exception to this is *Dendrobium. bigibbum*.

## **Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.**

**General Meeting Tuesday 27/5/2014** 

Attendance: As per register

**Apologies:** As per register

**New members:** Visitor:

**Lucky Member:** 83 Terry & Gwen Breingan.

Minutes: of previous monthly meeting approved as correct and accurate, Moved Bev

Powell second David Eggleshaw Carried.

Correspondence: In = Newsletters, Redcliffe District Orchid Society Inc. Toowoomba Orchid Society Inc, Maryborough District Orchid Society Inc, Mackay District Orchid Society Inc. Gympie & District Orchid Society Inc. Rockhampton Horticultural Society Inc. Pioneer River Orchid & plant Association Inc, Orchid News NSW. Townsville Orchid Society Inc. Nightcliff Orchid Society. The Sunshine Coast Orchid Society. Central QLD Bush house Orchid & Succulent. STOC QLD, John Rees, Orchids QLD Inc, C. Q Party Hire, Mr Woron, Chq Book, Lavina Rees.

**OUT** = Moved Sandra Rowcliffe Second by Moyna Richardson Carried.

Treasurers Report: Bill Richardson read and moved second by Keith Marsden Carried.

New Growers: Keith Marsden thanked Ted Page for having us all go to his house Next one will be at Carol & Mick Dahler house at Bajool, please bring a plate for afternoon tea and a chair. General Business: Peter Shelton moved Keith Marsden that Arthur Cotton be made a Honorary Membership Carried, Terry Dean has been nominated to be on the committee, he accepted. The Gala Dinner at the next Show will held at the Rockhampton Bowls Club Quay Street. Don't forget the Cent Sale this year is on Sunday the 26th October.

**Plant Commentary:** Jeff Glover did the Commentary very informative, thanks Jeff.

Lucky exhibitor: Peter Shelton.

Raffle: Ray Bills, Jeff Glover, Gloria Wakefield, Jill Howes, Gwen Breingan, Terry

Dean.

**Meeting closed:** 9.25 pm.

**Next Meeting:** 24th June 2014

**Jeff Bloxsom President** 

**Gloria Wakefield Secretary** 

## **Monthly Competition Results. May 2014**

(Plants tabled: Advanced: 39. Novice: 28)

Judges Choice:Blc. Jungle GemB & N LakeyPaph. Raisin Pie x P. Purple MagicT & E DeanClo. White MagicT & E Dean

**Popular Vote - Advanced:** 

Cattleya up to 75mm: Bc. Donna Kimura P & J Shelton Cattleya up to &5mm: Blc. Jungle Gem B & N Lakey Vandaceous up to 60mm: V. Pure Wax T & E Dean **Dendrobium:** Den. Anna Bibus x D. Suranaree K & R Smith Paphiopedilum: Paph. Raisin Pie x P. Purple Magic T & E &Dean B & H Hilse **Phalaenopsis:** Phal. Schilleriana x Dtps. Hsinying Maki Clo. White Magic **Miscellaneous:** T & E Dean



Paph. Raisin Pie x P. Purple Magic



Blc. Jungle Gem



Clo. White Magic

# Orchid Pests and Diseases Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@bellsouth.net (Revision 1)















## Plant Sap Feeding Insects

- Scale
- Mealybugs
- Thrips
- Aphids Next month
- Whiteflies
- Mites
- Chewing Pests
  - · Snails and Slugs
  - Caterpillars
  - · Roaches and Grasshoppers
- · Ants

# Symptoms and Treatment of Sap Feeding Insects Thrips

Symptoms: Thrips are very small sucking insects that feed on flowers and occasionally leaves and can transmit disease from plant to plant. Infested buds may not open and flowers may be deformed exhibiting water soaked spots. Leaves may appear pitted, stippled, silvery or bleached.

Treatment: Thrips are the most difficult to control of all the orchid pests. Managing thrips is difficult because they are very small and easy to overlook; they are mobile, spend part of their life cycle in the soil; prefer to feed on flower parts, where systemic insecticides do not reach them; like to hide in flowers, flower buds, and leaf buds making them hard to spot and reach with pesticides; live on a wide variety of host plants; reproduce rapidly in warm greenhouses; may be present in multiple life cycles from egg to adult; hide in plant materials and are resistant to a number of insecticides. Most adult thrips are females that lay eggs into plant tissue, particularly flowers and leaves.



# Symptoms and Treatment of Sap Feeding Insects Thrips (cont'd)

Treatment (cont'd): Plants and flowers can be sprayed with a pesticide like Orthene, Malathion or Safer Soap and the stronger chemicals like Talstar, Avid or the Bayer imidacloprid product, rotating products and applying them in accordance with label instructions. Conserve is another alternative and it can be sprayed directly on the flower. Repeat applications will be required because thrips remain hidden on the plant or can be reintroduced to the plant from other flowers in the landscape. For severe infestations, apply chemicals twice a week for three weeks.

Control: Good sanitation will help prevent infestation as will keeping plant hosts (flowers, citrus, gardenias, eucalyptus, etc.) separate from your orchids. Remove weeds, old plant debris, and growing medium from within and around the growing area. Eliminate old stock plants as these are a source of thrips and viruses. Removing old flowers may reduce the number of adults and eggs. Place flowers into a sealed bag or container. The thrips lay eggs that hatch in grassy areas so keep the grass mowed and weeds controlled.



## Unregistered Dendrobium hybrid names and their usage.

In recent years Australian Nurseries have been importing large quantities of flasks of many orchid genera from such places as Thailand. This article is mainly concerned with dendrobiums but I'm certain the same issues either apply or will apply to other genera.

The issue of concern is that most of these source nurseries are mainly interested in the cut flower or pot plant industry and consider the hobby grower a very small percentage of their main target. They are therefore not in the least bit concerned with registering new hybrids with The International Orchid Register (part of The Royal Horticultural Data Base, (http://apps, rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/), in fact they frequently make up names of their own and rarely give the parentage of the hybrid in the flask. The flasks are very cheap to buy and cause few import problems so Australian nursery owners are only too happy to purchase, deflask, grow on and sell these orchids with whatever label the originator applied to them. There is quite a good profit margin in it.

Examples which are widely grown and exhibited are *Den*. Sakda Gold. *Den*. Sakda Blue. *Den*. Airy Soft Pink, *Den*. Hidden Money, *Den*. Airy Crimson, *Den*. Coyote, Den. Kiku Orange, Den. Phaisrithong; in fact most dendrobiums with 'Airy' or 'Sakda' as part of there names are likely to be unregistered.

There are of course many other plants from the same source which when one looks them up in RHS or Orchid Whiz are legitimately registered hybrid names. You can only hope that the plant is actually true to the name and certainly most are but take for example Den. King Brown, I have seen pictures of this Thailand plant on the web and it is definitely not the registered hybrid between *Dendrobium discolor* and *Dendrobium speciosum*. This is actually what can happen

when occasionally a made up name coincides with a real one.

One of the reasons that we are seeing so many of these plants on our benches is that the cut flower industry these days is using orchids which are of quite a high quality compared to past years. Previously no self respecting orchid grower would have a cut-flower hybrid in their collection, let alone bring them to a meeting or show but I confess to having all of the above named dendrobiums in my collection and very nice orchids they are!

Den. Hidden Money

Whenever I buy an orchid from any source, I research the name on

the internet. If it is a species orchid it is interesting to find out as much as possible about it, including pictures of it in flower and info' on how best to grow it. For hybrids I check the online registration lists at the RHS site to see if the name is registered and to find out about the parentage and breeding background of the plant. If it is not registered I simply put the name in

my data-base and on the plant label with (unregistered) after it. There is nothing else that can be done.

So boohoo! Who cares? Well, I do and so should we all if we are serious about our hobby. We grow the only plants in the world that have an international register for the hybrids made the many thousands of species that make up the orchid family. In 1871 the first known list of hybrids was published by F.W.Burbidge and listed 17 hybrids. From 1871 the Gardeners Chronicle listed all new orchid hybrids. In 1906 Sander's list of orchid hybrids first appeared. (Sander's had been publishing Orchid Guides for some time. These gradually contained more and more hybrids, until the 1906 list.) The list has been kept updated by The Royal Horticultural Society and new registrations are regularly published by them and appear in most orchid magazines. Online access as indicated above is also available.

Anyone who has an orchid hybrid that is as yet unnamed may apply to register a name of their choice for it, provided that the parents of the plant in question are registered hybrids or valid species.

The unfortunate trend in bypassing the International Register seems to me a sad breaking of a time honoured tradition. It also makes it impossible to check the species that make the hybrid and possibly makes it difficult to determine which class the plant should be judged in at shows. For some specialist societies, for example the Australian Native Orchid Society, not being able to check the breeding background means that the plant can not with any degree of certainty be considered eligible as a plant derived purely from Australasian species parentage.

Another issue of importance to some growers are awards. No matter how good they are, or how well grown, these unregistered plants of unknown breeding background will not be eligible for any awards in any recognized judging system. All awards granted are provisional and it is a condition that before any awards is ratified and published that the orchid, if a hybrid is registered. Judging panel registrars should take care to check that any named orchid considered for an award is indeed legitimately registered or that any hybrid is capable of being registered and I'm certain that they do.

It is my hope that, no matter how tempting, local breeders will not exacerbate this problem by using unregistered parents in their breeding programs. The professionals will probably find it easier and quicker just to import more flasks but the hobby breeders and there are a few around might be tempted to do so. Perhaps they already have. For my part, I simply enjoy the flowers, perhaps use them as cut flowers as their originators intended or if they are good enough, to exhibit them at meetings and shows clearly labeled as unregistered.

A. Groffen Ferny Grove

The article is by A. (Dave) Groffen. Dave is a North Moreton member and ANOS judge also a keen grower of 'hard cane' dendrobiums. This article is a timely reminder with the main show season fast approaching. CHECK YOUR LABELS.



Hello everyone. Welcome to Ellie's Corner. It is Sunday afternoon 8 June and Terry and I are at home after thoroughly enjoying this past weekend with fellow orchid enthusiasts. Our Society hosted the Judges' Meeting for the Sub Tropical Orchid Council Qld on Saturday morning and STOCQ General Meeting and Orchids Queensland Inc. Annual Meeting after lunch. The boundaries of

STOCQ were altered in 2010 to include from Caboolture to as far north as Clairview. This was the first time these meetings have been held in Rockhampton. The Rockhampton North Retirement Resort (kindly organised by Peter & June Shelton) was an ideal venue and our visitors were most impressed. The meals were delicious and were graciously served. Thank you to June and her kitchen helpers. We all especially enjoyed the corned meat, white sauce and vegies on Saturday evening. At our table we all talked about how we cook our corned meat and it seemed we all used recipes handed down to us by our mothers!!

Jeff Glover gave an entertaining address after Dinner showing slides from the visit he and Norma and Max and Sue Rawlings recently enjoyed in Hawaii visiting orchid nurseries. I am sure the girls fitted in some shopping along the way!!

Sunday morning saw our guests visiting four orchid collections and we heard many favourable comments. I was talking to John Rees and told him Terry and I have been members of ROSI for 50 years since joining in 1964. He told me a wonderful thing happened in 1964 with orchid cultivation with the advent of mericloning.

We finished the activities with brunch at Ray and Gay Bills' home, and our visitors expressed delight at the way everything was organised and the happy welcoming atmosphere. It was disappointing we didn't have more people involved but those who did come told us they will come back again. Hopefully some may be able to make it to our Diamond Anniversary Show in September.

Congratulations to our President Jeff for his seamless organisation ensuring that the events of the weekend flowed smoothly. He was ably assisted by our Committee and members. One lady said to me "This is such great fun – let us do it all again next weekend!!"

Michael and Sandra Rowcliffe went overseas for 3 weeks in April. They spent the first 5 days in Amsterdam visiting Sandra's oldest son Brett. Highlight of Amsterdam was visiting Keukenhof which is the largest tulip farm in the world. While they were there the Annual Flower Festival which runs during March-April was held. There were beautiful pavilions filled with orchids, tulips, and many cut flowers. What a sight to behold! They also visited Delft where fine china is made, Eden, Vlodemans etc. and the working windmill village. They left Amsterdam by high speed train to Nice, and then departed on an 11 night Mediterrean Cruise on the Azamara Quest. They were fortunate to be upgraded to a stateroom and enjoyed dinner with the Captain one night. On the cruise they visited Rome, Trapini, Sorrento, Sirracusa, Valetta, and Florence. They also saw the Vatican, Colosseum, & Cysteine Chapel in Rome. In Trapini they visited Mdna. They saw Pompeii and lots of other interesting places. Over the weekend Sandra showed us some great photos of massed orchids and other flowers, and other holiday photos. Their trip was really a dream come true.

A TRIBUTE TO FLO LANDSBERG: On 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2014, on a beautiful morning, Flo Landsberg was farewelled with a Service celebrating her life, at All Saints Anglican Church, Frenchville, aged 98 years. The Church was filled to overflowing with family and friends who loved this inspirational little Christian lady. Flo had been a greatly loved member of our Society for many, many years until advancing years and health problems caught up with her. Flo married Ken Landsberg and they had 5 children - Ken, Ron, Dawn, Selwyn and Daryl - all of whom were present at her funeral. In the early years the family moved around and then settled at Marlborough. With the passing of Ken, Flo moved to St. Matthew's Cottages where she spent the next 28 years. Her neighbour there for a number of years was Penny Duggan (who is a former Secretary of our Society). We often visited Flo at the Cottages and greatly admired her lovely garden and fernery filled with orchids. She won major prizes in the Rockhampton City Council Garden Competition over many years. Flo loved her church and used to supply flowers each week. Her other great love was music and she used to play the church organ regularly. The last 3 years of her life were spent at Alexandra Gardens where she still managed to play the organ until recent times. Her daughter Dawn wrote a wonderful Eulogy for Flo and it was delivered by her grandson, Doctor Michael Landsberg. Dawn told me that Flo's life was filled with love, laughter and love of God. All her children were taught to pray and believe in God and this has been a steadfast rock in each one's life. Flo is survived by 5 children, 14 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and a loving sister Marjorie.

Those of us in the Society who had the joy of counting Flo as a beloved friend will never forget her and her gentle spirit will live on in our hearts and memories. She was truly a treasure of our Society.

Bye for now. My love and prayers.

Ellie Dean

## Rockhampton Orchid Society's Diamond Jubilee.

By Jeff Glover

This year marks a major milestone for the Rockhampton Orchid Society; it will be celebrating 60 years of continuous dedication to our beautiful hobby of collecting and showing orchids. The society has maintained a steady membership over the years with approximately 100 members at present; a far cry from the dozen or so local orchid enthusiasts who met in 1954 to lay the foundations for the society we have today. While we no longer have any foundation members still with us; we do however, have three members with over 50 years service and several with a 40 years plus association with the society.

The society plans to celebrate this achievement at the forthcoming Spring Show 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> September by having a gala dinner on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and would like to extend an invitation to members of Orchid Societies throughout Australia to join with us at this special time. Our society is one of the oldest in Queensland and one of the few that still have two shows each year. Our wide temperature range in Rockhampton allows us to showcase a large variety of orchids at these events. Therefore, if you wish to visit us, either just to see the show, of which you won't be disappointed, or also join with us at the dinner and then take a look around our city and the Capricorn Coast; you will be made most welcome!

For more details, check out our web site. www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au or contact the president, Jeff Bloxsom: <a href="mailto:jmbloxsom@hotmail.com">jmbloxsom@hotmail.com</a> or 0407995122.



# **Important Notice**



THIS YEAR YOUR SOCIETY THE ROCKHAMPTON ORCHID SOCIETY INC' WILL CELEBRATE ITS  $60^{\mathrm{TH}}$  YEAR.

WE INTEND TO HOLD A 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY DIAMOND JUBILEE SHOW ON THE WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> AND 14<sup>TH</sup>.

THIS IS THE DATE OF OUR NORMAL SPRING SHOW. WE HAVE SENT OUT INVITATIONS TO VARIOUS CLUBS AND LIKE SOCIETIES TO COME AND JOIN WITH US FOR THE WEEKEND AND CELEBRATE THIS MOMENTOUS OCCASION.

A GALA ANNIVERSARY DINNER WILL BE HELD ON THE SATURDAY NIGHT OF THE SHOW.

SO KEEP THIS WEEKEND FREE AND HOPEFULLY ALL OUR MEMBERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN SOME FORM OR ANOTHER OVER THE WEEKEND.

WE HOPE TO MAKE THIS SHOW BIGGER AND BETTER THAN ANY OTHER.

#### **Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.**

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

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Den. cucumerinum

## 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 attributed to the use or misuse of any material published in this Newsletter

#### **Your Orchid Diary 2014**

July 22 Rockhampton OS. General Meeting.

August 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Maroochydore O/S Show March 15<sup>th</sup> - Childers & Isis District O/S Spring Show

September 5<sup>th</sup> – 6 Nambour O/S Show

September 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Rockhampton Spring Show September 13<sup>th</sup> - Rockhampton Jubilee Dinner. September 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Nambour Spring Show

September 19 – 21<sup>st</sup> Maryborough Show September 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Glasshouse Country O/S Show

October 28th Rockhampton O.S. General meeting November 25<sup>th</sup> Rockhampton O.S. General meeting

November is the last meeting for the year 2014. Next meeting is January 27th - 2015.

2015 TQOC Mackay