

PREVIOUS MEETING: 1st July 2007

Apologies: Johan Gauche`, Toni Krull, Trevor & Shirley Kriedeman & Manuela Chaput.

Last Meeting: Pierre Hendricks gave a most interesting presentation on his ramblings of South East Asia. It was wonderful to see pic's of Vanda, Phalaenopsis, Dendrobium, Cymbidium, Eria, Aerides, Coelogyne, Phaius, Dendrochilum, Polystachya and Rhynchostylis species to name a few, growing in habitat. Thank you to Mike Wigley for donating two divisions of his Ansellia africana. These were won by Dot Norval and Errol de Villiers. Congratulations.

Plant Table

Once again, what a stunning display of Cattleyas this month. Therefore a special category was created for them. The species spotlight was on a huge specimen of Ansellia africana which is more than 30 years old. Thank you to everyone for bringing their flowering plants to share with us.

Member's votes resulted in the following:

Cattleyas:	1st	Lc Melody Fair 'Xue Yu'	-	Mike & Yvonne Bond
	2nd	Blc Brunswick Surprise 'Susan' x Blc Brunswick Delight 'Jeremy'	-	Mike & Yvonne Bond
	3rd	Blc Momilani Rainbow	-	Mike & Yvonne Bond
Hybrids:	1st	Paphiopedilum Aladin	-	Freda Steel
	2nd	Cymbidium Rincon x Coraki	-	Ray & Cynthia Hewson
	3rd	Paphiopedilum World Wonder	-	Freda Steel
Species:	1st	Calanthe vestita	-	Mavis Downey
	2nd	Angraecum eberneum subsp. Superbum	-	Robert & Tracy Moss
	3rd	Ansellia africana	-	Mike Wigley

Raffle:

The plant on raffle, Ascocenda (suksamran Moonlight x denisoniana) x Fuchs Golden Shiner was won by Freda Steel. Congratulations and good luck with your plant. Cattleya skinneri "Alba" is the raffle plant for August and tickets will be R10.00 each

GONUBIE GOSSIP:

Shop News:

The shop open times for August are:

- Sunday 5th : 14h15 – 14h40
- Monday 20th : 14h30 – 16h00

Remember that the library will also be open during the above-mentioned times.

GOS SHOW

The GOS show will be held from 21st – 24th September at Pioneer Nursery. Please support our show by providing plants for the display as well as plants for sale.

WE ALSO NEED YOUR HELP - Volunteers are needed to set up the display and also throughout the show to repot, man sales area, sell raffle tickets and to assist the public with questions and answers. Enclosed is a show schedule. Please fill in the days and times you are able to assist and hand the completed form to Colleen at the August meeting.

Culture Tip for the Month:

Some fungal infections are more prevalent during cooler weather conditions and they can quickly kill an orchid if left unchecked. So keep an eye-out for the following symptoms of infection:

- ❖ **Black Rot:** Any part of the plant turns black and watery. Cattleyas are most often attacked.
- ❖ **Basal Rot (Southern Blight):** This rotting is characterised by a cream-yellow discolouration that soon turns brown. It starts at the base of the plant and runs up through to the foliage. Cattleyas, Cymbidiums, Dendrobiums & Vandas can be attacked by this disease.

What can we do in the case of a Fungal Infection?

- ❖ When practical, cut off all parts of the plant showing infection and burn.
- ❖ Cut into healthy tissue at least 3cm beyond diseased area. Remember to always use sterilised tools.
- ❖ Treat all cut wounds with Sulphur or Captan.
- ❖ Repot plant into new or sterilised container with fresh medium.
- ❖ As a preventative, spray surrounding plants with a fungicide. This provides plants with a protective covering which prevents fungal spores growing on the plant. Captan or Physan can be used.
- ❖ Fungus can be spread by splashing water, so watch your watering methods.
- ❖ Remember that cinnamon also works very well on fungal infections.

(References: AOS Guide to Orchid Pests & Diseases –
Alfred County Orchid Society June Newsletter).

NEXT MEETING: 5th August, 2007 - 14H45 – Polly's Tea Garden

It's a Surprise! Come along for some Fun. You may even win a Prize.

There will also be a plant table, so please remember to bring your flowering plants.

GOS QUIZ:

JULY'S ANSWER: Brassada = Ada x Brassia. The first correct entry drawn was that of Desmond & Jenny Scherwitz and they won an Oncidium incurvum.

Ada aurantiaca grows at high elevations in the Andes in Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela. In cultivation it requires cool conditions. It is used in hybridising for the bright red / orange flower colour it imparts to its progeny. Brassias occur throughout Tropical America. A number of Brassia species are used in hybridising as they impart large flower size to their progeny. Brassia hybrids are also prolific flowerers.

AUGUST'S QUESTION:

What is a Tolumnia?