

## **PREVIOUS MEETING – 10 August, 08**

**APOLOGIES:** Colleen Midlane, Norma Murray & Toni Krull.

Members enjoyed a selection of delicious homemade soups and breads while socialising and also taking advantage of the opportunity to purchase top quality plants from Outeniqua Orchids.

What a wonderful tour of Outeniqua Orchids without having to leave Gonubie. Else Hall gave a most informative presentation on her growing area in George and also shared the following tips:

- ❖ Increase humidity in your growing area by watering down your floor and pathways every morning. Other plants such as Ferns, Peace in the Home or Selaginella growing under your benches also helps to increase humidity levels.
- ❖ Phragmipediums are best fertilised with Seagro.
- ❖ Spray with a fungicide 2-3 times during the summer months as a preventative measure. Funginex, Diathane or Bravo may be used.
- ❖ Bark based growing mediums become very acidic with time and this will affect your orchid's health and also the plants ability to absorb nutrients. Therefore sensitive genera such as Paphiopedilums and Miltoniopsis should be repotted annually, whereas other genera should be repotted every second year.
- ❖ Cattleyas can be encouraged to produce multiple growths by cutting 70% through the rhizome with a razor blade. This should be done early in the growing season i.e. October for best results.
- ❖ When watering your plants it is important to ensure that the water drains away. Your orchids must never stand in water.
- ❖ Miltoniopsis from Colombia and Equador grow best in shady spots on the Southern side of a growing area as they require no direct sunlight. They also do not like to dry out and insufficient watering results in pleating of the leaves.
- ❖ Else recommends the following method for pre-treating bark:
  - Soak for one week.
  - Spread out onto shade cloth and wash.
  - Repeat 3 times for best results.
  - Dry bark and add bonemeal and dolomite lime. Use this as a base for your potting medium.

I would like to thank Colleen Midlane, Colleen de Villiers, Lina Muller, Cynthia Hewson, Valda Munro for providing the delicious soups; Desray Kretzman for providing the homemade bread; all members who helped serve tea, washed dishes and helped to clear the hall afterwards. Your assistance contributed greatly towards the success of the meeting and is greatly appreciated.

## **PLANT TABLE RESULTS:**

There was once again a stunning display of Cattleyas this month.

### **Members' votes resulted in the following:**

Species:	1st	Dendrochilum wenzelii	Robert & Tracy Moss
	2nd	Ansellia africana	Robert & Tracy Moss
	3rd	Dendrochilum tenellum	Robert & Tracy Moss
Hybrids:	1st	Cymbidium Rocky Creek	Ray & Cynthia Hewson
	2nd	Dtps Mei Dar Spot 'Haur Jin'	Robert & Tracy Moss
	3rd	Dtps Newberry Parfait 'Picotee'	Robert & Tracy Moss
Cattleyas:	1st	Lc Purple Cascade 'Fragrant Beauty'	Alvin & Marlene Peinke
	2nd	Blc Kusama 'Kendolie Rainbow'	Robert & Tracy Moss
	3rd	Blc Sylvia Fry 'Dundas'	Robert & Tracy Moss

Thank you to members for bringing their flowering plants to share with us.

## **RAFFLES:**

The magnificent Stenorrhynchos speciosus in flower was won by Val Avis.

The Cattleya Species Duo: mendelii and warneri was won by Gordon Sonemann.

Potinara Princess Takamado was won by Mirle Atkinson.

Congratulations to the winners and good luck with plants.

### **The raffle plants for September are:**

- (a) Zygopetalum Hybrid
- (b) Laelia Species Duo: purpurata carnea & purpurata coerulea.

### **The raffle plants for October are:**

- (a) A Trio of Yellow Phalaenopsis seedlings
- (b) Laelia Species Duo: Lobata & tenebrosa.

All tickets will be R10.00 each.

## **GONUBIE GOSSIP:**

### **NEW MEMBERS:**

We extend a warm welcome to Valerie & Claude Avis, Val & Bill Wilkinson and Ruth & Barry Call who joined us this month. We hope you enjoy many happy years of orchid growing with us.

## **SHOP NEWS:**

The Shop will be open on the following days and times:

Saturday 20th September	08h00 - 17h00
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	09h00 - 13h00
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	09h00 - 16h00
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	08h00 - 17h00
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	09h00 - 13h00
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>15h00 - 16h00</b>

Please be advised that we have been forced to review our price list and that we have had to increase prices due to an increase in transport costs as well as huge price hikes on fertilisers and plastic pots.

### **NEW IN STOCK**

**Multifeed P** - An excellent fertiliser within the Polyfeed range, which promotes flowering.

#### **Analysis of Multifeed P vs Polyfeed.**

	<b><u>Multifeed P</u></b>	<b><u>Polyfeed</u></b>
Nitrogen	19%	26,3%
Phosphorus	8,2%	4,3%
Potassium	15,8%	13,4%
Magnesium	900 ppm	900 ppm
Zinc	350 ppm	350 ppm
Boron	1000 ppm	1000 ppm
Molybdenum	70 ppm	70 ppm
Iron	750 ppm	750 ppm
Manganese	300 ppm	300 ppm
Copper	75 ppm	75 ppm

### **LIBRARY**

The library will be closed during September, but will be open on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October 15h00 - 16h00.

### **NEXT MEETING 7<sup>th</sup> September 2008**

Tracy will discuss various aspects of orchid growing with emphasis on orchid growing tips for beginners. Remember to bring any plants on which you would like to receive advice as well as a list of questions you would like answered. You are also reminded to bring samples of your water and fertiliser solutions for testing.

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

### **GOS QUIZ:**

**AUGUST'S ANSWER:** Lithophyte. The first correct entry drawn was Gordon Sonemann & he won a Lc Kat Green Cherry. Congratulations and enjoy your plant. A number of orchid genera have evolved to grow on rocks. This can often be a harsh environment with limited moisture, blazing sun and a low level of nutrients.

### **SEPTEMBER'S QUESTION:**

If one wanted to find a plant of Euanthe Sanderiana growing in the wild one would have to travel to:

- (a) Papua New Guinea
- (b) Australia
- (c) Philippines

### **OCTOBER'S QUESTION:**

The Laelia species with the largest flower is:

- (a) purpurata
- (b) pumila
- (c) sincorana

### **GOS SHOW 20-28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

- ❖ Your flowering plants are vital to us creating a spectacular display. Please bring your flowering plants to Pioneer Nursery on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September.
- ❖ We also require plants for our sales table. Do you have duplicate plants in your collection that you would like to sell? The society will sell the plants on your behalf and a 10% commission will be charged. Any plants you wish to sell must also be taken to the nursery on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September. Please ensure plants are healthy and well established.
- ❖ We require plastic tables for the plant sales area. Do any members have tables we can loan for the duration of the show? Please let Tracy know if you can help in this regard.
- ❖ We will be inviting the public to vote for their favourite orchid and there will be GREAT ORCHID PRIZES for the owners of the orchids which receive the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> most votes.
- ❖ Members are requested to please use the parking area at Polly's Tea Garden located behind the nursery for the duration of the Show.
- ❖ Also remember to wear your society name badges.
- ❖ **I would like to thank members who have volunteered to assist us with the show. However, volunteers are still needed for a number of shifts. Remember, PLEASE, WE NEED EVERYONES HELP TO ENSURE THE SHOW IS A SUCCESS. Please refer to enclosed duty roster.**

### **SHOW TEA DUTY:**

The following members are reminded to please supply eats for the Show Helpers on the following days:

- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> - Cecil Rautenbach  
Jean Schuitema
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> - Norma Murray
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> - Trevor Steinke  
Marie Turner
- Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> - Stan Winson  
Gordon Sonemann
- Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> - Maureen Wells

Eats need to be taken to Pioneer Nursery on the day and before 10:00 am.

**POTTING DAY AT PIONEER NURSERY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
**09H00-16H30**

Members are encouraged to bring in their orchids for repotting advice. You also need to remember to bring your own repotting equipment e.g. Knives/shears, sterilizing solution, gloves, stakes, twistees wire etc. so that you can repot your plants.

**LECTURE PROGRAMME FOR 27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AT PIONEER NURSERY:**

- 10h00 Most Frequently asked questions about Orchids – by Tracy Moss
- 10h30 Using Fertilizer for Optimum Results – by Nico Van Zyl  
Chemicult Specialist from Starke Ayres – Cape Town
- 11h30 Creative Ways to enjoy your Orchid Blooms in the Home –  
Demonstration by Judy Stevenson
- 12h30 Growing Orchids on Mounts – by Robert Moss
- 14h00 Using Fertiliser for Optimum Results – by Nico Van Zyl  
Chemicult Specialist from Starke Ayres – Cape Town
- 14h45 Orchid Potting Demonstration - by Robert Moss
- 15h30 Controlling Orchid Pests & Diseases – by Tracy Moss

Make sure to diarise this date so as not to miss out on a most informative day.

**OCTOBER MEETING**

Ann Duckworth will be our guest speaker and she will be giving a presentation entitled “Specimen plants and how to grow them”. Ann is a very experienced orchid grower with a passion for species. She is a SAOC judge and also past president of the SAOC. We are sure to learn a lot from her presentation.

**Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2008 (Friday)**

The meeting date has been changed to coincide with her visit.

**Time: 18h00**

**Door Duty: Alvin & Marlene Peinke**

**Plant Table Duty: Tracy Moss**

**Venue: St. Martin-by-the-Sea, Anglican Church Hall.**

Members are requested to please bring a plate of eats to share at the meeting. A social finger supper will be held after Ann’s presentation. You are required to bring your own crockery/cutlery as well as your own beverages to enjoy with your meal. There will be a plant table so please remember to bring your flowering plants.

***PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS MEETING IS STRICTLY FOR MEMBERS ONLY.***