

MAROONDAH ORCHID SOCIETY

INCORPORATED

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume : 46 - Issue : 8

Lycastes are orchids of the
New World Tropics and Subtropics



Lycaste Club Emblem

Next Meeting: Friday – 15 September 2023
Meeting begins at 8.00pm

Venue: St. Timothy's
21 Stevens Road, Vermont.
(Melway, Map 62 Ref.G3)

ITEM OF THE EVENING: Deflasking

Topical Chat: Final Preparations for Spring Show

Supper: Please bring a plate

Special Effort: Tickets at door \$1.00 or 3 for \$2.00

Sales Table: Pots, stakes, labels and hangers – Leanne Le

President's Report

Did you get to the OSCOV Orchid Spectacular at KCC Park recently? Sales were very good with several suppliers either sold out or close to it. Also, the number of people through the entrance over the 3 days was excellent by all accounts. Congratulations to members whose orchids won prizes – see later in the newsletter.

The time for our Spring Show is nearing. We need members to participate in bringing plants and members volunteering for various jobs over Thursday to Sunday to make the Show a success.

I seem to have a few plants in flower now which likely will not be any good at the time of our Show. Hopefully some others will 'come to the party' in time. A continuing reminder is, to enable you to enter plants in the MOS Spring Show and offer plants for sale your membership subscription needs to be up to date.

There will be no Judges available at our Club Meeting on 15 September due to the number of Shows being held. Therefore, you will be invited to make two nominations in the Popular Vote, one in each of the Open and Novice categories.

We welcome you if you wish to sanitise your hands and wear a mask for Covid safety. For members who have not been in the best of health over recent months I wish you a speedy recovery. I look forward to seeing you at the 2023 Club Meetings.

Ron Coleman

M.O.S. Inc. Patron:	David Cannon
Life Members:	The late Frank Date, Jim Foster-Johnson, David Cannon, Alan & Nancy Cockram, Dieter Weise, The late Barry Robinson, Susanne Redpath, Max Bomford, Cheryl Luth, G Moffat.
Current M.O.S. Inc. Committee:	
President	Ron Coleman (M) 0477 311 188
Vice Presidents:	David Cannon (M) 0418 394 282 Vacant
Secretary:	Leo Orland (M) 0419 884 492: email leoorland@totalfundraising.com.au
Treasurer:	Graeme Moffat (H) 9726 5793
Committee	Leanne Le (M) 0416 818 290 Daniel Tung Jim Foster-Johnson (M) 0412 366 686 Edith Yu-Chan (M) 0411 378 096 Heather Coleman Claudia Ng
Membership Secretary:	Edith Yu-Chan
Newsletter:	Leo Orland
Floral Art:	Susanne Redpath (M) 0413 138 307
Website Manager	Heather Coleman
MOS Website Address	www.oscov.asn.au /mos
MOS Facebook Address	www.facebook.com/maroonidahorchidsociety

REMINDER: Membership Renewal NOW DUE

The committee has decided that membership fees for financial year 2023/2024 will increase. The fees have remained at the same level for many years but the committee has decided it is now time to increase membership fees. Like everyone else our costs have risen and most orchid clubs fees are \$20 this is why we have decided on the increase. Thank you for your membership and understanding.

Fees were due 1st July 2023. New Fees: Adult (single) \$20.00, Family \$25.00, Junior (16 years and under) \$5.00

Please note – to enter or sell plants at the Spring Show a member must be a financial member no later than the Members' Meeting (15 September 2023).

You can pay in person to Edith Yu-Chan

Or you can pay via direct debit to the following bank account – BSB: 063167 Account number: 10107735

Maroondah Orchid Society Spring Show 2023

In preparation for our upcoming Spring Show, members are advised that for our Show to be successful your Committee need to have members assistance.

Please be advised that assistance will be needed for the following;

- Front Door; Saturday & Sunday. Roster sheet will be available at September meeting.
- Selling of raffle tickets.
- Floral art selling.

If you cannot commit to a time, just turn up and you will be allocated a job.

Setting up halls on Thursday. 1.00pm – 3.00pm.

Cleaning up of halls after show finishes on Sunday afternoon.

If you intend to put up an individual display, please advise Show Marshall, David Cannon, 0418 394282

For Floral Art and Mini Stands, please see details in Entry conditions for full details.

Forms for all requirements will be at our September meeting for filling in.

Thank you in advance for your help and to making our Spring Show very successful.

The lower is not available for sales therefore sales will be in the main hall in a partitioned area separate from the show. Please let David know if you intend to bring plants for sale and putting up individual stand at the show.

Kind regards,

David

REMINDER: If you have a MOS Perpetual Trophy please return to the club.

Orchiata Orchid Bark Orders

The committee will be placing an order for – Orchiata Orchid Bark – size 9-12mm, 12-18mm and 18mm-25mm to be available for pick-up at the Spring Show. An order form will be available at September meeting. If you are unable to attend the September meeting, to assist in determining the quantity to be ordered please see the attached order form, complete it and email to David Cannon of your requirement by Friday 8 September. The cost of the bark to members who pre-order is \$32.00 and will be sold at the show for \$35.00.

OSCOV 2023 Show Preparations



Congratulations to OSCOV 2023 Maroondah Orchid Society Show Winners

Standard Cymbidium Flower – Hybrid Predominately Green

Second - Green Diamond 'Tee Pee' - T. Poulton

Standard Cymbidium Flower - Hybrid Any Other Single Colour

Second – Laramie Butter 'Tee Pee' – T. Poulton

Miniature Cymbidium Flower – Hybrid Predominantly Green

First – Thumbs Up – C. Luth

Second – Autumn Emerald x Tom Thumb - C. Luth

Miniature Cymbidium Flower – Hybrid Predominantly White

Second – Ice on Fire ‘Nikketta’ – C. Luth

Miniature Cymbidium Flower – Hybrid Any Combination of Colours or Overlaid Colours

First - devonianum x dayanum – D. Cannon

Softcane Dendrobium Hybrid – Any Colour or Combination

First – Den. Adel fortescue – J. Foster-Johnson

Miniature Cymbidium Flower – Specimen (min. 6 inflorescences)

First – devonianum x dayanum – D.Cannon

Miniature Cymbidium Flower – Species Hybrid Seedling Flowering for the First Time

First – Autumn Emerald x Tom Thumb – C. Luth

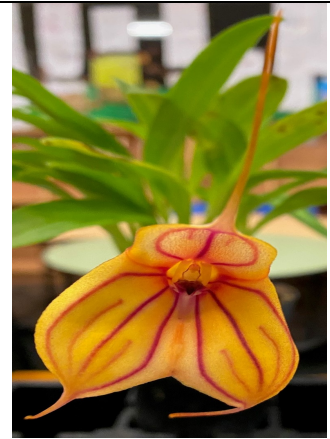
Interesting Plants From the August Meeting



D.Cannon's Dendrobium
Avril's Gold 'Fatty Cream' x
Flinders



S. Kappl's Medicalcar bifolium



J. Foster-Johnson's Masd.
Gold Tiger 'Bengal'



C. Ng's Cat Iced Beau



J. Harnetty's Cuitlauzina
puchella



S. Kappl's Den. Two Hot



J. Wong's Den. North Mead



L. Orland's Cym. Freeling
'Green Ice'



S. Kappl's Stelis argentata

BENCH COMPETITION - AUGUST – 2023

JUDGES VOTE	Dendrobium Avril's Gold x Flinders	c	D. Cannon
POPULAR VOTE	Dendrobium Avril's Gold x Flinders	c	D. Cannon
BEST IN SECTION			
Open	Dendrobium Avril's Gold x Flinders	c	D. Cannon
Intermediate	Catt. Iced Beau	c	C. Ng
	Open Section		
Intermediate Cymbidium	1 st Freeling 'Green Ice'	c	L. Orland
Masdevallia Hybrid	1 st Gold Tiger 'Bengal'	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	2 nd Leopard Dancer 'Gengis'	c	J. Foster-Johnson
	3 rd Vechi Candy Cane 'Good Strips'	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Dendrobium Terete Style	1 st Den. Martin	c	A. Baker
	2 nd Den. Catherine x J. D. 'Dark'	c	A. Baker
Australian Native - Dendrobium species	1 st Den. teretifolium	c	S. Kappl

	2 nd Plectorrhiza beckeri	c	S. Kappl
	3 rd teretifolium	c	A. Baker
Australian Native – Dendrobium Hybrid	1 st Avril's Gold 'Fatty Cream' x Flinders	c	D. Cannon
	2 nd Allyn River	c	D. Cannon
Any Other Hybrid	1 st Coelogyne Colmanii	c	L. Orland
Species Any Genera – The America's	1 st Stellis argentata	c	S. Kappl
	2 nd Restrepis guttulate	c	S. Kappl
	3 rd Maxillaria picta	c	J. Foster-Johnson
Species Any Genera – Other	1 st Mediocalcar bifolium	c	S. Kappl
	Intermediate Section		
Standard Cymbidium	1 st Unknown Hybrid	c	J. Harnetty
Intermediate Cymbidium	2 nd Dave's Dream x Sarah Jean	C	J. Wong
Masdevallia Hybrid	1 st Hot Shot	c	J. Wong
Masdevallia Species	1 st ventchianna	C	J. Wong
Australian Native – Dendrobium Hybrid	1 st Den. Northmead	c	J. Wong
	2 nd Warnambool	c	R. & H. Coleman
	3 rd Colber 'Yes Please'	c	J. Harnetty

Laeliinae Large	1 st Laelia Anceps ‘Helen’ x medenhall	c	J. Harnetty
Laeliinae Intermediate	1 st Catt. Iced Beau	c	C. Ng
Species Any Genera – The America’s	1 st Cuitlanzina pulchella	c	J. Harnetty
	2 nd Pleurothallis truncata	c	C. Ng
Species Any Genera - Asia	1 st Dendrochilum uncatum	c	J. Harnetty
	2 nd Dendrochilum glumaceum	c	J. Harnetty
Seedling Flowering For The First Time			
Open	1 st Den. Two Hot	c	S. Kappl
	2 nd Catt. coccinea	c	S. Kappl
	3 rd Cym. Burrita x Laramie	c	L. Orland

ORCHID SHOWS 2023

Show	Date/Time	Venue
Cymbidium Orchid Society	Sat 9 Sept 9-4, Sun 10 Sept 9-4	Mt Waverley Community Centre. Miller Crescent, Mt Waverley
Bayside	Sat 9 Sept Sun 10 Sept Shopping Centre Hours	Cranbourne Park Shopping Centre Sth Gippsland Hwy Cranbourne
Bairnsdale	Sat 16 Sept 9-4, Sun 17 Sept 9-3	Lucknow Memorial Hall, 105 Great Alpine Rd, Lucknow
Mid-Murray	Sat 16 Sept 10-4,	Kerang Memorial Hall, Nolan

	Sun 17 Sept 10-3.30	Street Kerang
West Gippsland	Sat 16 Sept 9-4, Sun 17 Sept 9-4	Anglican Church Hall, Cnr. Princes Way & Francis Ave, Drouin.
NEMOS	Sat 16 Sep, 9-4 Sun 17 Sep 10-4	Bulleen Heights Secondary School 221 Manningham Rd Lower Templestow
Geelong	Sat 16 Sept 9-4, Sun 17 Sept 10-3	Christ Church Hall, Cnr. Moorabool and McKillop Streets
Southern Suburbs	Sat. 23 Sept 10 – 4 Sun. 24 Sept 10 - 3	NG Wishart Hall, 964 Nepean Hwy. (Cnr. Exley Dr.)
Goulburn Valley	Sat 23 Sep, 9-4 Sun 24 Sep 10-3	Shepparton Harness Racing Track, Melbourne Rd, Kialla
Berwick	Sat 23 Sept 9-4, Sun 24 Sept 9-4	Senior Citizens' Hall, 112 High Street, Berwick
Maroondah	Sat 23 Sep, 9-4 Sun 24 Sep 9-3	St. Timothy's Catholic School, 21 Stevens Rd, Vermont
Warrnambool	Sat 30 Sept 10 -4, Sun 1 Oct 10 – 3	Our Lady Help of Christian Hall , 28 Selby Rd, Warrnambool
MEOS	Sat 30 Sept, 9-4, Sun 1 Oct, 12-4	Burwood Heights Uniting Church, 347 Blackburn Rd, Burwood East
Ringwood	Sat 30 Sept 9.00-4, Sun 1 Oct 9.00-4	Keystone Hall 20 Civic Square Croydon 3136
Gippsland	Sat 6 Oct. Sun 7 Oct. Centre Hours	Mid-Valley Shopping Centre, Princess Highway
Bendigo	Fri 13 Oct 1-4, Sat 14 Oct. 10-4, Sun 15 Oct 10-1	Eaglehawk Soccer Club, 5 Murdock St, California Gully
Colac	Sat 14 Oct 9-4, Sun 15 Oct 9-3	Colac Show Grounds Cnr. Bruce St & Princess Hwy
St Arnaud	Sat 14 Oct 9-4	Town Hall Napier St, St Arnaud

Cobden	Sat 21 Oct 10-4, Sun 22 Oct 10-4	Civic Hall, Victoria Street
Yarra Valley Orchid Society	Sat 21 Oct 9- 4, Sun 22 Oct 9-3	Public Hall, 590 Warburton Highway, Seville
Ballarat	Fri 21 Oct 12-5, Sat 22-Sun 23 10-3	Wendouree Neighbourhood Centre 1 Holly Grove Wendouree
Bayside	Sat 28 Oct 9 - 5 Sun 29Oct 9 - 4	Cranbourne Public Hall, 166-168 South Gippsland Hwy
Stawell/(Halls Gap)	Sat 4 Nov 9.30- 5 Sun 5 Nov 9.30 - 4	Centenary Hall, 115 Grampians Road, Halls Gap
Ringwood / Yarra Valley Orchid Society	Sat 4 Nov 9-4, Sun 5 Nov 9-3	Keystone Hall, Keystone Hall Civic Square, Croydon
CGOC Sarc Show	Sat 11 Nov 9-4, Sun 12 Nov 9-3	TBA

HOW I REPOT CYMBIDIUMS

by Brian Milligan

There are far more ways to repot cymbidiums than there are to skin the proverbial cat. What's more, the orchids usually survive the operation, unlike the cat! My method will certainly not meet with universal approval, but it works well in the sense that it provides enough acceptable flowering plants for my display at show time.

Potting-on, Repotting and Division. Potting-on means removing an orchid together with its potting mix from the pot, transferring them to a larger pot and then filling the remaining space with fresh mix. This operation involves minimal disturbance of the orchid, and it may therefore be carried out at any time of the year. However I do not recommend potting-on if the original mix is older than 18 months, unless it is planned to repot within the next year. If repotting is left longer, the older mix at the centre of the pot will begin to 'break down', leading to a mass of rotten roots which gradually spreads outwards.

Repotting means removing all the old mix from the orchid's roots and replacing it with fresh mix. At the same time it is advisable to remove most or all of any leafless backbulbs present. These backbulbs carry the oldest roots of the plant, and their removal therefore minimises a likely source of rot. If the plant has a clump of backbulbs in its centre, it will probably need to be divided into two or more pieces. Actually, it may fall apart when the backbulbs are removed. If not, it will be necessary to cut the rhizome connecting the growths with a sterile

carving knife, or to tear the bits apart using brute strength. I prefer the latter technique, as the carving knife is never the same after it has been sterilised in the gas flame a few times. Neither are my hands, so I settle for a good wash with soap and hot water.

Hygiene. The main reason for sterilising orchid tools is to reduce the possibility of transferring virus from one plant to another. This transfer takes place via plant sap; if the first plant repotted is infected with virus, it's possible to transfer that virus to all plants subsequently handled. The best strategy to avoid this possibility is to handle each plant as if it has a virus infection. Sterilise all tools and wash your hands thoroughly after each plant is repotted.

Never use old mix from one plant to repot another, and if you re-use old pots make sure that they have been thoroughly cleaned and sterilised. Some growers use a potting bench covered with multiple layers of newspaper. After each plant is repotted they wrap any fallen mix (both old and new), root fragments and plant debris in the topmost layers of paper and discard them.

When to Repot. Experience has taught me that I should repot every second year rather than every third, because after three years the roots are so tightly packed that I cannot remove the plant without a struggle and sometimes it's necessary to cut the pot open to remove the plant. Also, most bark-based potting mixes remain in satisfactory condition for two years but not for three. They begin to degrade to finer material in the third year, thus restricting the free drainage that cymbidiums and most other orchids require for healthy roots.

Traditionally, cymbidiums are repotted in late spring, after the flowering season is over. I prefer to stick with tradition and repot those plants that need it in October. It's best to wait until the likelihood of cold weather is over, because cold, wet weather puts undesirable stress on a newly repotted plant, unless it can be given a dry, comfortable spot.

In recent years some cymbidium growers have taken to repotting their plants in March. They claim that their plants are growing at their fastest then, and that they are therefore best able to withstand the shock of repotting at that time. Also, they believe that the flowering spikes are already developing and that therefore repotting cannot interrupt the flowering process, whereas it may do so in late spring when many flower spikes are on the verge of initiation. Professional cymbidium growers repot throughout the year (except for mid-winter), but only because they have too many plants to repot at the optimal times, which are October/November and March.

What Potting Mix? Various materials have been used in orchid potting mixes over the years. Victorian growers once used osmunda fibre and tan bark, but red gum chips and pine bark, with or without additives are now in favour. Most growers use pine bark that has been freed of natural plant toxins and aged to make it more water-absorbent (Debco and Propine are major suppliers). Some growers use fine grade bark (5-10 mm diameter pieces), especially for small plants, whereas others prefer the coarser grades (10- 20 mm).

Over the last few years I have used an equal mixture of these two grades of bark and then added one or more of a range of extra ingredients, depending on their availability at the time. These extra ingredients include Corangamite shells (shell grit), river pebbles, tree fern fronds, rice hulls and peanut shells. Immediately prior to use I also add dolomite lime, Hoof-and-Horn® fertiliser and Nutricote® slow-release fertiliser. The rationale behind this complex formulation is that it provides a long-lasting, free-draining

mix, that encourages the growth of beneficial mycorrhizal fungi and also releases a steady stream of nutrients for the orchid. I also top-dress the pots with Hoof-and-Horn® and Nutricote® fertilisers in October and March, but seldom bother with liquid fertilisers.

New growers: Please do not get the idea that it is necessary to use such a complex mix to get good results. Many growers get better results than I do with a simple all-bark potting mix, although they probably go to more trouble with regard to the choice and frequency of application of liquid fertilisers.

How to Repot. I find it easier to remove the plant from its pot and the old potting mix from the roots if the plant is neither freshly watered nor bone-dry. To untangle the roots it is easier to begin at the bottom and work upwards. Sometimes, especially if the plant has not been repotted for many years, the roots defy disentanglement and one must resort to cutting two inches off the bottom of the root ball with a carving knife! Having untangled the roots and removed the old potting mix, I then remove any backbulbs and divide the plant if necessary, as described above. I divide most plants that will not fit comfortably in a 250 mmpot allowing some room for growth. Plants in 300 mm pots are too heavy to transport and repot, and are more suited to sumo wrestlers! Finally I remove any old roots (which are soft or dark brown) using sterile scissors or my hands.

When repotting, I first place a layer of potting mix an inch deep in the new pot, to prevent any roots protruding through the drainage holes. With one hand I hold the plant by its leaves in position and with the other I fill the pot with fresh mix. Some growers position the plant so that its bulbs are just above the final level of the mix, but following Julian Coker's advice I now bury the bottom quarter of the pseudobulbs. Shake the pot to work the particles of mix down so that they fill all gaps between the roots.

Finally I top-dress the pot with Hoof-and-Horn® and Nutricote® fertilisers (about two teaspoons of each to a 200mm pot) and shake the pot so that they enter the mix. The last step is to move the pot to a shady, sheltered location and to water it. Coddle the plant for a few weeks before moving it back to its usual sunnier location.



ORCHID STAKES, TIES AND CLIPS

by Brian Milligan

By far the most popular orchid stakes are made of cane or bamboo, usually stained green, but there are several other commercial or homemade varieties. The latter are made from high-voltage electrical cable. Bend a loop in the top of each stake so as to minimise the chances of facial injury when bending over your plants. Aluminium stakes have an advantage over other types in that they can be bent to follow the curve of arching spikes.

Stakes made from bamboo cane are the most common. Packs usually carry a range of stakes of equal length but differing diameters. They come in a range of lengths, usually 60 cm, 90 cm and 1.2 m. The middle size is suitable for most cymbidiums; they look best if the thicker end is inserted in the pot. A minor disadvantage of bamboo canes is that most are hollow. This prevents them being sharpened to a point for easier insertion. Some growers compromise by cutting the end diagonally. To minimise root damage, one should never insert a stake near the rim of the pot. One would imagine that the further from the base of the orchid the better, but experience shows that there are more orchid roots around the periphery of the pot than near its centre.

My personal preference is for solid cane stakes that are sold with one end already sharpened. Although the majority of bamboo stakes sold for orchids are eminently suitable for cymbidiums, most are far too heavy for staking less robust flower spikes. Occasionally lighter cane stakes appear in nursery shops, so keep an eye out for them and buy a supply then, as they're not always available. Stakes for masdevallias and other small orchids are easier to find – simply buy a packet of wooden skewers (kebab sticks) from your local supermarket!

It is unwise to re-use stakes, because of the possibility of transferring virus from one plant to another via the roots. Some growers turn their stakes upside down the second year, while others attempt to sterilise them by immersion overnight in a very strong solution (10%) of Purex® algicide. Both of these procedures involve a certain risk and I always use new stakes for my most highly valued cymbidiums. Aluminium stakes are probably the only ones that can be sterilised with certainty – by heating the end that was inserted in the pot in a gas flame.

Flower spikes may be fastened to stakes in a number of different ways. Most growers use green plastic-coated wire, usually referred to as Twistie-Tie®, although there are probably several proprietary brands. It may be purchased in packets of straight lengths or in continuous rolls. There are two main methods for securing spikes to stakes with Twistie-Tie. The most straightforward entails wrapping the tie around both spike and stake and securing the ends by twisting them together several times. In the other method the Twistie-Tie is first twisted around the spike and then around the stake to form a figure-of-eight.

In both cases, the Twistie-Tie ends should be twisted together behind the stake, not the stem, to minimise the possibility of damage. In the case of smaller orchids, such as masdevallias etc, there is no need to twist the ends of the Twistie-Tie. One simply makes two turns of Twistie-Tie around the stem and stake and cuts off any excess.

An even simpler method for fastening spikes to stakes is to use orchid clips, which are spring-loaded plastic clips resembling dolls' hair clips! The smaller size has three claws on one side and two on the other. They are more suited to masdevallias and other small or medium-sized inflorescences than to cymbidiums but a larger size clip is also available.

WHAT SIZE POT SHOULD I USE?

by Brian Milligan

It probably depends to some extent on the genus you plan to repot but in general one should use a pot large enough to accommodate one or two year's extra growth but no more. I fully agree with Alfred Smollet, who in 1927 wrote in *The Orchid Review* "I am a great believer in small pots. A common error with beginners is using pots unreasonably large. All beginners in Orchid growing are optimists, and the large pot is the outward and visible sign of this optimism". One of the main problems in using overly large pots is that the potting mix tends to remain wet for too long after watering, especially in winter.

The choice of pot size is largely a matter of common sense. When the orchid is knocked from its pot, cursory examination will show that, in most cases, the majority of its roots run around the circumference of the pot in preference to filling the pot completely. And if you examine their condition you will generally find that those growing around the perimeter are in a much healthier state than those in the centre of the mix. Dome® pots are designed with a dome in their bottom to eliminate the area most prone to root decay. An alternative is to place a small, inverted pot in the base of a larger one before repotting. Cymbidiums roots of a healthy plant generally fill the entire pot and remain in good condition for a couple of years. But thereafter, as the bark begins to decay, the roots in the centre of the pot are usually the first to deteriorate.

It's also important when repotting to ensure that the drainage holes in the pot are unblocked. Plastic pots made using old dies (moulds) sometimes have the drainage holes partly or fully blocked with plastic. It's important to open the drainage holes fully, using a lino knife or similar sharp implement. Sometimes I enlarge the holes at the same time to provide extra drainage. Some growers use an electric drill or hot soldering iron to make extra drainage holes in their cymbidium pots and swear that it results in faster growth.

Pots are produced in a variety of shapes and heights, some with far more drainage holes than others. Best of all, in my opinion, are Port Pots®, which have an extensive network of drainage holes in their bottom. In general, shallow pots seem to suit Australian native dendrobiums best. Net pots, designed to provide excellent drainage, certainly do that but they dry out quickly and therefore need to be watered twice as often as pots with fewer drainage holes. Oncidium seedlings do well for me in them but the roots tend to grow in and out through the mesh holes. This leads to problems at repotting time – either one cuts off the offending roots or one simply puts the whole pot into a larger one and tops up with new mix; each procedure has its disadvantages.

The above discussion refers to plastic pots, by far the most common in general use. But the older pots made of baked clay (terra cotta) are useful in certain cases. Because they are porous, water evaporates from their exterior, producing a cooling effect, which can be beneficial in hot weather. However, this is a disadvantage in winter, when it's better to keep the roots warm. Some growers prefer clay pots or saucers for temperamental orchids, such as *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* and *Sarcochilus ceciliae*, which need a reliable supply of water but hate 'wet feet'. But in general I believe that black plastic pots are better, especially in winter when they help to warm the roots whenever the sun shines on them.



If Undeliverable Return to:

The Hon. Secretary,

Maroondah Orchid Society Incorporated

P.O.Box 5076, Ringwood. Vic. 3134

NEWSLETTER



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

DISCLAIMER

Maroondah Orchid Society Incorporated, Executive and Committee will not take any responsibility for the results of any action taken on advice given or views expressed by any member or invited speaker at any meeting or show. Views and opinions in this Newsletter by authors of articles do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of Maroondah Orchid Society Incorporated or its Executive or Committee.