

MAROONDAH ORCHID SOCIETY INCORPORATED

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER

Volume : 43 - Issue : 6

Lycastes are orchids of the
New World Tropics and Subtropics



Lycaste Club Emblem

Meetings cancelled until further notice.

M.O.S. Inc. Patron: David Cannon

Life Members: The late Frank Date, Jim Foster-Johnson, David Cannon, Alan & Nancy Cockram, Dieter Weise, Barry Robinson, Susanne Redpath, Max Bomford, Cheryl Luth, G Moffat.

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MOS Facebook Address www.facebook.com/maroondahorchidsociety

President's Report

It is with much regret, due to the continuing Covid restrictions, your committee has had to make the very difficult decision to cancel our Spring Show for this year.

If you have not been made aware, with Covid restrictions continuing, the OSCOV Orchid Spectacular at KCC Park end of August, has been cancelled for this year.

It is looking most likely that most Orchid Shows for this year will be cancelled.

With the continuing restrictions we are all finding it strange to not have meetings and enjoy the friendship and orchids that members have in flower as our orchids have not stopped growing and are still giving flowers. Thanks to everyone who has sent photos for including in our newsletter.

Our shortest day of the year has passed so we can look forward to days getting longer, very slowly, so Spring is on the way.

With the shortest day, and winter arriving we have had some of the coldest June days for many years with heavy frosts in many areas. Hopefully not too many frosts where you live. Winter rains have also arrived. Continue to be aware of what the weather is doing in your growing area.

Your plants are still active, only a lot slower so they do not need as much moisture and if you water, do so earliest in the day so that plants dry out before night.

As the days are getting longer, your plants will become more active and it is a good time to pot on or take overgrowths of your plants as long as the new roots that are showing have good colour and active green growing tips. Please see later in newsletter how you can do this at this time.

Flower spikes are now starting to show so keep a look out for nasties that like to chew them.

For any member who is not feeling well, I trust you will take care and get better quickly.

To all, keep safe and well.

Best regards,

David

NOTICE Re The Maroondah Orchid Society Spring Show

The Committee has agreed that our spring show will be cancelled for 2020 due to the COVID19 crisis. We look forward to having a great show in 2021.

Thank you to members who have contributed to pictures which are included in this newsletter. And remember please feel free to send me any images of your orchids in flower. Please include a close-up of the flower and make sure you include the name of the orchid. Also if you have an article you would like to share with members please send it to me.

With much thanks

Leo Orland
Editor

A message from the OSCOV Executive regarding this year's Melbourne Orchid Spectacular

This is to advise you that the OSCOV executive has decided to **cancel** this year's event due to the impact of the covid19 virus. As you would be aware of the current increasing number of cases being reported, problems with social distancing and numbers being allowed into the venue are only some of the reasons for the cancellation.

We thank you for your patience in these difficult and uncertain times.

Winter Jobs

As the days are getting longer slowly, it is a good time to work on your orchids. If you have plants that have growths going over the side of pots, now is a time that you can remove them. Make sure the new growths over the side of the pot have nice white roots with green growing tip. This is telling you that the over growths can be removed.

As with all we do with our orchids, do your preparation first. Make sure you mix is damp, any labels that you will need be written. Check how many over growths you will get from the plant and write labels accordingly. Have your fertiliser ready and the pots that you will need.

See the following photos showing how and what to do.

Enjoy your time with your orchids.

David Cannon

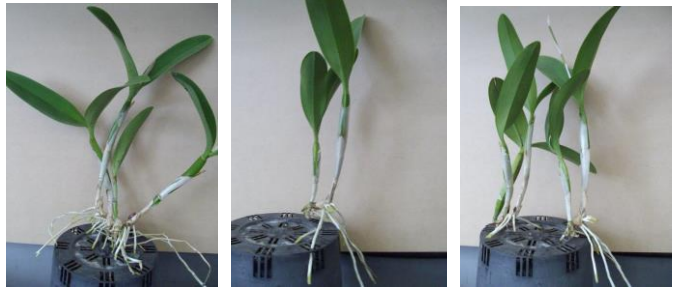
1. Pre-made mix
2. Fertiliser
3. Printed Labels
4. Original plant showing overgrowths needing to be removed.



5. Original plant with growths removed.



6. Over growths as removed



7. Over growth half potted showing fertiliser placement on mix



8. Over growth final potted



9. Original plant with overgrowth removed



10. Original plant potted on.



11. Over growths final potted showing labels.



12. Over-growth showing new growth eye and position of plant to allow new growths.



HOW TO GROW AUSTRALIAN NATIVE DENDROBIUMS

There are over 1400 species of dendrobiums and related dockrillias to be found growing in nature throughout Asia and Australia. More than 60 species are native to Australia, most growing in coastal New South Wales and Queensland, although two species occur in Victoria and one in Tasmania. Many Australian native dendrobium species and their hybrids are suitable for growing in Victoria under shade house conditions or in a garden situation where they are sheltered from frost and direct sunlight. Over a thousand hybrids are now available, with flowers of nearly all colours, shapes and sizes.

POTTING

While a few species grow best when mounted on hardwood mounts or on tree fern slabs, the majority of Australian dendrobium species and hybrids grow well when potted in a 4:1-mix of pine bark (5-10 mm) and river gravel (5 mm). Black plastic squat pots with plenty of drainage holes are ideal. It is important not to use too large a pot – one that will comfortably accommodate the roots and allow enough space for two year's growth is large enough. Dendrobiums are best re-potted after they have flowered, just as their new growths are appearing between October and early December. If their roots are in good condition, simply transfer the plant to a larger pot and fill in with new mix. If some of the roots show signs of decay, remove them and all old potting mix and re-pot in fresh mix.

LIGHT and AIR

All dendrobiums grow and flower better if grown where they receive diffuse light (approximately 50% sunlight) for most of the year, full light during winter. They grow best if their pots can be suspended near the roof of the shade house so that receive good light and plenty of air movement. In summer native dendrobiums require frequent watering, especially during hot weather. However, they should not be kept continually wet and grow best if the mix is allowed to dry briefly before being watered again. In winter, much less water is needed, once a week being enough for flowering-sized plants grown under cover.

FERTILISING

Australian native dendrobiums may be fertilised in two different ways or by a combination of both. One option is to apply granules of a slow-release fertiliser, such as Osmocote®, to the top of the mix in October (shake the pot so that the fertiliser enters the mix). The other is to apply a weak solution of a liquid fertiliser at fortnightly intervals between October and April. Use at only half of the manufacturer's recommended concentration. Potassium-rich fertilisers, such as Campbell's A®, generally result in better flowering.

These cultural notes are kindly provided by the North-East Melbourne Orchid Society.



Dendrobium speciosum 'Barry'
HCC/OSCOV CC/OSCOV



Dendrobium Avril's Gold 'Rolled Gold'
HCC/OSCOV



Dendrobium falcorostrum
'Melissa' HCC/OSCOV
CC/OSCOV

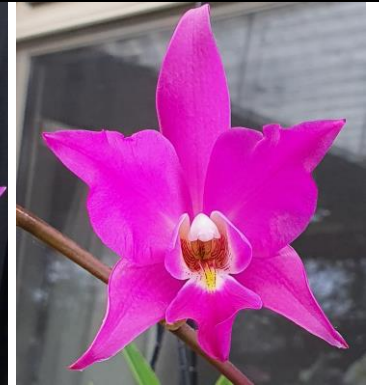
Members' Plants in Flower Now



Kong and Fun's
Dracula Quasimodo 'Judy'



Kong and Fun's
Laelia anceps



Claudia Ng's
Laelia gouldiana



Claudia Ng's
Oncidium Excavatum



Claudia Ng's
Miltonia regenellii



Dieter Weise's
Oncidium cheiroporum



Dieter Weise's
Phragmipedium Fritz Schomburg



Dieter Weise's
Paphiopedilum gratix



Rosalie Naylor's
Coelogyne mooreana



Ron & Heather Coleman's
Cymbidium Unknown



David Cannon's
Den. Issys Snow



David Cannon's
Den. Lusty x Avrils Gold



David Cannon's
Den. Autumn x Hilda Poxon



David Cannon's
Laelia gouldiana



Leo Orland's
Den. Red River 'Rustic' x
Jesmond Sparker



Leo Orland's
Cym. Lunar Blaze 'Dural' x Valley
Olympic 'Rose'



Leo Orland's
Cym. tracyanum



Leo Orland's
Odontonia Pacific Paranoia
'Other Side of Kool'

A FEW LAST THOUGHTS:

What noise does a 747 make when it bounces? Boeing, Boeing, Boeing.

Why do bees have sticky hair? Because they use a honey combs

What do you call a cow with two legs? Lean beef. If the cow has no legs, then it's ground beef.

Why was six sad? Because seven eight nine.

Today, my son asked, "Can I have a book mark?" and I burst into tears. 11 years old and he still doesn't know my name is Brian.

If Undeliverable Return to:
The Hon. Secretary,
Maroondah Orchid Society Incorporated
P.O.Box 5076, Ringwood. Vic. 3134

NEWSLETTER



Smart Water Shop offers up to a 10% discount on our range of products excluding specials and installations.

Glenwood Orchids offer "Valued Customer" discounts on presentation of your current membership card.

Collectors Corner/Garden World - You can get 10% off some items within the store by showing either your membership badge or membership card.

DISCLAIMER

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