

# *Orchids*

*IN NEW ZEALAND*



Volume 12 - No. 5  
September/October 1986

# Norm Porter Orchids

## \* CYMBIDIUMS

Now in Flower, available from Nursery or sent anywhere in New Zealand by Newmans Bus - Depot to Door Service ... \$20-\$25 each

Seedling Flasks - Wide selection including Mini and Standards to suit the hobbyist and commercial grower. Parents used include:

Sue, various 4N clones  
Pink Peach, 4N  
Vanguard 'Mas Beauty'  
Winter Fair 'Nancy'  
Mighty Mouse 'Minnie'  
Tamatea 'Tahi'

Red Beauty 'Carmen'  
Rincon 'Clarisse' 4N  
James Wattie 4N  
Babylon 'Castle Hill'  
Coraki 'Margaret'  
Fred Stewart, etc.

... \$45 each

Back Bulb Propagations. A very comprehensive selection

... \$3-\$10 each

Plants - Seedlings and Mericlones in a wide range of colour and flowering times

... \$3-\$15 each

## CYMBIDIUM AND PAPHIOPEDILUM

Community Pots - 10 seedlings or 5 mericlones for \$15.

## \* PAPHIOPEDILUM FLASKS

Both Primary and Modern Hybrids, Flasks contain 30 plants

... \$65 each

## \* IN SEASON: CATTLEYA, PHALAENOPSIS AND PAPHIOPEDILUM PLANTS IN FLOWER

... \$15-\$25 each

ALSO - Zygopetalum and Dendrobium plants.

List Now Available

Send to:

**NORM PORTER**

"CYMBIDIUM ORCHID SPECIALIST"

Nursery - 23 Parata Street, Waikanae  
(Parata Street is opposite Woolworths)

Phone (058) 36-977

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m.

During the flowering season, May-November, the Nursery is Open  
Sundays and Public Holidays

**O.C.N.Z. OFFICERS:**

President:  
MR D. K. BELL  
(Waikato O.S.)

Secretary:  
MRS P. MARTIN  
3 Morriss Place,  
Cambridge

Treasurer:  
MR M. CLARK  
C/o 3 Morriss Place,  
Cambridge

**EDITORS:**

N. C. & E.M. MILLER  
Te Akau Road, R.D.4.,  
Rotorua

All editorial and advertising material  
to be sent to the Editors.  
Advertising rates available from the  
Editors.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

Vol. 12, 1986 (6 issues)  
(including postage): \$10.00

Vol. 13, 1987 (6 issues)  
(including postage and  
GST): \$15.00

Subscriptions and all enquiries  
relating to subscriptions to:

**Distribution Secretary:**

MRS B. GODWIN  
P.O.Box 36-297  
Northcote  
Auckland 9

**Back Issues Secretary:**

MRS G. ANDERSON  
421 Pukehangi Road  
Rotorua

Opinions expressed by authors are  
not necessarily endorsed by the  
O.C.N.Z.

The O.C.N.Z. does not assume  
responsibility for any transactions  
between readers and advertisers.

Printed by W. J. Deed Printing Ltd  
9 Martyn Street, Waiuku  
Phone (085) 59-630

# Orchids

## IN NEW ZEALAND

incorporating 'The New Zealand Orchid Review'

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND  
NEW ZEALAND ORCHID SOCIETY

Vol. 12, No. 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1986

## CONTENTS

Editorial .....	154
N.Z.O.S. News Review .....	154
Towards 1990 .....	155
Aporostylis .....	156
N.Z.O.S. Winter Show Trophy Winners .....	157
Hunting Wild Orchids in Fiji - Os Blumhardt .....	158
Pukekura Corner - To Clear the Name of a Gracious Lady - George Fuller .....	162
Varying Habitats of N.Z. Orchids - Jean M. Jenks .....	167
William Hooker (1779-1832) - Ian St. George .....	168
The Great Lycaste Leaf Controversy - Bill Mulder .....	170
Growing <i>Pleione formosana</i> - Lorna Grey .....	172
Orchid of the Year 1985 .....	173
Cymbidium Culture Notes - Gordon Maney .....	174

## ILLUSTRATIONS

Map of Fiji .....	159
<i>Dendrobium prasinum</i> .....	161
<i>Cymbidium Lowio-grandiflorum</i> - Variations from a selfing .....	164
<i>C. grandiflorum</i> .....	164
<i>C. Lowio-grandiflorum</i> .....	164
<i>C. lowianum</i> var. <i>Compte de Hemptine</i> .....	165
<i>C. Pauwelsii</i> 'Compte de Hemptine' .....	165
<i>C. Lowio-grandiflorum</i> 'Iolanthe' .....	166
<i>C. Erica Sander</i> (true form) .....	166
<i>Corybas aconitiflorus</i> .....	169
<i>Pleione formosana</i> .....	172
<i>Paphiopedilum</i> St. Swithin 'Evans Bay' AM/OCNZ .....	173

## FRONT COVER

*Phalaenopsis* (Goldiana x Painted Desert) x *amboinensis*  
'Pumpkin Spice'.

*P. amboinensis* is well known for making good yellow hybrids,  
but matched with suitable partners, quite different results are  
possible, as this delightful example shows.

Grower: Geyserland Orchids  
Photography: N. C. Miller

## BACK COVER

*Pterostylis alobula*

*P. brumalis*

*P. trullifolia*

Photography: Bob Goodger.

## EDITORIAL **GRAB . . SNATCH . . TAKE**

This is the popular label that has been attached to an extremely unpopular tax. Whatever the rights (are there any?) or wrongs of the Goods and Services Tax, the fact is that it is almost upon us, and it will be payable on this publication.

In recent years the subscription rates for "Orchids in New Zealand" have been held down, to the point where the magazine has been running at a loss for some time. In addition, we have added extra pages and considerably more colour. Faced with these facts, together with substantially increased paper costs, and a large wage rise for printing workers, the Orchid Council of New Zealand has no alternative but to raise the subscription rates for "Orchids in New Zealand".

The new rates for Volume 13 (1987) will be:

Individual subscriptions	\$15.00
Bulk rate (for Orchid Societies)	\$13.50 postage paid

From Volume 13, No. 1, all bulk rate copies will be mailed directly to the subscriber. This will greatly reduce the problems some Societies have experienced in trying to mail out their newsletters in conjunction with "Orchids in New Zealand", and will relieve Society Secretaries of an additional worry.

The Editors will not insult their readers' intelligence by comparing our new charges with those for comparable overseas publications - we get enough of that from Ministers of the Crown. We think "Orchids in New Zealand" is well worth every penny you pay for it!

### **N.Z.O.S. News Review**

#### **The Geoff Laird Memorial Trust**

Mrs Christine Laird and her family have honoured our Society by the establishment of the Geoff Laird Memorial Trust.

Geoff was a Founder Member and the first President elected on the 12th May 1948. Sadly, he passed away a little over a year ago.

He grew most genera, but specialized in Odontoglossums, Paphs and Cymbidiums - and many visitors to his Epsom residence will recall the glorious spectacle of terraces lined with huge tubs of Epidendrums and both lavender and yellow Sobralias.

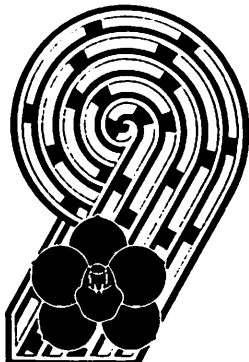
The following summary of the Trust conditions reflect Geoff's lifelong interest in the promotion of orchids generally, and of the N.Z.O.S. (Inc.).

The Trustees have invested the sum of \$10,000 for the next ten years; the interest is to be used exclusively by the N.Z.O.S. for the three nominated projects:

1. To help with the expenses of notable speakers to Society meetings.
2. To upgrade the presentations of the N.Z.O.S. Winter and Spring Shows.
3. The establishment and maintaining of a prize to be awarded annually, to a member of the Society participating in the Society's Shows.

This year we propose to hold 'The Laird Memorial Lecture' - on Saturday 27th September. Guest speaker will be Mr Don Herman of Trymwood Orchids, California, a well-known A.O.S. Speaker and Judge. This lecture will be part of the N.Z.O.S. 38th Annual Spring Show.

# TOWARDS 1990



## General

It is now a little over four years before the 13th World Orchid Conference in Auckland in 1990. Now that we are planning to visit Tokyo in March 1987 for the 12th Conference preparations for 1990 are accelerating and the Planning Committee is meeting monthly.

The Auckland Showgrounds have been booked for 5th-18th September 1990 with the main show from the 10th-14th.

The 11th World Orchid Conference at Miami had some 3,000 registrants from 36 countries. Registrants pay to attend the lecture programme and we aim for 2,000 but this will take much publicity because of the distances to New Zealand. Many thousands will attend the show and commercial sections.

## Publicity

Preliminary leaflets were distributed at Wellington last October and will be included in satchels at Adelaide in September. Displays began in London at the R.H.S. in March 1985 and will be larger at Adelaide and Tokyo where we must have a prominent display and a preliminary registration desk. Diana and Peter Elfleet are travelling to Britain in October. They will represent New Zealand and stage a 'table-top' display at the British Orchid Council Conference. They will distribute leaflets and 1990 posters. At this conference Andy Easton is an invited speaker. Air New Zealand have been appointed official carriers and will be assisting us in Japan. It is important that New Zealand has a strong presence in Tokyo. Several group tours have been planned. If your local Secretary is not in contact with a group, contact Ray Dix, 52 Lawrence Crescent, Manurewa; Ken Nicholson, 32A Oakland Avenue, Papatoetoe or

Darrell Bell, 100 Albert Street, Hamilton.

## Finance

Financial support is now flowing in from Societies. Some have agreed to have their members approached for a personal contribution, other Societies have agreed to send substantial loans and others have planned individual methods of fundraising. Societies will be interested to know about distribution of profits. The arrangements will be similar to the Wellington Conference. After costs have been paid, Society loans will be returned with interest and personal contributions will be returned to the Society nominated by the contributor again with interest. In order to protect the funds in case of a disaster the 1990 13th World Orchid Conference Planning Committee intends to form a Limited Company. More details will be available soon.

## Commercial

In order to allow trade interests to be properly represented in the planning we have offered membership on the Planning Committee to the Orchid Nurseries Association and the N.Z. Export Growers Orchid Organisation. Already Alan Patterson-Kane of the O.N.A. has joined us and we await a nominee of the latter group.

## Membership

Due to ill health Frank Brljevic has resigned from the Chairmanship but

will continue to serve on the Committee and join the Judging Sub-Committee when it is formed. Dennis G. Bonham has been elected Chairman and Roy Clareburt Deputy Chairman. Already some 10 Societies are represented on the Planning Committee including four present members of the Council Executive, two past members, several members who were heavily involved in the 1980 Ellerslie Conference and in the 1985 Wellington Conference. Already Publicity & Finance Sub-Committees have been active and a Hospitality Committee is being set up. Show, Judging, Scientific and other necessary committees are being developed. We are aiming to have the assistance of the most experienced Conference organisers in New Zealand.

Now that 1990 and the Commonwealth Games are in everyone's mind we can start the steady publicity build up in New Zealand. We have already requested a special postage stamp; it may interest readers to know that there is to be a World Philatelic Conference in Auckland immediately before the 13th World Orchid Conference.

With the large space of the Auckland Showgrounds available there should be no limit on display space and already we have an offer from a young Society who did so well at Wellington - Kaitaia, to provide a major native orchid display. Societies may care to think what special display they could provide.

In August 1985 Andy Easton made some 27 specially selected crosses at the N.Z.O.S.; of 27 pollinations about 12 are now growing in flasks. Most of the laboratory work is being done by South Pacific Orchids and we hope to have a number of excellent flasks for distribution to Society members throughout New Zealand subject to the agreement of the owners of the parents. Seven cymbidiums, two laelio-cattleyas, one paphiopedilum,

one odontoglossum and one miltonia are expected. More of this in the next edition. Would Society members prefer small flasks or would Societies prefer to de-flask larger flasks in a group?

All ideas and suggestions from readers and Society members will be considered. Write and contribute your thought for the 13th World Orchid Conference.

All mail to:

P.O.Box 29-152  
Greenwoods Corner  
Auckland 3

*Dennis Bonham  
Chairman  
1990 Planning Committee*



## NOTES FROM APOROSTYLIS

Those who enjoyed David Menzie's superb photographs of the "Whiskered Willies" in the May-June issue and who were fortunate enough to hear him speak at the Wellington Conference about the orchid collection at Kew Gardens where he has been responsible for cultivation, will be interested to learn that he has recently been appointed to take charge of the orchids at Glasgow Botanic Garden.

The new position will not only offer a great challenge for David to build up another very famous collection but also provide access to a seedling laboratory and photographic darkroom.

As an ex-patriate New Zealander, we all wish David the very best in his new responsibility and trust that the move will go smoothly for him and his family.

## NEW ZEALAND ORCHID SOCIETY (INC.) ANNUAL WINTER SHOW 1986

### Trophy Winners

Grand Champion Orchid - Lion Trophy:

Joe Vance, *Cymbidium* Peter Dawson 'Grenadier'.

Grand Champion Paphiopedilum - Society's Cup:

A. R. Napper, *Paph.* Orchilla 'Chilton'.

Reserve Champion Paphiopedilum:

J. S. Hannah, *P.* Sukar Honi.

Grand Champion Miniature or Novelty Cymbidium - Corban Trophy:

Paul Spray, *Cym.* Kyancutta 'Sweet Lorraine'.

Founders Paphiopedilum Trophy - Most Outstanding Spotted, or Species, or Primary or Secondary Hybrid:

Corbans Orchids, *Paph.* Jole Sbrana.

Ena & Des Langdale Trophy - Most Outstanding Cymbidium:

J. M. Vance, *Cym.* Peter Dawson 'Grenadier'.

Corban Cup - Best Miniature Cymbidium:

Paul Spray, *Cym.* Kyancutta 'Sweet Lorraine'.

James Trophy - Best Cattleya:

C. and S. Brindle *Ctna* Rosy Jewel 'Iwa'.

Clarke Trophy - Best Novelty Cymbidium:

Linwood Orchids, *Cym.* Karake.

Reg Butler Trophy - Best Novice Paphiopedilum:

G. White, *Paph. venustum* var. *Bhutanensis*.

Laird Trophy - Best Orchid, Novice Grower:

Peter Roberts, *Phal.* Antarctica x Spitzberg.

Agnew Trophy - Best Novice Miniature or Novelty Cymbidium:

B. and N. Sievewright, *Cym.* Sarah Jean x Melinga.

Del Chandler Trophy - Most Outstanding Orchid in Odontoglossum/Oncidium Alliance:

Alf Day, *Brstdm* Gilded Urchin x *Onc* forbesii.

Joan Parker Winter Trophy - Best Miniature Species Orchid:

R. and N. Armstrong, *Nanodes porpax*.

Boyce Cup - Best Paphiopedilum, Culture:

1. I. M. Julian, *Paph.* Rosy Dawn.
2. Corbans Orchids, *Paph.* Anita 'Compacta'
3. J. A. Blackman, *Paph.* Wendhill 'Spotswood'

Powell Cup - Best Specimen Paphiopedilum:

1. J. A. Blackman, *Paph.* Amarilo 'Golden'
2. Corbans Orchids *Paph.* Beaute '524'

Mountfort Cup - Three Cattleyas, Quality:  
NO ENTRY

Armstrong Trophy - Best First Flowering Cymbidium:

D. Young, *Cym.* Featherhill Fanfare.

Shirley Sidnam Trophy - Best Multi-Generic Orchid:

I. D. James, *S/c.* Shona 'Red Queen'.

Points Trophy - Open:  
Margaret Le Sueur.

Points Trophy - Novice:  
M. Hughes.

Effie Potter Trophy - Floral Art "My Favourite Arrangement with Orchids":

1. Doug Lilly
2. Marlene Lambert
3. Mary Greensmith

## Hunting Wild Orchids in Fiji

*Os Blumhardt*



Some years ago I met a retired couple, former residents of Suva, who told me that there were a lot of attractive wild orchids in Fiji. The majority were in the cool highlands and could not be grown satisfactorily in the hot climate of Suva, but they thought that we could probably grow them quite well here in New Zealand. I happen to be particularly interested in "cool-growing" orchids. This year I broke loose for a fortnight to see what I could find.

Some months before, I wrote to the High Commissioner for Fiji in Wellington, to find out if there were National Parks or other restrictions on collecting wild plants. After some delay I was advised to write to the Ministry of Primary Industries in Suva; I did, and also enquired whether there was a local orchid grower that we could get advice from.

After further delay I was advised to write to the Fiji National Trust, for permission to collect wild plants, and was given the address of Mr Don Burness, an orchid grower in the Nadi area. Again I wrote, but time was running out for getting replies, so I said in my letters that I'd contact them on arrival.

I set off on the 16th July, accompanied by my brother, Albert, from Whangarei and cousin Eric Scanlen from Auckland. Both are engineers, but are interested in tramping, botanising and photography. Eric has made a collection of slides of native orchids so he was appointed "official photographer". I was fascinated by the climbing gear that David Attenborough used to climb the 200 foot Kapok tree in the T.V. series last autumn, and thought we should try to get something like that. Eric works in Auckland, so he got the gear, and tried it out in his garage.

When we arrived at Nadi we hired a rental car and took our gear to a hotel across the road and booked in for the night. I then rang Don Burness's number and his wife Aileen said Don would be home from work about 5.30 p.m. and would we like to come over for a chat?

The Burnesses were living temporarily in a cottage owned by their neighbour and business partner Raymond Burr, as their own house had been demolished by the series of four hurricanes that hit the Nadi area before Christmas 1984.

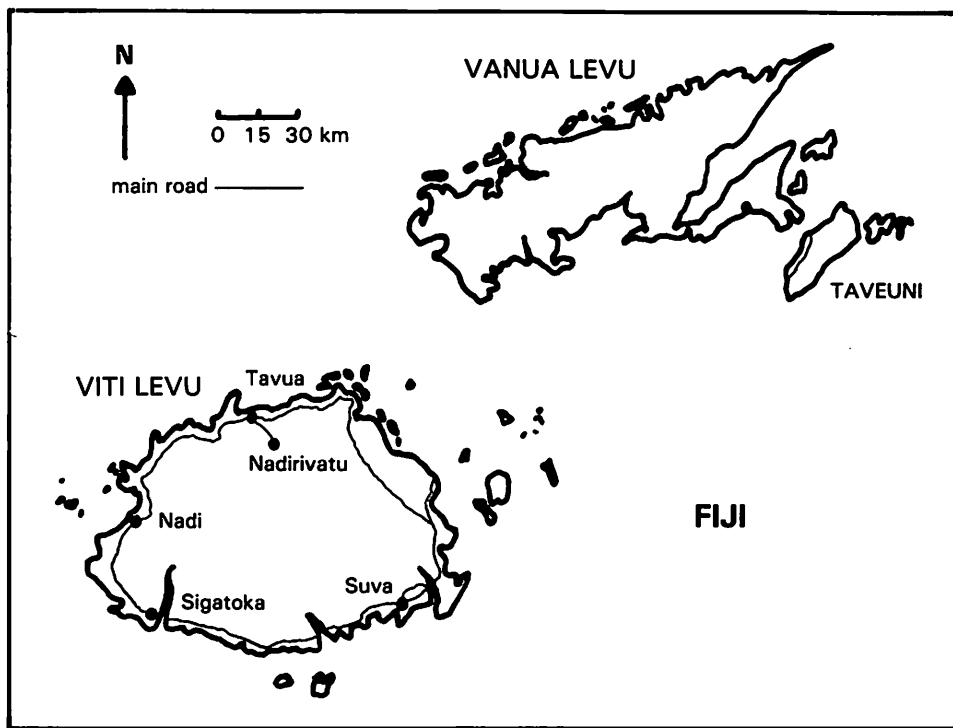
Don is a member of the National Trust, and told us our application to collect wild plants had been approved, provided we only took up to five of each species.

He said he could get the use of a house at Nadarivatu in the central highlands, and would take us there the following Tuesday.

In colonial days many plantation owners had summer cottages in this area, and this house is now owned by a gold-mining company for the use of their staff, but they only used it during weekends.

The next morning we put our surplus gear (camping gear, town clothes, etc.) into storage at the hotel and set off in our rented car towards Suva by the southern route, the "Queens Road". We soon spotted





our first orchids, a terrestrial, *Spathoglottis pacifica*, blooming among grass at the side of the road. It has heads of quite attractive mauve-pink blooms about 3-4cm diameter on stems mostly about 60cm high. Species of this genus colonise disturbed ground by roadsides in many parts of Asia and the Pacific. At this stop we also found two species of wild passionfruit, one of which had tiny flowers, and black fruit the size of peas.

Don had told us that we could expect to start finding epiphytic orchids once we passed Sigatoka, so when we saw trees that looked promising and which were not on the wrong side of a fence, we stopped to have a look. The first we found were a small, leafless orchid, *Taeniophyllum vitiensis*, on trees between the road and the shore. It apparently has tiny, yellow flowers, only one at a time.

Just then three Fijians came past on their way home from fishing and one of them, Dick, told us he could show us a more showy kind of orchid in the bush behind the village. It turned out to be *Dendrobium tokai*, a sturdy plant with thick, shiny leaves, stems about 60cm long, and sprays of greenish-yellow blooms about 4cm diameter, just opening. It was growing on a dead branch about three metres above ground. Dick said to take down the whole clump, and take what we wanted and he would plant what was left on a stump in his garden.

We stopped again, where a large tree grew by the roadside and all three of us scrambled up into it, but we couldn't get to what looked like a dendrobium out on a branch. The only other orchid was a small *Oberonia* growing in clusters on the main branches.

As it was getting late in the day we went back a little to where we had

seen the sign for the Man Friday Resort. Our tourist book said their tarif was reasonable. We found it a delightful hideaway, tucked into a little bay with Bures (built in the traditional Fijian manner) for accommodation, and plenty of trees and shrubs, and several clumps of *D. tokai* in bloom. One clump on a large breadfruit tree behind our Bure, we all three tried to photograph, but none got a satisfactory picture.

Our first stop next day was in an area of mutilated bush where the road had been re-aligned, but there were very few orchids. We spotted one interesting one at the top of a tall, thin tree, and it turned out to be *Grammatophyllum scriptum*. Some of the trees and shrubs were interesting, especially a bushy, bright green *Casuarina*.

Further along we stopped to look at some nice plants of *Spathoglottis*, and found there another small terrestrial with dainty pink flowers. It was probably a *Habenaria*.

The next morning we caught our flight for the smaller island of Taveuni.

This island is supposed to be of more recent volcanic origin than most of the other islands, with mountains up to 4,000 feet, the upper levels well clothed with forest, and most of the lowland planted in coconut plantations, some of which were underplanted with coffee.

We booked into the Taveuni Lodge for two nights. We had intended to stay four nights on Taveuni, but had to shorten our stay to fit in with Don Burness's arrangements. We filled in the afternoon by joining some other guests on a mini-bus ride to a waterfall half-way round the island. The waterfall was only small, but had a good swimming hole at the base. On a small tree overhanging the stream we found a thin, grassy orchid, somewhat resembling *Earina*, but slightly branched. It had no flowers, but Don told us it was

*Dendrobium biflorum*, which is a close relation of our *D. cunninghamii*. Also along the stream were great clumps of torch ginger.

The most famous plant on Taveuni is the Tangimouthia (*Medinilla waterhousei*) which grows by a crater lake at 2,000 feet, directly inland from the hotel. It is a rather succulent creeper with showy red and white flowers and red bracts, but is said to bloom only from November to February. It is considered to be impossible to grow it anywhere else. There is only a walking track to the spot.

The 4,000 foot mountain at the centre of the island has a four-wheel-drive track to the top, where there is a telecommunication transmitter, and it is possible to hire a vehicle to make the trip, so we decided to get the driver to take us up, and then spend the rest of the day walking back.

We got there by 9.00 a.m. and paid off the driver, and soon had the mountain to ourselves, and enjoyed the peace and quiet.

The summit area was somewhat shrouded in cloud, so we couldn't see far till we got lower down. The vegetation at the top was mostly shrubby, with here and there a handsome palm (*Taveunia*) showing up. Right there we started finding orchids. The first was a little branching plant a bit like *Dendrobium cunninghamii*, but had no flowers. Then a very pretty small *Dendrobium sertatum*, with fairly fleshy stems and clusters of small pink buds that opened with white sepals and petals. These were growing on the branches of daisy-type shrubs and other things.

The next, *Dendrobium prasinum*, is a real gem. It is a small plant with very short, rounded pseudobulbs, only a few leaves and several 5cm cream-white flowers with a green lip. In fact it seems very like *D. sophronites*, but white.



*Dendrobium prasinum*  
Photography: Al Blumhardt

There were several *Dendrobiums*, or similar plants with long, thin stems; one was a sturdier form of *D. biflorum* than the one at the waterfall, and I actually found one flower on it - 2-3cm and pale, bluish pink.

We found a *Coelogyne* of medium size with two large seed-pods. Don's book gave no species name for it.

We came to a tall tree with an orchid on it that we hadn't seen before so Eric and Al spent a lot of time getting a line over the branch and getting up to it with the climbing gear, only to find that it was an *Eria* that we later found lots of, on fallen branches.

We saw another *Coelogyne* that looked different on an over-hanging branch on the lower side of the road. Al tried to get up to it by climbing a skinny tree which snapped off, and Al disappeared into the bushes, only to have his hat catch on a twig and rise up again out of the murk. Eric and I had a good laugh, but Al had the last laugh, because he presently emerged again from the bushes clutching three new orchids that he'd found on a reclining tree. One looked like a *Calanthe*, with broad soft leaves and long, soft-looking pseudobulbs.

From time to time we heard the calls of birds, including shrieks that

obviously came from a parrot, and eventually we saw one of the large, colourful native parrots, also a large bird a bit like a tui, and green parakeets. As the afternoon wore on, several large "birds" appeared, soaring high, and when we looked harder, we realized they were bats, generally called "flying fox's".

From about mid-afternoon on, we had to abandon collecting and step out purposefully for our hotel, which was still a long way away; but at least it was downhill all the way, except for the last mile or two on the flat. We got there about 6.30 p.m.

In the morning we had an interesting flight back to Nadi. The plane landed briefly at Savu Savu, on the south coast of Vanua Levu, and then cut across the north-west corner of Viti Levu, following a valley between the mountains. We could see a large artificial lake and dam, at a fair height in the mountains to the west, and found later it was the fairly new water-supply dam for Nadi and surrounding districts.

*(to be continued)*

No. 9 R.D.,  
Whangarei



## Closing Dates

for

Vol. 12, No. 6: 1st October  
Vol. 13, No. 1: 7th November



## To Clear the Name of a Gracious Lady

George Fuller

Any reader who has a cymbidium labelled *C. Erica Sander* or *C. lowianum* "Clear Form" is advised to read on and on.

Many who have been growing orchids for a few years will have had the experience of someone having approached them with a glow of expectancy in their eyes and a single flower in their hand. The quick-witted and fleet-of-foot will have been able to broach the nearest exit before the inevitable words have been uttered: "Will you please name this for me?"

Newcomers just simply cannot understand why it would be difficult to identify a particular orchid. After all, it is possible to name a Granny Smith apple in the dark! How can they be expected to understand the significance of the fact that hybridizing goes back well over 100 years and that in several genera the crosses number into the thousands?

Perhaps the fact that breeding records have been kept so meticulously and that most orchids are accurately named is misleading, in that it suggests that names are easy to trace. Not so. The great diversity of colour, form, and habit of species in most genera results in wide ranging characteristics appearing even amongst seedlings from the same pod, and anyone who claims to be able to identify unlabelled plants is indeed courageous.

There are, however, exceptions. Specialists in certain fields can develop great skills of perception and recall, but for my part I am a coward and try diligently to avoid any discussion of naming which goes beyond what I consider to be two or three generations removed from the species, passing enquirers on to the experts. It was against this background that in the mid 1960's

upon return from Europe, I began to feel very uneasy about a cymbidium clone widely distributed throughout New Zealand under the name of *C. Erica Sander*. Now it so happens that I had fallen in love with *Erica Sander* while working at Sanders - the orchid, that is - and the one in question did not seem to tally. It retains the strong red dart in the lip rather like *C. lowianum*, but paler, the spikes tend to be more pendulous, and the growth habit heavy. These are characteristics I had never seen in *C. Erica Sander*, a hybrid which remains one of my favourites to this day, so I became a little impassioned about the fact that her honour seemed to be at stake. I've never forgotten that the late Bill Potter, a very well respected elder of the orchid fraternity, was quite outraged at my questioning the accuracy of the naming and I could see that I would have to proceed with caution. Twenty years later the picture is clear and I don't think I have lost many friends over developments, though I have had some pangs of conscience since I dared to call it a clear form of *C. lowianum* for several years.

*C. Erica Sander* is a hybrid raised by Sanders and recorded in 1921. It combines three species, as it is *C.*

*grandiflorum* x *C. Pauwelsii* (*C. insigne* x *C. lowianum*).

*C. grandiflorum* is clear green with a long, pendulous spike of up to twenty flowers, the open, creamy yellow lips of which are profusely spotted with red and bristling with hairs. Pseudobulbs are relatively small, roundish, dark green and the bases of the leaves are ribbed and striped with pale green.

*C. lowianum* is somewhat similar in that it is also green but not so clear, has a semi-erect spike which carries up to thirty flowers, but in this case the more compact, rather pointed lip has a very clear and distinct dart (V) of very dark red. Pseudobulbs are larger and more elongated and the bases of the broad leaves are not quite so dark or obviously striped.

*C. insigne* is the complete misfit in the trio for it tends to be rigidly erect, has up to 15 flowers of pink to white, the lips of which are flared and suffused with red spots or stripes or a combination of both. Pseudobulbs are globular, small, and the leaves are narrow, well described as grass-like, erect, and a nightmare to maintain in cultivation.

The combination of *C. insigne* with *C. lowianum* was recorded by a Belgian named Pauwels in 1911 as *C. Pauwelsii*. It is a good example of the most desirable characteristics of each parent bursting through. With strong, erect to arching spikes bearing up to twenty-five pale fawny pink flowers perfectly arranged and with a strong red dart in the lip this hybrid is in the breeding background of many modern crosses and indeed is still in cultivation where large decorative spikes of blooms are appreciated.

And what, pray, has all this to do with my suspicions about the accuracy of the naming of the clone labelled in N.Z., as *C. Erica Sander*? Of all the many forms I saw in England I never saw one with a suggestion of a red dart in the lip, though genetically this is possible. All exhibited flowers

of a delicate green to cream colour, in high numbers, arranged particularly attractively on an erect and arching spike. Lips in all cases were cream to yellow and regularly spotted with red, *C. grandiflorum* having by far the strongest influence except for the one highly desirable characteristic of strong erect stem from *C. insigne*. *C. lowianum* seemed to be lost, except perhaps for an input of green into flower colouring, size and shape of pseudobulbs, plus some vigour. Yet here I was faced with a clone labelled *C. Erica Sander* but which was very dominantly influenced by *C. lowianum*, except that the red of the dart and the few spots surrounding it were of a paler red.

It is very dangerous to be adamant when suggesting or questioning the labelling of a hybrid and our policy is to dump such lostlings but here was a very extensively grown clone with very desirable qualities; we even had a plant over a metre across growing outside under the trees at the park and producing over 300 flowers. I was quite disturbed and somewhat reluctantly discontinued the *C. Erica Sander* labelling, deciding that it must be a particularly clear green form of *C. lowianum* since it was so exceptionally vigorous.

Several years and a few coincidences later, positive leads came. The large plant outdoors was also notable for prolific production of giant-sized seed pods which hanging in clusters have considerable merit for floral art. Thus it was that advanced in maturity, a bunch was carried through the ferneries at the park. Several months later the ladies in charge noticed cymbidium seedlings appearing on the sawdust floors, and with some excitement potted them up.

The following of these seedlings, presumably a selfing, gave confirmation of a theory shared by several interested in the subject. It seemed that rather than being *C. Erica*

Sander, the clone could only be a cross between *C. lowianum* and *C. grandiflorum*. This is a primary cross registered in 1902 by Veitch and named *C. Lowio-grandiflorum*.



▲ *Cymbidium* *Lowio-grandiflorum*

Variations from a selfing. Note variation and intensity of red markings.

*C. lowianum* in centre and the clone that is incorrectly called *C. Erica Sander* at lower right.

Grower: Pukekura Park



▲ *Cymbidium* *grandiflorum*

Pukekura Park



As the seedlings flowered, a pattern emerged ranging from almost pure *C. lowianum* to almost pure *C. grandiflorum* with no other influence evident, so the plant in question could fairly safely be accepted as *C. Lowio-grandiflorum*. Having suggested this, one has to confess to a few possible flaws. Firstly, with *C. lowianum* in the parentage of *C. Erica Sander* it is quite possible that seedlings could occur with a strong bias to having a red dart in the lip, but I have never heard of this, and with symbiotic germination in practise in 1921, the number of seedlings raised would be limited.

The other factor which could be deemed unscientific is that the act of pollination was outdoors and in the hands of the bees. Well, to counter that, they didn't have a great deal of choice to get their mischievous little mits on, and as it transpires, there is no evidence that they did, in the range of seedlings flowered. Bless them.

And why ramble on so about what many may consider trivia? The fact is



▲ *Cymbidium* *Lowio-grandiflorum*

This clone is widespread in New Zealand under the incorrect names of *C. Erica Sander* or *C. lowianum* Clear Form.

Grower: Pukekura Park



▲ *Cymbidium lowianum* var. *Compte de Hemptine*.

Grower: Geyserland Orchids



▲ *Cymbidium Pauwelsii* 'Compte de Hemptine'.

Grower: Pukekura Park

◀ *Cymbidium Lowio-grandiflorum* 'Iolanthe'

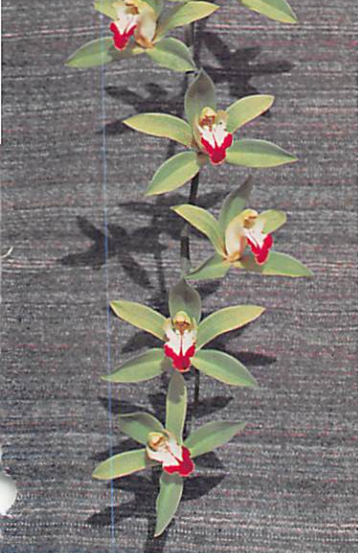
This is a very superior form arising amongst a batch of seedling from a selfing.

Grower: Pukekura Park

▼ *Cymbidium Erica Sander* (true form)

Note the overall spotting of the lip. The spike is erect and arched.

Grower: Pukekura Park



that this wrongly named clone is very vigorous and desirable and having been imported many years ago, is widely distributed throughout New Zealand, and believe it or not, Australia, where it is also wrongly named. Perhaps through my fault it is also found under the name of *C. lowianum* "Clear Form", and caused some consternation at the Wellington

Conference when it was in contention for a species prize. It will always be popular as it is most suited for developing into large outdoor specimens in suitable locations so it is important that the tangle be sorted out.

Two interesting factors have recently emerged. Bert Blumhart,

head gardener to the late Sir Frank Mappin who had a notable orchid collection, recalls the importation of the original plant from Sanders and is convinced that it was labelled *C. Erica Sander*. This could explain why it also reached Australia wrongly labelled, as it seems likely that it was distributed from source that way.

The final step in the saga is a happy one for one of the selfed seedlings has turned out to be a superb form, far superior to the parent, having clearer green colouring and intense, bright red lip. It is so good that it has been called *C. Lowio-grandiflorum* 'lolanthe' after one of the staff members who nurtured the seedlings and it is currently being tissue cultured. More will be heard of it.

**To summarize:** Plants labelled *C. Erica Sander* which have erect spikes which arch over gracefully and bear clear green flowers with cream to yellow lips spotted all over with red extending to the lower (inner) surface of the column and even to the bases of sepals and petals are most probably correctly named.

Those with the same name but with semi-pendant to pendant spikes bearing clear green flowers with a very faint trace of red up the centre of

each petal and a pointed cream lip with distinct red dart plus a central stripe and only a few random spots, but with heavy spotting on the lower (inner) surface of the column are most likely to be *C. Lowio-grandiflorum*.

The accompanying illustrations should clarify the tangle, but if not, Tony Ballard in Auckland, Ron Maunder in Tauranga, and Norm Porter at Waikanae should be able to help. (There's a great way to lose friends! Don't be surprised if they gasp, because they haven't been told of this generous gesture! I would suggest John Campbell in the South Island, but I'm really terrified of that wild man!).

If this intriguing story has bored you, hang in there, for worse is to come. I intend to try to unravel the mysteries surrounding that elusive species (or is it?) *C. i'ansonii* in a future instalment of this column.

**Footnote:** Illustrations of *C. lowianum*, *C. grandiflorum*, *C. Lowio-grandiflorum* and *C. Pauwelsii* appear in J. Rentoul's 'Growing Orchids', Vol. 1, pages 113-115.

Pukekura Park  
New Plymouth



## WANTED TO BUY

### ORCHID BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

Please reply to:

S. Wray, P.O.Box 489, Whangarei  
Phone 60-515

stating condition and price.

Take advantage of our

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Up to 25 words for \$5.00

Send advertisement with payment,  
to the Editors.



# Varying Habitats of New Zealand Orchids

Jean M. Jenks

My observations are based on personal experience in the field. While keeping records of sightings during the years, studies have been carried out over wide areas, and not just localised patches. During my wanderings round the country orchids have been found and looked at closely from Ahipara in the North to Bluff Hill in the South, from sea level to nearly 1,795 metres high up on Mt. Arthur in the mountains of north-west Nelson.

While some orchids appear to require a very specialised habitat, other species will thrive in the most diverse soil types. Orchids live in association with a micorrhizal fungus. It's a symbiotic relationship and many of the plants lack it under cultivation initially, but eventually an association will develop.

*Pterostylis* is the largest genus of the New Zealand native orchid with over 20 species and as would be expected a very wide range of habitats. Winter flowering *Pterostylis alobula* and *Pterostylis trullifolia* are often found together under light manuka scrub, in mixed bush, on moss-covered clay banks, and, in the far North, on thin litter covering scoria. *Pterostylis banksii*, probably the commonest, certainly one of the larger species, prefers the shaded areas of mixed bush, beech forests and damp clay banks under scrub. *Pterostylis cycnocephala* is a tiny, multi-flowered plant of the grassy intermontane basins found in the lower half of the South Island. *Pterostylis graminea* (meaning "grasslike"), is found camouflaged by grass cover, on clay banks in filtered shade, on pakihi, at the edges of beech forests, under light manuka or in mossy situations. On the herbfields of Mt. Arthur, *Pterostylis humilis* is abundant under *Hebe topiaria* shrubs, while on Dun Mt. the poor soils of the "mineral belt" are host to a few plants which

happily are on the increase. In the North the Volcanic Plateau is one of their habitats. *Pterostylis montana*, identified by its twisted labellum, is more at home on forest floors, but sheltered clay banks and manuka areas are also prime habitats, as they are for *Pterostylis irsoniana* which has been seen growing also in moist, grassy locations. The elegant plants of *Pterostylis oliveri* grow in profusion in the thin layer of soil covering marble on the Mt. Owen and Takaka Hill areas. However, the most beautiful clump was found at the bush's edge by Lake Matiri near Murchison. Isolated specimens have also been seen under manuka and open scrub. *Pterostylis foliata* and *Pterostylis areolata* have been found in similar locations, but not growing together. These soil types vary from clay, decaying granite to roadside grassy areas with open scrub. *Pterostylis australis* prefers the wettish conditions found in mountain regions and Fiordland. One surprise sighting was this plant growing amongst rocks on the exposed summit of Mt. Cargill near Dunedin. In contrast, near the bushline of the Paparoa Range they grow in bush litter, and in the Cobb Valley under manuka in clay type soil.

(to be continued)

R.D.2.  
Upper Moutere  
Nelson Province

## 5. WILLIAM HOOKER

(1779-1832)

Ian M. St. George

This is not the great William Jackson Hooker - we will deal with him in the next issue - in fact the two were not related. This man illustrated Richard Anthony Salisbury's "the *Paradisus Londinensis*: or coloured figures of plants cultivated in the vicinity of the metropolis" (Illus.) by William Hooker pupil of Francis Bauer, Esq., Botanic painter to their majesties at Kew. 2 Vols. London, Kew, 1805-1808.

In the *Paradisus Londinensis* is a charming drawing of *Corybas aconitiflorus* - "For this curious plant, Mr Hooker is indebted to the Countess of Essex, whose collection at *Cashiobury*, will soon be, like everything else there, truly princely and magnificent. The specimen was much decayed when it reached me, but by comparing it with a dried one both of this and another species, liberally given to me by E. J. A. Woodford, Esq. I am enabled to draw up the following description . . .".

Indeed, Salisbury's description was the first of the genus *Corybas* (named after one of the dancing priests of Phrygia) to be written: the plant had come from "New Holland". Like many of our terrestrial orchids, *C. aconitiflorus* is also found in the western states of Australia. It is a helmet orchid rather than a spider orchid (it lacks the elongated sepals and petals), and the name means "monk's hood flower".

In his *Icones plantarum*, J. D. Hooker describes the same species seventy years later, this time from a specimen sent by T. F. Cheeseman from Purewa, ". . . five miles from Auckland, flowering in June and July, in a dense bush", he notes, I regret that it is

proposed to replace Brown's generic name of *Corysanthes* by Salisbury's somewhat earlier one of *Corybas*, the totally erroneous description of which was (as was well known at the time) drawn up surreptitiously from an inspection of Bauer's figure of the Australian *Corysanthes bicalcarata*, when exhibited by Robert Brown at Sir Joseph Banks's rooms, with the latter name attached to it".

History has favoured Salisbury's name, but whatever the truth of the matter, W. Hooker was an able botanical painter who was official artist for the Horticultural Society of London - he painted flowers and fruits for their *Transactions*.

---

Plate. *Corybas aconitiflorus*. Hand coloured engraving by W. Hooker, 1805. From R. A. Salisbury's *Paradisus Londinensis*. Reproduced courtesy of A:S:PE. ▶

---



If you have grown particularly interested in New Zealand's native orchids, consider joining the

**New Zealand Native Orchid Group**  
C/o Dorothy Cooper  
37 Waimea Road  
Waikanae

Their Newsletters are full of details on finding and identifying our native orchids.



*Corybas Aconitiflorus*

Drawn & Pub. Oct. 1. 1897, by W. Hooker

*Corybas aconitiflorus*

# The Great Lycaste Leaf Controversy

Bill Mulder

Since the last Orchid Show in the Mt. Albert Hall, I have noticed a stirring in the ranks. Not the kind of immature outbursts of frustrated tennis players, nor the kind of political mudslinging of present and past opposition leaders, but stirrings nevertheless!

I believe in the present system and have no wish to start, or even partake in any revolution - however, I feel strongly enough about the subject to comment on it - if I ruffle feathers and dent egos - sorry - my comments are meant to be constructive, and hopefully instructive, and most of all, do not point at anybody at all.

To be con and in-structive, one needs to write with some authority, indisputable facts and wisdom, and therefore I have gone to some considerable trouble to collect comments and points of view (*not always* in favour of my thesis!) to forward my personal opinion that *Lycastes* in general, and *Lycaste* *Libra* in particular, can and in many cases should have their older leaves trimmed, cropped and cut. This act should not detract from the appreciation of the flower at all, nor should it make one suspicious of the health of the plant - its entirely NATURAL!!!

*Lycaste libra* = *Lyc. deppei* x  
*Lyc. macrophylla* (Wyld Court in 1970)

The *Lycaste* and *Anguloa* Cultural Guide by Philip Tomlinson of the Wellington Orchid Society says of *Lyc. deppei* that flowers are being borne in quick succession with the new growth in spring, although this flowering period is easily upset with artificial cultivation. *Lyc. deppei* is included in the sub-section of *Xanthantheae* of the *Deciduosae* section, with a generalisation of what he meant by those words: . . . vigorous growth during rainy season November-May, followed by a resting period of some 2-5 months during which the leaves are usually lost.

My notes do not mention which type of *L. macrophylla* was used in the *Libra*

cross - but one can safely assume that whatever *macrophylla* was used as mate, it was accustomed to less extreme climatological conditions with some period of rest, probably not as long as its pod-parent.

Since Philip follows Fowlie's monograph "the Genus *Lycaste*" in most details, and magazine space and reader's interest are to be spared, Fowlie's opinions should be studied *without* my prompting!

Clarence Horich in *Orchid Digest* July-August 1977, Vol. 41, No. 4 says of the two types of Costa Rican *macrophylla's* . . . two sub-species have become deciduous, losing their leaves.

H. F. Oakeley writes in "Orchid Review" January 1978 of *Lycaste* *Libra* ". . . 27 flowers on a single bulb . . . vary from looking just like *L. deppei* to similar to *macrophylla* but with a yellow, orange spotted lip . . ." and includes a photo of *Libra* "Brixton Hill" CCC/RHS, and to confuse the issue, the photo shows some leaves (partly), although their health and condition cannot be ascertained as the focus naturally was on the flowers *not* the leaves.

George Fuller from his Pukekura Corner writes in (undated) "*Orchids in New Zealand*" of *deppei* ". . . the plant is deciduous . . . flowers are produced in numbers from the base of each defoliated bulb . . . depending on cultural methods, new growths may overtake flowers".

Terry Adnams in "Orchid Review" of March 1981 comments on leaves ". . . *Lycastes* ARE semi-deciduous, please be patient when they are about to shed leaves on an old bulb. This is a very normal, important process, but while it is doing it, the plant looks decidedly tatty. There is nothing as satisfying,

however, as a show of new juicy growth on the plants *after* (!) a good flower season”.

Larry Heuer in “AOS Bulletin” of October 1981, Vol. 50, No. 10 has this to say about leaves . . .” nothing is less distressing, to see these leaves, usually upon maturity, start to brown at the tips, turn increasingly yellow and eventually fall off, leaving a bare pseudobulb . . . there is no getting around this characteristic, even if you are the best of growers . . . you may feel justifiably inclined to explain to visiting orchid growers that the now messy looking leaves aren’t really your fault! (they’ll be gone soon anyway!)”.

Lionel S. Dunning in “Orchid Review” February 1972 writes about the appraising and judging of *Lycaste*, *Anguloa* and crosses arising from these genera. If a flower catches his attention by eye appeal, some of the points he then takes into consideration area: colour, presentation, texture and the general wellbeing of the plant. He continues . . .” . . . it is not a bad idea at this time to ascertain the parentage of the cross as it is here that the governing bodies are, and it is these that will predetermine the form the flower will take . . . having, selected the group that our flower falls into you can then consider whether the shape and colour is as good or better than the one previously awarded. This is where experience and a good knowledge of the genus counts . . .”. Another remarks he makes “. . . we now have only to look at the plant as a whole. Does it help the flower to look its best? Does the flower stand well with the general foliage? Are the leaves of a good green, and is the plant free from pests . . .?”.

The beautiful picture book by Jack Kramer, simply called “Orchids” (Flowers of romance and mystery!) says of *deppeii* that flowers usually appear before, or when, the new growth starts.

Alex D. Hawkes in his Encyclopaedia of Cultivated Orchids says of *Lycastes* in general “. . . upon completion of the new pseudobulbs (when the leaves

usually start to fall, and flower-spikes appear in many species), water should be stopped . . .”; of *deppeii* in particular he says “leaves are deciduous . . . and it flowers throughout the year, often more than once annually, mostly in spring and autumn”.

*L. Macrophylla* leaves are deciduous as well, they flower March-July.

Charles H. Curtis and Robert L. Dressler do not add to the argument very much at all, Rebecca Tyson Northen calls *Lycaste* flowers quaint(!) “. . . pleated leaves last but a year or two . . . newly growing bulbs are sheathed with smaller leaves which soon fall”.

Brian and Wilma Rittershausen with their “Orchids in Colour” show us a photo of *deppeii* in bloom - without leaves - and they say “. . . growing season comes to a close with the completion of the bulbs, the plants will shed their leaves, which will slowly turn yellow prior to dropping off . . . plants require full light to ripen bulbs with no water . . . this treatment is important for successful flowering . . .”; of a hybrid with *deppeii* in the cross, they say “. . . hybrids require the same treatment as the species in the genus”.

A cross like *Lycaste Libra* in my opinion should show its parentage and therefore its leaves should be tatty and therefore they should be able to be cut off, trimmed, cropped or whatever! The leaf at the time of flowering of the plant is of no consequence, it does not indicate its health and vigour. It should not have been there! If *Lycaste* appreciation and judging prefers leaves to be present - maybe we should cross *Libra* with *locusta* - the resulting flower and its judging could then at least include the hopeful expectation of a leaf or two. In other words: Breed leaves in and tattyness out!

Generally speaking we cannot and should not expect healthy, vigorous leaves with fresh *Lycaste* flowers.

December 1985  
11 Brett Avenue  
Auckland 9

## Growing *Pleione formosana*

Lorna Grey

In August 1975 I bought two flowering bulbs of *Pleione formosana* along with the information that in their natural habitat they grow on the forest floor among rotting logs, fallen leaves, mosses covering the dormant bulbs during winter and early flowering and leaf growth.

I seem to be lucky by getting conditions that the *Pleiones* enjoy, as they have flowered and increased in numbers each year since. In 1983 there were 110 blooms - haven't counted them since. At Christmas the leaf growth is up to 58cm long.

The clump of bulbs hasn't been broken up, just potted on, with the little new growths from the tops of most bulbs being tucked in gaps, or around the sides of the clump.

Starting with the two bulbs in a 7.5cm pot in 1976 they were moved to a 30cm basin in 1979, into a 37cm in 1981, then in 1983 into a 60cm compost bin lid, with the sides raised

for extra depth. For potting mix I used pumice, scoria, peat, chopped old punga, chopped dry *Astelia* leaves and a little general potting mix with amounts just guessed. A good covering of spagnum moss is given each year. During their growing period, approximately mid August till late March, they were watered well daily, leaves and all. They are fed at the same time and with the same food as the other varieties of orchids: a good sprinkle of 'Garden Galore' (pelletized sheep manure) after flowering, then I feed about once a week with an assortment of foods, like banana (skins and fruit), 'Alaska', 'Phostrogen', liquid cow manure and potash - sometimes several together, sometimes one kind at a time. This year Microfeed has been used mostly, as it is so easy.

---

*Pleione formosana*, grown by Lorna Grey,  
Tauranga Orchid Society, September 1985

Photography: Bob Goodger ▼



# Orchid of the Year 1985



*Paphiopedilum* St. Swithin 'Evans Bay' AM/OCNZ  
(*P. philippinense* x *P. rothschildianum*)  
Grower: The late Frank Askin of Wellington

An excellent clone of this most beautiful and highly sought-after rothschildianum hybrid. Overall flower width 255mm. Petals retain the widespread characteristic of the best forms of *P. rothschildianum* without the very uneven twisting so often found in this hybrid. Colour brightened due to *philippinense* parent. A very well grown plant with tall spike carrying three fully open flowers. Whole plant without blemish. A fitting tribute to Frank's memory.



## CYMBIDIUM CULTURE NOTES

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

*Gordon Maney*

These months are very important, for most growers are really getting into cutting up and repotting their plants; and by this time most plants are showing green root tips, a sure sign the plants are ready.

Under no circumstances 'pot on' any plant which is over 10cm pot size - that is taking a plant out of its pot and without removing the old mix placing in a larger pot and putting the new mix around it. The obvious result in six or eight months is a ball of rotten roots in the centre of the plant, for you must remember that the mix around your plant, depending on the size of the plant, can be anything up to two or three years old, and this is where root fungus can begin.

This is often the reason why you see plants with masses of defoliated bulbs in the centre, and generally poor flower spikes, if indeed any at all.

Do not overpot either; choose one that will give you two years growth.

Clean all those husks away from the bulbs and examine for scale, etc. Cut away any dead roots and thoroughly wash all the old mix off the roots.

If you're cutting up large plants, often a strong jet of water will help to wash the mix away from the roots and makes it much easier to break up. After plants have been broken up place in a shady position and for the next two or three weeks lightly spray over the plants to encourage the new roots.

Feeding at least once a week with something like Microfeed 212 or Peters 30-4-8 is very important. If you find these difficult to obtain use a dry mix of four parts dried blood, four parts Superphosphate and one part potash used at the rate of 10 ccs. around a 25cm (or 10") pot once a month, and a liquid feed of Lush once a week. Always water thoroughly before feeding.

*Mana Orchid Nursery  
7 Harrow Place  
Palmerston North*



**BEWARE** sunburn and heatstroke of your orchids at this time of year.

Check for drying out and adequate ventilation.



## ORCHIDS IN NEW ZEALAND

## BACK ISSUES

Send for list of available issues, or with particular requests to:

Back Issues Secretary  
Mrs G. Anderson  
421 Pukehangi Road  
Rotorua

Vol. 1-8: 50¢/issue  
Vol. 9-10: \$1.00/issue  
Vol. 11: \$4.50/volume  
(3 issues)





presents **DARRELL BELL'S**  
**15 DAY TOUR** to the

***12th WORLD ORCHID CONFERENCE —***  
***Tokyo, Japan***

A fabulous opportunity to travel away with Darrell Bell who is currently President of the Orchid Council of New Zealand.

**Cost ONLY**

**\$3299** (share twin)

**Depart Auckland**  
**Saturday 14th March 1987**  
**Returns Auckland**  
**Sunday 29th March 1987**

Join Darrell Bell's Tour by posting the coupon away NOW!

**COST INCLUDES**

- ★ *Return airfares*
- ★ *Meet and greet courtesies*
- ★ *Return airport transfers*
- ★ *Accommodation throughout*
- ★ *All breakfasts*
- ★ *English speaking guide*
- ★ *Travel bag*
- ★ *Some sightseeing plus Technical Visit*
- ★ *Internal train transport within Japan*

**NOTE:** Tour cost does not include airport taxes OR Conference Registration.



**ATA TOURS DIVISION**  
 Freepost No. 4,  
 P.O. Box 453, Hamilton

Please forward further details on the Darrell Bell Orchid Conference Tour.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Phone.....

All prices are per person and are subject to airfare increases and currency fluctuations.

# *Sherlock's Orchids*

*where you can detect quality*

We grow



**CATTLEYS, DENDROBIUMS,  
ODONTOGLOSSUMS, PAPHIOPEDILUMS,  
PHALAENOPSIS, VANDAS**

and sell flowering size plants ex nursery only.

Why not call in when next in our locality - we are only five minutes drive north of Otaki, and are open 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m. Thursday-Sunday (inclusive) or phone for an appointment.

**KEVIN AND LYN SHERLOCK**

Atkins Road, Manakau. Phone MNK 698

**NEW ZEALAND EXPORT  
GROWERS ORCHID ASSN. INC**

**NZ E.G.O.**

*All intending and exporting orchid growers, orchid plant retailers, orchid tissue culture laboratories, orchid export companies and interested persons, are invited to write for further information regarding the above Association to:*

**The Secretary,  
NZ E.G.O.  
P.O. Box 2107, Tauranga**

Specializing  
in

**PHALAENOPSIS**

including new imports from  
U.S.A.

**QUALITY PLANTS  
PLUS  
FRIENDLY SERVICE**

Call in - you'll be glad you did

**Longview Orchids**

Eric and Vorrei Jones  
Main Waihi Road,  
Bethlehem,  
Tauranga  
Phone: (075) 64668

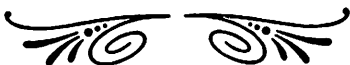
# Tucker's of Bayswater



We have again increased our range with our new lists including plants and flasks of almost all types of orchids.

## New From

	Wondabah Orchids	Australia
	Peninsular Orchids	U.S.A.
	David Stead Orchids	England
	Ratcliffe Orchids	England
	Guest Orchids	Australia
	Sandon Exotic Orchids	Australia
	Mansell and Hatcher Ltd	England
our own	Tuckers of Bayswater	New Zealand



These will be of interest to anyone wanting something different and unusual.

No one nursery can supply all types of orchids. So if you can't resist

## Buy the Best from us

Send for list to

### Mr Ross Tucker

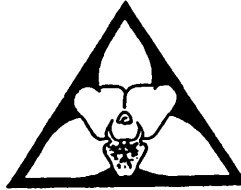
51 King Edward Avenue, Bayswater, Auckland 9

Phone 456-692

# **MacLeod's Exotic Orchid Nurseries**

Mail Order Specialists

P.O.Box 4469  
Christchurch  
New Zealand



We always have an interesting range of hybrids and species of most genera . . .

Miltonia, Cattleya, Dendrobium, Vanda,  
Paphiopedilum, Cymbidium, Odontoglossum,  
Lycaste, Zygopetalum, Phalaenopsis,  
Masdevallia, Coelogyne

. . . and lots more

If you are a serious grower or just starting you should be on our mailing list.

Write today for your free copy of our current illustrated catalogue.

We ship year around and guarantee safe arrival, anywhere!

Nursery: 547 Harewood Road, Harewood, Christchurch  
Visitors are welcome by appointment

## **"Orchid Tour Sumatra/Malaysia - May 1987"**

Preliminary notice for those who are even remotely interested to join other Orchid Society members in a tour of majestic scenery, culinary delights, fascinating cultures, good company and orchids.

Write to:

Jack Hart  
24 Albany Highway  
Glenfield  
Auckland 10

or phone him or Jopie Hart at  
Auckland 4448-542

Marilyn and Bryan Johnson invite:

### **COMMERCIAL EXPORT FLOWER GROWERS**

To update your colour mix and varieties and extend your flowering season with healthy young Cymbidium plants from thousands in stock at our modern high-tech orchid nursery.

## **MARBLE GARDENS**

Park Estate Road, Papakura  
Phone 298-6619

- ask for list -

# TWIN OAKS BOOKS

4343 Causeway Drive, Lowell,  
Michigan U.S.A.  
Phone: (616) 897-7479  
MASTERCARD AND VISA

## ORCHID BOOKS

*Send for FREE descriptive  
list of just about 300  
currently available Orchid  
Books . . . Sent Surface  
Mail anywhere in the  
world, postpaid!!!*

# The Phally House

TAUPO

## SPECIALISING IN PHALAENOPSIS

Varieties and prices available  
on request

Visitors welcome by prior arrangement

TREVOR NICHOLLS  
33 Hinekura Avenue, Taupo  
Phone (074) 84-813  
(Answerphone)



McBEANS  
ORCHIDS  
(AUSTRALIA) PTY. LTD.

## WANT A WIN IN THE 1990?

Apart from our known mericlones, we have a range of McBean's (Australia) seedlings with excellent potential.

Plants two and three years from flask (normally \$10 and \$12 each) at a "1990 SPECIAL" of 10 for \$75.00

You won't be disappointed.

**ROWLAND & McCARLIE**  
Annandale Road, R.D. 1, Kumeu



# **N.Z. HYDROPONICS LTD.**

## **LEAF ANALYSIS & NUTRIENT SUPPLY SERVICE**

Full analytical service; leaf, water, nutrient, potting media

## **FULL RANGE OF FERTIGATION CHEMICALS**

Bulk supply or small lots (1 tonne to 250 grammes.)

**INCLUDING:**

Ammonium Molybdate  
Borax  
Calcium Nitrate  
Copper Chelate  
Iron Chelate  
Magnesium Chelate  
Magnesium Sulphate

Manganese Sulphate  
Mono Potassium Phosphate  
Nitric Acid  
Phosphoric Acid  
Potassium Nitrate  
Zinc Chelate  
Zinc Sulphate

**SPECIAL MIXES:** Makes up to 4000 litres of feed.

<b>A 9</b>	<b>Cymbidium Nursery Mix</b>	<b>\$22.40</b>
<b>A 10</b>	<b>Cymbidium Flowering Mix</b>	<b>\$22.40</b>
<b>A 11</b>	<b>Phalaenopsis Mix</b>	<b>\$24.50</b>

**MIXES FORMULATED TO YOUR OWN SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS.**

**HYDROPONIC/FERTIGATION  
SPREAD RIGHT, THROUGH OUR NATION  
CHECK YOUR NEED, FROM OUR LIST  
ANYTHING WE HAVE MISSED?**

### **CONTROL AND TEST EQUIPMENT**

**INCLUDING:** pH meters; conductivity (CF) meters. Temperature control; auto misting controllers; and many many more.

**CAPILLARY MATTING;** bench and bed material, imported in 6 feet wide rolls, \$10.20 per meter.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON PRICES ETC:**

# **New Zealand Hydroponics Ltd.**

**P.O. Box 949, Tauranga  
Telephone (075)80849**



## *East-West Orchids (N.Z.)*

... the Orchid Specialists

**ORDER NOW and ENJOY the SPRING GROWTH!**

**PHALAENOPSIS** \$ 12.00 - \$ 20.00 plus GST

**POLYMINIATURE  
CYMBIDIUMS** \$ 5.00 - \$ 16.00 plus GST

Many varieties of both in a wide size and colour range.

**MAIL ORDERS WELCOME**

(Prices Plus Freight) **BANKCARD and VISA** accepted.

Write for our stocklists.

**Rob and Denise Hulford**  
Kaipara Flats Road, R.D.1., Warkworth

Telephone WW  
(0846) 8145

(2 km north of Warkworth, turn left to Kaipara Flats and we are 700m from main road on the right).

### **First - The Good News**

#### **The Aussies are Coming**

The best hybridizer in Australia is sending us his latest release of Australian native species and hybrids. Many have never been offered before. These cool growing, free flowering hybrids and species deserve a place in your collection. Mini flasks containing 10+ sturdy seedlings are only \$18.00 each. Individual plants are \$4.50 each. Send self-stamped addressed envelope for full list.

### **Now - The Bad News**

Because of the huge demand in Australia our allocation for this shipment is only three flasks per cross. So first in first served.



### **HOUSE OF ORCHIDS**

145 Manuka Road, Glenfield, Auckland 10  
Phone 444-9771

# TUDOR ORCHIDS

Ken and Patricia Elms  
Greatford Road (State Highway One)  
3 kms North of BULLS  
Phone (0652)48-966

Sole New Zealand Distributors for

**Fordyce Orchids of America**  
**For the finest in Miniature cattleyas**

We Stock . . .

**Cymbidiums - Standard and miniature**  
**Phalaenopsis**  
**Cattleyas**  
**Odontoglossum alliance**

**PRIME ORCHID MIX**  
**MICROFEED FERTILIZER**

Postal address:  
P.O. Box 103, BULLS

HOURS . . .  
Tuesday - Sunday 9-5  
Mondays by appointment only

# TAURANGA BARK LTD.

trading as Tauranga Granulated Bark  
BRUCE AND SANDRA KENNY

**Graded Orchid Bark**  
**granulated in six different sizes**

also ideal for garden uses

- No. 3 ¼" - ½" suits young plants
- No. 4 ½" - ¾" usual orchid mix
- No. 5 1" coarse
- No. 6 extra coarse

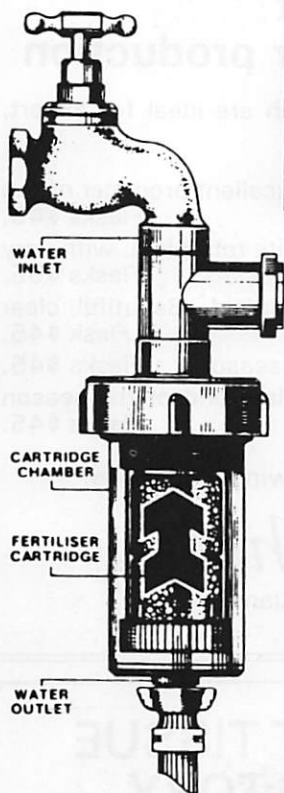
**Available in bulk, bagged or by the trailer load**  
Delivery available throughout the North Island  
Open Saturday

Maleme Street, Tauranga

P.O.Box 3213  
Greerton  
Tauranga

Phone 85-741  
After Hours 62-664





# Champion fert·mat<sup>®</sup>

## FERTILISER DISPENSER

The ideal addition to your orchid collection.

**The advantages of using Fert-O-Mat.** Easy to fit, simple to use, fertilize as you water, even distribution of fertilizer, use with any watering system, quick, convenient with excellent results. Unit comes complete with fertilizer plugs in initial purchase price.

**Orchid experts agree orchids do best with regular soluble fertilizer feeds of fairly low strength.**

Two analysis of fertilizer available: "Quick Green" corresponds to the U.S. recommendation for orchids of 30-10-10 or N.Z. 30-5-8.

"General Purpose" corresponds closely to the U.S. 10-10-10 for orchids in spike (Generally known as the blossom booster.)

Fert-O-Mat provides the three main elements N.P.K. in the proportions recommended by both U.S. and N.Z. Orchid experts for orchids. (American Orchid Society Bulletin, N.Z. Orchid Review, Department Scientific & Industrial Research, Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries.) Both formula of fertilizer contain essential trace elements.

For best results use Fert-O-Mat with every watering. Quick Green is recommended for spring/summer growth, General Purpose blossom time.

Fert-O-Mat is also highly recommended for use in flower and vegetable gardening. Use Fert-O-Mat and judge the results for yourself.

AVAILABLE FROM SELECTED GARDEN CENTRES AND HARDWARE OUTLETS.

N.Z. Distributors

**AUSTRALASIAN IMPORTS LTD.**

P.O. Box 23-096  
Papatoetoe

Phone: 278-4376  
278-2039

## **White is Right for Cymbidium cut flower production**

We are offering 12 high quality clones, which are ideal for export, including:

**Cherilyn 'Swansea'** - fast proving itself as an excellent producer of top quality early blooms. Flasks \$45.

**Winter Wonder 'Frosty Jack'** - superb clean white tetraploid, with very good production and ideal flower count. Flasks \$55.

**Cleo's Melody 'Eldorado'** - superior August tetraploid. Beautiful, clear white blooms - good flower count. Flask \$45.

**Pharoah 'Almighty'** - pure colour tetraploid, mid season. Flasks \$45.

**Highland Mist 'Lalchere'** - top quality for the late end of the season when prices rise. Flasks \$45.

Our flasks contain 20 sturdy, quick-growing mericlones.

### *Larsen's Orchids*

16 Parker Road, Oratia, Auckland.  
Phone: (09)817-8429.

## **MULTIFLORA PLANT TISSUE CULTURE LABORATORY**

### *Orchid Virus Testing*

**Identify and eliminate those virus infected plants!**

Multiflora is pleased to offer an orchid virus testing service which identifies the common orchid viruses. Highly specific goat antisera have been developed and using immunoprecipitation methods large numbers of orchids can now be tested efficiently and reliably. Get your orchids tested now!

**For information on methods and prices write to:**

**Multiflora**  
34 Kingsview Road  
Mt. Eden  
Auckland  
New Zealand

or

**Multiflora**  
4 York Street, Newmarket  
P.O.Box 9516  
Newmarket  
Telephone 542-766 Auckland

**Telephone: 604-133 Auckland**

**CONFIDENTIALITY ASSURED.**

# Burkes Orchids

## MINIATURE CYMBIDIUMS

### Autumn Flowering Varieties

(75-125mm leaf length)

Mini Splendour 'Easter Show' - red  
Sue 'Spring Bride' - oyster shade  
Sue 'St. David' - Blush pink  
Sue 'St. Joseph' - bronze yellow  
Dear Lisa 'Willow' - apple green  
Mini Mint 'Kiwi Jade' - pure colour green/yellow

**10 of any variety or combination to make 10:  
\$3.00 per plant**

11-50	\$2.70 per plant
51-100	\$2.55 per plant
101-150	\$2.40 per plant
151-200	\$2.25 per plant
over 200	\$2.00 per plant



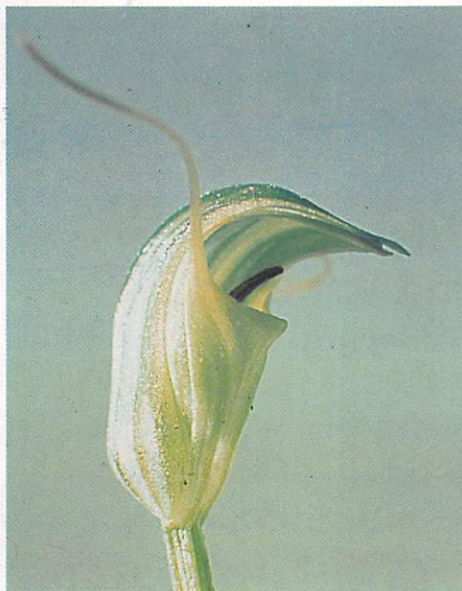
FREE 1985 colour catalogue available

**BURKES ORCHIDS**

White Horse Drive, Whakatane

Telephone 88-648

# PORTRAITS OF NEW ZEALAND ORCHID SPECIES



▲ *Pterostylis trullifolia*

*Pterostylis brumalis* ►

Photography: Bob Goodger

▼ *Pterostylis alobula*



Many *Pterostylis* or greenhood orchids grow on the forest floor. When an insect lands on the exposed red tip of the labellum, it flicks upwards, tipping the insect into the bottom of the flower.



These three species occur in similar situations in the North Island. However, the following characters usually distinguish them.

*P. alobula* has no lobe on the front of the flower.

*P. trullifolia* has narrow side petals on the 'hood'.

*P. brumalis* has a very pronounced lobe, and petals of the 'hood' are all the same width.