

Photos of happy group enjoying our Orchid Clubs December Christmas Party, some photos of the members and our clubs sponsors also enjoying the evening.



Tinonee Orchids

have a new spring/summer catalogue

out now. <http://www.tinoneeorchids.com/>

Tinonee Orchid Nursery

768 Tinonee Road Tinonee, NSW 2430



NEW

Wanted, Buy, Swap & Sell

Anybody want to buy swap or sell? Give a call to Dorothy on 44740884.

Wanted used egg cartons. A dozen eggs each month to go on the raffle table for someone to win. See Ron and thanks to those who have helped out so far.

Eurobodalla Orchid club will be running an Orchid Workshop 8 & 9th March 2014, further information see attached flier.

I would recommend all our new members make an effort to get to these types of events as a lot of good information given out by top Orchid Growers.

I certainly will be there!

Eurobodalla Orchid Club Inc
INVITES YOU
to
ORCHID WORKSHOP 2014
8 & 9 March 2014
CWA HALL
Queen Street
MORUYA

SPEAKERS
Phil Grech - Dendrobiums/Natives
David Wain - Cymbidiums
Dennis Diehm - Phalaenopsis & Cattleyas
Neville Roper - Australian Natives
All will bring plants for sale

Details & Registration forms coming soon.

Grumpy's Shed.

Your Club Store of Orchid Supplies

ALL profits are returned to the Orchid Club

From Bark to pots all at club members special prices

Items stored by Dorothy at her home in Mogo. All are welcome to come and look at what is available to buy. Please give Dorothy a ring on 44740884



SICK PARADE

A large GET WELL soon to our Members who are sick or under the weather.

“The cultural information offered in this newsletter is intended as a guide only. Batemans Bay Orchid & Foliage Soc. Inc. cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage that may occur to plants as a result of using this information.”

HUMOUR!

Still think you are having a Bad Day?

A woman came home to find her husband in the kitchen shaking frantically, almost in a dancing frenzy, with some kind of wire running from his waist towards the electric kettle. Intending to jolt him away from the deadly current, she whacked him with a handy plank of wood, breaking his arm in two places. Up to that moment, he had been happily listening to his Walkman.

What is happening in the Greenhouse!

The rain over the last few months plus the mild weather should put all the orchids into a good growing mode, My Cymbidiums all grow under 30% shade cloth and open to the rain so they are growing beautiful. Rainwater is one of the best and cheapest waters to use on your orchids. Remember to keep up your regular fertilizer program, no matter what type of orchids you grow, they all like to have a feed, especially Cymbidiums!

February usually is a very hot month and for Cymbidiums growers look out for spider mites under the Cymbidiums leaves, evidence is usually a brown rasping effect where they have fed on the leaves.

This is easily controlled by spraying Eco-Oil under and over the leaves every 10-14 days or so from early November to around May, I personally use 6-7ml per lt. of water and spray spring/summer/early autumn about every 10-14 days as a preventive measure.

Good Growing.

Ron



Growing Masdevallia's. (reprint)

Masdevallia's, grow right on the equator in The Andes, but at high altitudes, and there for are cool growing, the ideal temperature 22 degrees at daytime, and 16 at night. But they are very forgiving and can stand temperatures in the high thirties for short periods as long as the night temperature falls down significant, otherwise the plant will look stressed within a couple of days, and always try to compensate high temperatures with high humidity. A hard task indeed, when there is a dry westerly blowing. A good way to overcome this is to grow your masda's in polystyrene boxes at least 25 to 30 cm high with the bottom removed and replaced by an open grid made up from 1 inch welded mesh. On a warm day wet the floor of your orchid house and place the boxes on the wet floor, the temperature on the floor will be at least 2 to 3 degrees cooler than on the benches anyway. Most sensitive to heat are Masd. coccinea and there hybrids. The opposite is true for the lower temperatures, most varieties can stand temperatures to freezing point, but again for very short periods, again some varieties are more

sensitive than others. Also give them plenty of air movement.

I could not grow my masda's very satisfactory in sphagnum moss, so I grew them in a bark mix, but because bark became very expensive, and hard to come by, I tried coco peat and with good results, buy the more fluffy stuff and treat it as follows: When I use a full brick I divide it in half and soak each halve for 24 hours in two about 45 litre containers and spread it out on a sheet of shade cloth for about 3 hours then I soak it again but dissolve 15 gr. Of Epsom salts, and 15 gr. of Iron Sulphate in each container, (stir it with a stick, otherwise the Iron Sulphate will make your nails black) and again, soak it for 24 hours, and spread it out on shade cloth again, than give it a third soak, then rinse it thoroughly on shade cloth again and let it dry out until it is dry enough for use. When you grow only a couple of masda's, use only parts of the quantities. I also add some rice hulls, the only reason is, I got it and have no other use for it, I don't know or it is beneficial at all.

I do my repotting in Sept. or April, give or take a few weeks, depending on the weather. When you like to show your plants, try to re pot in Sept. to give the plants more time to establish before the showing season. When a plant looks sick or is sick re pot at any time. When I make a new batch of compost, I always pot a few plants (of different varieties) in transparent drinking cups, wherein make about eight 6 mm. holes in the bottom for drainage, and fit them in the right size normal pot, the reason being, that after a while I can take out the transparent pot and can check the root growth and compost without disturbing the plant. When there is something wrong with an orchid it almost always start under the surface, except a fungal or insect infection, I use the tall narrow pots for my masdas and put always about 20 mm. of pebbles in the bottom of the pot for stabilisation. I start with a bit of compost in the bottom of the pot on top of the pebbles, then open up the root ball and fill it up with compost and put it in the pot, Then I pack in the compost from the bottom up to avoid pockets of air in the pot, (I use a thick skewer or piece of thin stake) pack it firm but not too tight, and soak the pot with a light tea of Seasol, to start bacterial growth.

As fertilizer I use liquid organic fertilizer like Seasol, Charlie Carp, Blood and Bone etc. And use it as a spray every 7 to 10 days or longer, but always on a shady day, also every 14 days I give them a soluble fertilizer, and soak the compost, Peters Blue (high nitrogen) and Campbells Yellow (low nitrogen, high Potassium) I use this on a fifty 50/50 basis. 5gr.each in 20 litres of water. Keep tem moist but not wet at all times, because they don't have pseudo bulbs for storage. Every grower should experiment with watering and fertilizing his or her plants until the right result is achieved Only experiment with a few plants which are not valuable.


I grow them under double 50% shade cloth which makes it 75%.

The most common pests in masdas are snails and caterpillars. Also when a plant that according ft size should flower but refuses to do so, have a look under the sheath on the bottom of the leaf where the flower should develop, sometimes there will be a mealy bug or scale eating all the goodies, this is the most



common in the more bigger varieties. Do not remove the sheath for no reason otherwise the flowers will come out and grow sideways, because they have no guidance. Some varieties will grow there flowers sideways anyway, I try to overcame this by putting a piece of about 25 cm.(depend on the size of the plant) 80 mm stormwater pipe over the plant,

Some plants have yellow leaves, depend on the variety but when it are only a few plants in your collection of the same variety it is of no concern. When all your plants look yellow, they


Might get to much light or have deficiency, try Iron Chelate or Epson salts.



"A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows."



"I have no plants in my house. They won't live for me. Some of them don't even wait to die, they commit suicide."



Benching Results For 2013

Those that were equal on points were drawn from a hat for winner

Major Points winner	Open Tony Groube & Liz Cleaver Novice Leanda O'Conner	
Species	OPEN winner Liz Cleaver Tony Groube	NOVICE winner Leander O'Conner
Cymbidium over 90mm	Liz Cleaver Tony Groube	
Cymbidium 60-90mm	Liz Cleaver Tony Groube	Alan Bird
Cymbidium under 60 mm	Liz Cleaver Tony Groube	
Australian Native Orchid	Gary & Pat	Leander O'Conner
Cattleya over 90	Sylvia Hawkins	
Cattleya under 70mm	Phil & Jill	Leander O'Conner
Vandaceous	Rob & Sue Fish	Brian Coulton
Pleurothallidinae (Masd)	P&LVANEST	Michele Grelik
Oncidiinae Alliance	P & J Bailey	Leander O'Conner
Seedlings	Kevin Ward	
Miscellaneous Hybrids	P & J Bailey	Brian Perkins
Fern and Foliage	Liz Cleaver Tony Groube	Dot Kauffman
Miscellaneous	Liz Cleaver Tony Groube	

Growing Comp

Sarc Robyn Baker – Ellen – Sylvia Hawkins - Oncid – June Dawes

Major Sponsors of our Club



Batemans Bay Soldiers Club
Beach Road, Batemans Bay

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**Batehaven Garden Centre &
Thrifty-Link Hardware**



VISIT PLANTS PLUS IN EDWARD RD

BATEHAVEN- FOR ALL YOUR GARDEN SUPPLIES!

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Bunnings of Batemans Bay

Sponsoring our Club through its BBQs

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Elizabeth Richardson sponsoring

The cost of printing our Club's Newsletter.

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Finer foods: The Gourmet Food People **Mark Hood** 0244729514

5/35 Cranbrook Road Batemans Bay NSW sponsors of our BBQ Sausages for Bunnings BBQ