



PO Box 382 Maroochydore QLD 4558
<https://maroochydoreorchidsocietyinc.com>
maroochyorchid1@optusnet.com.au

PATRON	ROSANNA NATOLI	
PRESIDENT	DUNCAN McMARTIN	07 5448 5300
SECRETARY	KATHY HOWATSON	07 5448 4450
TREASURER	FAY MERCEICA	07 5479 2051
EDITOR	ROGER LODSMAN	0404 175 172
PHOTOGRAPHER	BARRY WOODS	0438 144 451

CULTURAL MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month at the Buderim Men's Shed 34 Advance Road Kuluin
Plants are to be tabled by 7.00 pm for judging

THE NEXT CULTURAL MEETING IS ON TUESDAY 2 MARCH 2021

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We're already well into Year 2CE (COVID Era). We're still a long way from restrictions being eased a great deal, so caution is still required. As we get older, we need to be more cautious anyway as we don't heal as fast as years gone by.

Moving on to more uplifting things, I would like to welcome our newest members to our little beauty group (after all, orchids are the essence of beauty).

Our first meeting in the new hall went well. There's plenty of parking and no stairs to climb. I believe we're all pretty happy with the new venue, but it'll take a wee while to settle in. We'll probably have to refine things a bit as time goes on. If you have any topics or concerns you'd like discussed at meetings, please let someone on the Committee know so we're aware.

I've slipped away from writing these little things, so this is all this time. There'll be a president's report in all forthcoming newsletters.

Happy growing to all.

DUNCAN McMARTIN
President MOS

SECRETARY'S REPORT

In this, our 50th year as Maroochydore Orchid Society, we have moved (somewhat smoothly) to a fantastic new venue at the Buderim Men's Shed. While it will take some time for us to manage the kinks around the new resources and orchid benching environment, our first meeting was a great success. The facilities on offer for Peter Henseler's presentation on Lycaste were particularly impressive.

The planning for our Orchid Show at the Buderim Uniting Church Hall, Saturday 20 March, is progressing steadily. Our Management Committee is busy designing our COVID safety plan so the rest of us can finally enjoy the best of orchid growing: benching our best plants for ribbons, selling our excess plants to folk that will love them more, and adding to our collection from some fantastic local orchid nurseries.

There have been a couple of changes to the cogs that will keep us chugging along past the big 50. Del has handed the keys to Fay Merceica, who is more than capable to keep the treasury overflowing. Roger Lodsmen and Barry Woods have taken over editing of The Observer, our newsletter from Fred and Marg Lenz. They've been doing a fantastic job for the past few years and have left some very big shoes to fill.

Feel free to approach Barry and Roger with any suggestions around content you would like to see in the newsletter. There'll be some teething problems, there always are.

Our new laptop has arrived and should be ready for action soon. Thank you Desiree for preparing the grant application that made this possible.

KATHY HOWATSON
Secretary MOS

ORCHID GENERA NAMES AND PRONUNCIATION

You may be wondering how to pronounce the names of orchid genera. Well, wonder no more. A short guide for your reference.

Acineta	ah-si-NEE-ta or a-sin-EE-ta
Aerangis	ay-er-RANG-iss or ay-air-ANG-iss
Aeranthes	ay-er-AN-theez
Aerides	ay-air-EE-deez
Bifrenaria	bye-fren-AIR-ee-ah or bye-fren-AYR-ee-ah
Brassavola	bra-SAH-vol-ah
Brassia	BRASS-ee-ah
Brassocattleya	brass-oh-KAT-lee-ah
Brassolaeliocattleya	brass-oh-lay-lee-oh-KAT-lee-ah
Bulbophyllum	bulb-oh-FILL-um
Calanthe	kal-AN-thee
Catasetum	kat-AH-see-tum or kat-a-SEE-tum
Cattleya	KAT-lee-ah
Chysis	KYE-sis

Borrowed from <https://www.pvorchids.com>



ORCHID SHOW 8.00 am – 4.00 pm SAT 20 MARCH 2021

BUDERIM UNITING CHURCH
Corner Gloucester Rd and King St

\$4 entry \$1 raffles
Lots of plants for sale
Potting demonstration 10.00 am

For more information
call Kathy 07 5448 4450
maroochyorchid1@optusnet.com.au

COVID RULES APPLY



This awe inspiring *Grammatophyllum scriptum* specimen took out first place.

For the complete list of winning plants, and more photos from the February meeting, see page 6 and onwards.

POTTING DEMONSTRATION OF LYCASTE CRUENTA AND AROMATICA

Peter Hessler AOM gave a demonstration of how he grows his Lycaste orchis at the February meeting. Here are his notes.

FLOWER IDENTIFICATION

Lycaste cruenta and **Lycaste aromatica** look very similar. The way to tell the difference is **cruenta** flowers in Spring while **aromatica** flowers in Summer (and has a distinctive cinnamon aroma).

REPOTTING TIME

For me, this is just after Christmas or the first week in January, as they are in full growth then. I water heavily then for the next couple of weeks.

POTTING MIX

I use 12-18 mm bark with 10 mm charcoal, and soak these for three days with a handful of dolomite lime (about 40 grams). This adds calcium and magnesium to the medium. Every time I pass it I turn the mix over.

I use Orchia orchid bark. I used to use the NZ bark without success because of the salts in the bore water. I used to use perlite with the orchid bark but the bark would not get wet and the perlite would accumulate the salts around the roots, and then when adding bore water again it would release poison, releasing aluminium nitrates, which resulted in no roots and no flowers. The perlite was not working with the bore water and had to be removed from my mix. This exercise took around three years to discover and now I have repotted all of my orchids into the bark and charcoal mix.

FERTILISER

From August until the end of March I try to fertilise two or three times per week. I try to use a growth fertiliser for three fertilisations, then a flower fertiliser on the fourth time. This is all applied at $\frac{1}{2}$ cinnamon strength.

In April I like to fertilise with flowering fertiliser applied at $\frac{1}{2}$ strength. My favourite growth fertiliser is worm juice with molasses: I get four litres of worm juice and mix 200 mls of molasses then apply a fish aerator for up to 12 hours to really get it alive, then apply it at 20 mls per litre of water. I try to apply this at least every third spraying during Summer and Autumn.

The fertiliser I use is Campbell's Blue (growth booster) and Yellow (flower booster), Peter's Flowering Booster, Flower and Grow, Calcium Nitrate 8 times per year, and Epsom Salts 8 times per year.

I like to let the fertiliser run through the pots. Given calcium and magnesium react when applied together, and excessive magnesium can be toxic, most growers are best served with a product like Peter's CalMag finisher. Feel free to reach out to Peter through the society if you want to level up your growing skills.

I mainly water/fertilise in the afternoon in the hotter months from around 3 o'clock, as this is when the houses are in the shade. In the cooler months I water from around 1 o'clock so they have more time to dry out before night time.



Pictured above: Peter's Lycaste growing area.



This project is proudly supported by Sunshine Coast Council's grants program.

HADROLAEIAS OF BRAZIL

by Billy

Delightful in their own right, these species have also played an important role in modern Cattleya hybrids. Their cultural habits are somewhat different to typical Cattleyas and this needs to be taken into consideration when growing their hybrids as well.

Originally, these plants were called Laelias, but are now part of the Cattleya genus. I'll refer to them as Laelias for this article.

All are found in Eastern Brazil in the Atlantic reaches of the Amazon Rainforest. This forest is found on the mountains where, in general, there is constant precipitation throughout the year.

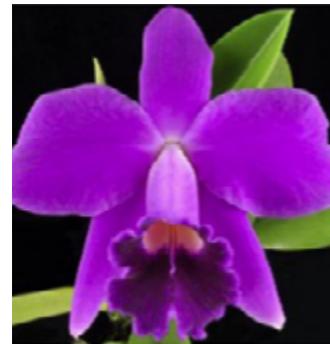
There are 6 true Laelias in this group:



L. dayana



L. sincorana



L. pumila



L. praestans



L. jongheana



L. alaorii

Laelia pumila

Found in warm to coolish forest in deeper shade than most orchids prefer, it is found growing on the trunks of trees. These areas have very high humidity. They grow in the provinces of Espirito Santo and Minas Gerais. L. praestans is often given as a synonym of L. pumila but they are separate species.

Laelia dayana

This orchid occurs in the Serra dos Orgaos mountains near Rio De Janeiro. It grows on the trunks of trees in protected humid environments. Remarkably similar to L. pumila but kept separate. As can be seen in the photo, the shape is not as good as L. pumila.

Laelia alaorii

A warm growing Laelia that is usually a beautiful soft pink although other colour variations also occur. Again, it requires high humidity and frequent watering. Even though the shape is a little concave or 'cuppy' its colour still makes it a most desirable orchid to have in your collection.

Laelia jongheana

A cooler grower from the Minas Gerais province of Brazil, it grows in small patches of forest. It is a cooler grower than the other Hadrolaelias. Probably the most open flower of all, but still a beautiful flower in its own right. It is found on tree trunks and limbs but still with high humidity and partial shade.

Laelia praestans

Found in Eastern Brazil in the Serra dos Orgaos Mountains near Rio De Janeiro. It grows in areas similar to L. dayana, is epiphytic in nature and likes the same conditions of high humidity and good rainfall as the others.

Laelia sincorana

This Laelia is unusual in that it's found in the Sincorana Mountains, north of where the others grow, at altitudes of 1100 to 1500 metres. This area is hot and dry. Only daily dew keeps it alive over the dry season. It grows on the trunks of Vellozia, bushes similar a Dracaena or cordyline in habit (see below). As a result, these orchids are subjected to full sun.

CULTURE

Laelias can be grown in pots or baskets

The mix used must be free draining so that the mix is dry before the next watering (which is usually every 1-2 days).

The container must only have room for 1-2 years of growth. This means parts of the container do not have areas that stay wet or moist because it's too large for the orchid.

If you use a container, I believe the Vanda pots are best.

Laelias can also be grown on mounts

Remember that mounted orchids prefer to be watered every day.

The best mounts available to us are cork and tree fern bark. Iron bark mounts are also available, but I find that this type of mount dries out far too quickly.

A little sphagnum moss around and over the roots helps get the plant established by keeping the roots a little moister and cooler and also raises humidity slightly.

Remember to face the forward growth in towards the mount so that new roots, when they appear, can grow straight onto the mount and hold the plant secure.



Laelia pumila Black Diamond



Laelia pumila var flamea



Laelia pumila var alba



Laelia pumila var rubra

Pictured above: L. sincorana at home.

A well known hybrid using a Hadrolaelia is Cattleya Mini Purple. Originated by Masao Yamada in 1965, it is a cross of C. pumila x C. walkeriana and considered a "primary hybrid" since it's a cross between two species.

JUDGING RESULTS – FEBRUARY 2021 MEETING

CATTLEYA

- 1 Pcv.(Procatavola) Golden Peacock
- 2 C. Bactia x C. Chocolate Drop
- 3 Rlc. Mem. Helen Brown x (Rlc. Arlene Finney x C. Cherry Chip)

MEMBER Name changes

- Roger L
- Joe M Ctt. Towering Inferno
- Joe M

POPULAR VOTE

- Joe M Ctt. Towering Inferno

DENDROBIUM

- 1 Den. Sonia
- 2 Den. Taurus x canaliculatum
- 3 Den. unknown

- Lional K
- Lional K
- Lional K

- Tie:
- Lional K Den. Sonia
- Lional K Den. Taurus x canaliculatum

VANDA

- 1 V. Kultana Violet
- 2 V. Somsri Gold
- 3 Neostylis Lou Sneary

- Lorraine H
- Lorraine H
- Billy L Van. Lou Sneary

- Lorraine H V. Robert's Delight

ONCIDIUM

- 1 Onc. Alouska
- 2 Miltassia Earl Dunn
- 3 Colm. Wildcat

- Lorraine H
- Lional K Miltonia Earl Dunn
- Nev D Ons (Oncostele) Wildcat

- Lional K Miltonia Earl Dunn

ANY OTHER GENERA

- 1 Bulb. longissimum x phalaenopsis
- 2 Clowesetum Black Jade
- 3 Cyc. Anne-Kathrin Berger x Kevin Clark

- Duncan Mc Bulb. Krairit Vejvarut
- Greg D
- Greg D Cyc. Caloundra Dawn (F. Clark 2018)

- Greg D Clowesetum Black Jade

SPECIES

- 1 Grammatophyllum scriptum
- 2 Den. dearei
- 3 Stanhopea tigrina

- Lional K
- Rod A
- Lorraine H

- Lional K Gram. scriptum

NOVICE

- 1 Pcv.(Procatavola) Golden Peacock
- 2 Phal. unknown
- 3 C. Dongina

- Desiree W
- Ron S
- Ron S Could not be found in Orchidwiz

- Desiree W Slc. Kathryn Clarkson x Rlc. Sunspots Rlc. Naomi's Delight

FOLIAGE

- 1 Caladium
- 2 Fittonia
- 3 Caladium

- Desiree W
- Lorraine H
- Lorraine H

- Lorraine H Caladium



Above: the novice table showing the rest how it's done.

Below: Dendrobium dearei





Bulbophyllum Krairit Vejvarut



Stanhopea tigrina



Procatavola Golden Peacock



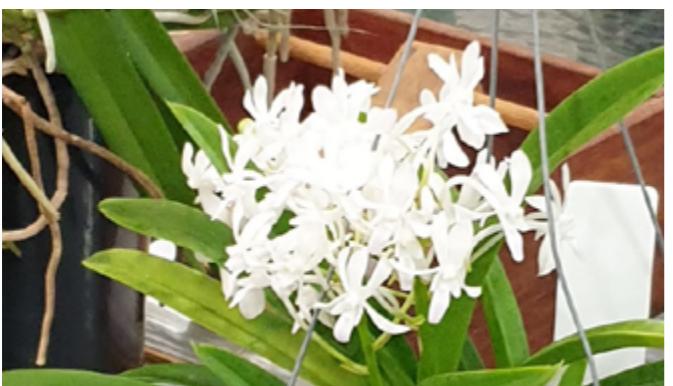
Bifoliate Cattlianthe



Cattlianthe Towering Inferno



Cycnoches Caloundra Dawn



Vanda Lou Sneary



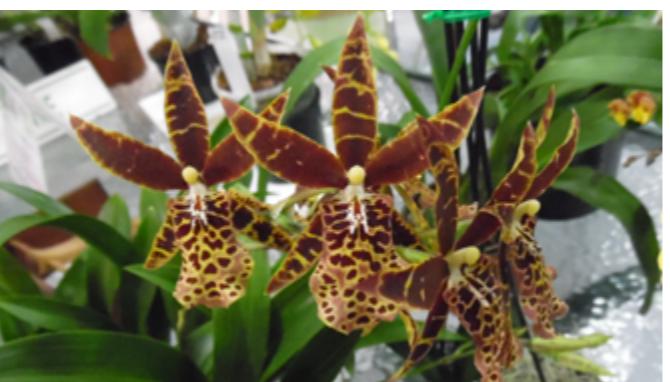
Fittonia



Miltonia Earl Dunn



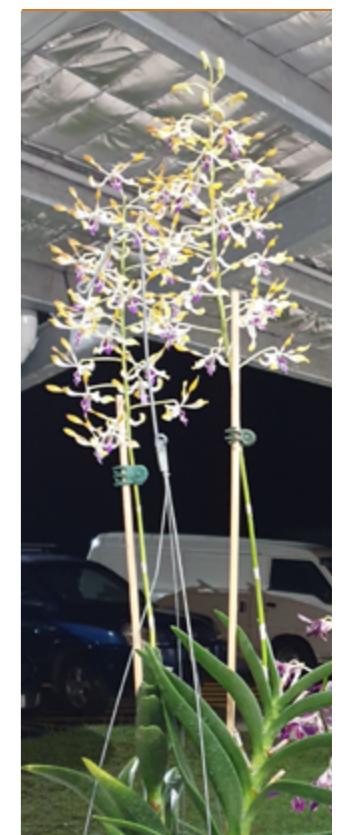
Sobennikoffia species



Miltassia Valizalia
(hybrid unregistered, genus possibly reclassified)



Clowesetum Black Jade



Dendrobium hybrid



Bulbophyllum medusae



Dendrobium section Spatulata



Vanda roeblingiana



Vanda ustii



Vanda Kultana Violet



Vanda hybrid



Gomesa Alouska



Caladium



Caladium



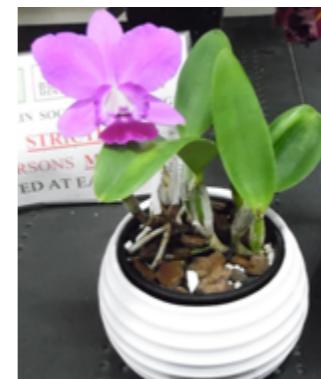
Vanda Somsri Gold



Vanda hybrid



Phalaenopsis NO ID



Newly acquired orchids
can still be benched
with appropriate
acknowledgement



Bulbophyllum hybrid

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 2021

Childers & IDOS Show

Friday 19 March to Saturday 20 March

Maroochydore Orchid Society Autumn Show

Saturday 20 March 2021

Buderim Uniting Church (corner Gloucester Rd & Kind St)

See page 2 of this newsletter for more information

APRIL 2021

POSTPONED:

Sunshine Coast Orchid Society Autumn Show

Uniting Church Hall Caloundra

Friday 9 April to Saturday 10 April

Rockhampton OS Autumn Show

Saturday 10 April to Sunday 11 April

Caboolture OS Closed Show

Morayfield Shopping Centre

Thursday 29 April to Saturday 1 May

MAY 2021

Gympie & District Orchid Society Show

(as part of the Garden Expo)

Albert Park Bowls Club

Saturday 1 May to Sunday 2 May

Set up Friday 30 April at 2.00 pm

Queensland Orchid Society Autumn Show

Belmont Shooting Coplex (1485 Old Cleveland Rd Belmont)

Sunday 3 May to Monday 4 May

Noosa Orchid Society Closed Show

CWA Hall (Maple Street Cooroy)

Friday 7 May to Saturday 8 May

Bundaberg Orchid Society Autumn Show

Bundaberg Civic Centre (Bourbong St Bundaberg)

Friday 7 May to Sunday 9 May

Maroochydore Mother's Day Closed Show

Bli Bli Uniting Church Hall (Lefoes Rd Bli Bli)

Sunday 9 May

22ND AOC CONFERENCE & SHOW POSTPONED

It is with considerable regret that the planning committee has had to make the difficult decision to postpone the 22nd AOC conference & show by 12 months. The new dates for the event are 31st August to 4 September 2022. It is important to all committee members that your health and safety are protected, and the opportunity to attend is provided to all. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused, and thank you for your understanding.

On the positive side of this announcement, we now have 18 months to plan for a fantastic event, with the probability that more people will be able to attend. Close off dates for various events and entries will of course also change, and these will be updated on our website <https://www.aocc2021.org> as soon as they are finalised.

The first change is to the early bird registrations which will now close 12 months later on 31 March 2022. Keep an eye on the website for further announcements. If you require further information, you can contact any member of the planning committee. Contact details are above and on the AOCC website.



22nd Australian Orchid Council
Conference & Show

POSTPONED

Now 31 August – 4 September 2022

Stay up to date on our website:
www.aocc2021.org



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