

ORCHID SOCIETY FORMED

An organisation designed to promote fellowship among orchid growers in Rockhampton, and to advance their knowledge of orchids, was formed on Tuesday night.

It is the Rockhampton Orchid Society, which has as its objectives the promotion of fellowship among growers, and the advancement of knowledge of all that pertains to orchids, particularly their natural history, cultivation and hybridisation, and the dissemination of this knowledge among members and kindred societies.

The society will also assist the Government as much as possible, to prevent vandalism to orchids in their natural habitat and in the listing of native orchids in the Rockhampton district.

The meeting at which the society was formed was called as the result of a visit to Rockhampton of a member of the Townsville society who contacted individual growers and suggested that they band together.

Although only 12 interested persons attended last night's meeting, it is expected that membership will grow now that the society is established.

The syllabus for the monthly meetings will include discussions on specimens of plants supplied by members, lectures on various aspects of orchid growing, and displays of film slides.

Efforts will be made at a suitable time to stage a display of blooms—possibly in the window of an East Street store. Membership subscription was fixed at £1, with country membership costing 10/-. Concessional rates were approved for cases where more than one member of a family joins the society.

Officebearers appointed were: President, Mr A. Stenlake; vice-president, Miss F. Bawden; secretary-treasurer, Mr R. E. Deacon; assistant secretary-treasurer, Miss P. Ward; committee: Mrs J. H. Davis, Mr M. Tippett.