

Orchids

in New Zealand

Volume 22 No. 4

DECEMBER 1996

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IN NEW ZEALAND

Official publication of

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New Zealand Orchid Society

Vol. 22 No. 4

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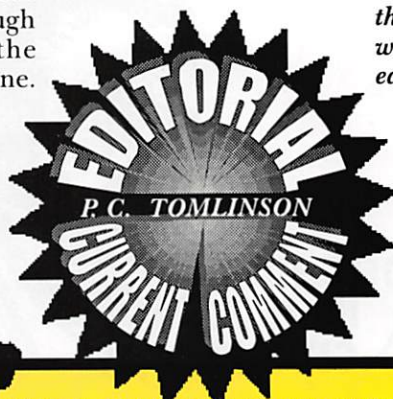
I have probably bored many of our readers to death with my comments over the last seven years as Editor that we are living in a world of change. But no recent event confirms those comments better than the recent announcement of the President of the Orchid Council of New Zealand that *Orchids in New Zealand* will cease production in its present form this issue. We have had a wonderful core of enthusiastic readers, but unfortunately not enough of them to ensure the viability of this magazine.

Publishing is an expensive activity and while the Council can carry a loss for a short while, it cannot continue to do so for an extended period of time. While I am disappointed with the decision after all the effort I have put into this publication (and just getting used to the software), I have been concerned for some time that some hard decisions would be required.

Orchids in New Zealand was born on July 1975.

advertisements have to be looked at very closely as to suitability and most important, to whom they appeal. A bimonthly magazine such as this has only two classes of reader - those who are stricken with the disease orchiditis and those who would wish it upon others. To this end we must cater for readers who are suffering from all phases of the disease.

However, it will be difficult to please all and as wide a range of articles as is possible will be published. It is hoped that associate editors will be appointed from each province or major



Edited by the late Graeme Boon, his first Editorial is well worth repeating.

"The first publication of any magazine or periodical normally sets the standards for future issues. In this respect articles, stories, even

orchid club area and that these people forward news items such as meetings and show dates and articles of general interest. Pen pictures of orchid personalities in your locality will be welcome.

Some readers may complain as to the size of the magazine, too big, too small, articles too long, not enough information on the particular orchids that you collect etc. Sensible criticisms will be published under "Letters to the Editor" and improvements will be made when possible.

Remember, this is your journal, and it appeals to a limited number of the reading public only, therefore its success depends on your support and forwarding lots of articles for publication. For some a lengthy article is a written impossibility, but a short paragraph, perhaps some handy hint, is not beyond the capabilities of most. From this type of short paragraph or "fill in" many a horticulturist has learnt to grow, flower, or fruit plants that had otherwise proved difficult to master, so please keep written contributions coming in.

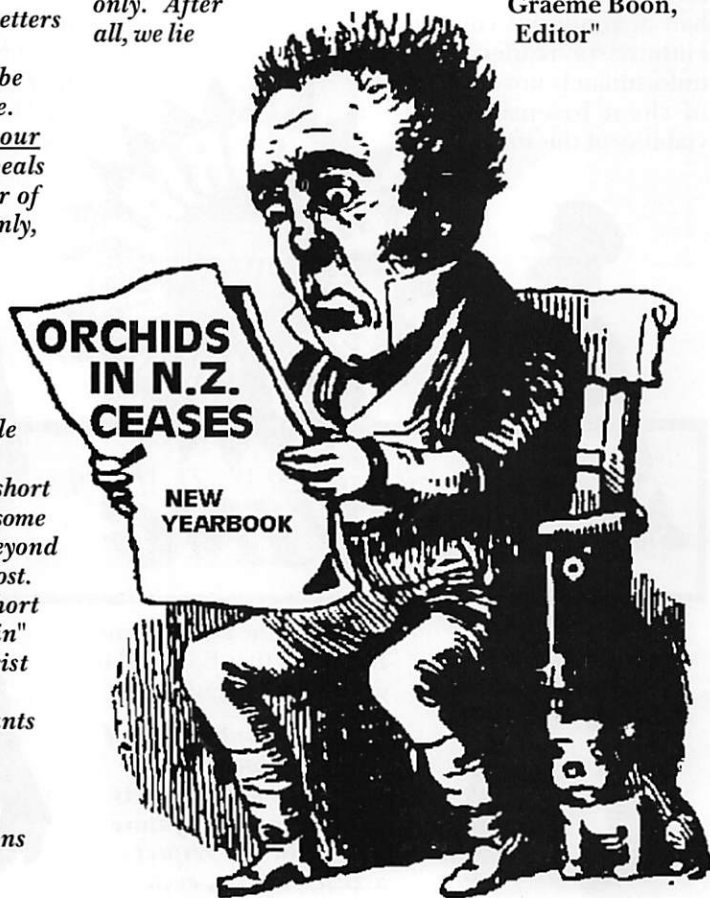
This magazine has evolved as an answer to a quest for New Zealand orchid enthusiasts who up to now have had to rely for information in overseas publications, and local news sheets for orchid culture and advice.

Overseas or local productions of limited appeal or circulation are not always suitable for our conditions, and news sheets are somewhat brief and generally relevant to one particular area only. After all, we lie

between the latitudes of 35 deg. south and 47 deg. south and there is quite a range of climates suitable for the growing of many genera.

The newly formed Orchid Council of New Zealand has realised the need for not only making people aware of what is grown and how it is grown, but also for bringing orchid lovers together through the pages of a Journal such as this.

Graeme Boon,
Editor"



It is revealing to read the first Editorial, and look at where we are now. One could be cynical enough that the thought that orchid growers and society members would contribute a lot of material to the magazine, and engage in dialogue on current critical orchid issues through the *Letters to the Editor* column may have been optimistic in a lot of cases, if recent evidence is anything to go by.

I also read the aim of the *Letter to the Editor* column with interest. One of the disappointments with my term as editor has been the lack of response from growers and readers. I have always believed that a good Editorial must challenge and not be afraid to raise issues. I know there has been response behind my back to some Editorials, but there has not been any reasoned challenge or argument taken to any of the issues I have raised. Is this another symptom of the widespread apathy found amongst the orchid growing community generally? Or is it that orchid growers do not think about their hobby or how it is organised or

run. Trying to find out what orchid growers really want in a publication seems almost impossible. Even when we complete a survey of growers and readers opinions, we do not seem to get meaningful answers as when we make changes in accordance with those opinions, the results are still negative.

Interestingly, in looking at a published photograph of the first Executive, the young face of Syd Wray stands out. His continuing connection with the magazine, with orchid growing, and with the *O r c h i d*

Council, must stand out for its continuity.

Orchids in New Zealand has only survived because of the substantial voluntary effort put in by many orchid enthusiasts over the years. Without their efforts you would not have had a magazine. Three editors have been involved, Graeme and Pam Boon, and Nick and Elizabeth Miller, and myself. The magazine distributors needs special mention.

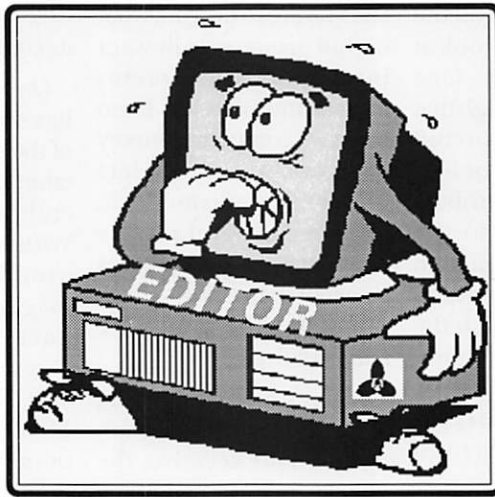
Many have performed this essential task in the background, without recognition, and we should all extend a vote of

thanks to those individuals. Many other people have also had a part in the production process, and to all must also be extended our grateful thanks. Amongst those who have supported the magazine for many years is George Fuller of Taranaki. His *Pukekura Corner* was a feature of the magazine for many years, and more latterly his occasional

**HE DOES GO
ON A BIT,
DOESN'T HE !!**



articles have also been keenly received. One other contributor also stands out during my time. Ray Dix and the members of the *Cymbidium Society of Australasia (NZ Branch)* have provided a feast of articles contributed by speakers at their periodical seminars. Their articles on cymbidiums were especially valuable, covering the genus most widely grown in this country, and the one most likely to be selected by the new growers. The volume and quality of the material they were able to produce from their members clearly shows what societies can create where there is enthusiasm and innovative organisation. If that one, relatively small, organisation could produce such results, then there is no excuse for the lack of response from those with larger memberships or more established and secure financial strength. I know there is a universal desire to just take from the organisation, and not contribute, but the words of the Late President Kennedy can be rephrased



"ask not what the society can do for you, but what you can do for the society". The old saying - *"the more you put into the organisation, the more you get out of it"* seems to have been forgotten by many people these days.


We are entering a new era, with newsletters and an annual orchid publication. It is great that all members of affiliated orchid societies will be directly serviced by the national body in this way. It is a move that I can only applaud. But it also introduces a new set of challenges - local societies must get in behind the publications and ensure society information is included in the yearbook. The first editorial asked for profiles of orchid personalities - this has never been a feature of the magazine despite ongoing

requests for such contributions, but surely the yearbook would be an ideal place for those pen pictures. There is also a need for good cultural information for both novice and experienced growers. Such material can only come from existing orchid growers. How

about putting pen to paper or is the information and experience going to die with you too.

Orchid growing is facing a difficult future, as testified by the recent closures of the Dannevirke and Kapiti Coast orchid societies. There is a lot of apathy and indifference out there; if this dominates or just even continues then these new changes will fail. I would like to think that the declining membership of orchid societies can be reversed, and the changes to the national publication will assist in leading this revival, but in the final analysis it will be you, the orchid growers of New Zealand who will make the concluding decision. Surely we don't want orchid societies or even orchid

growing to disappear like the dinosaurs. If this new publishing initiative fails through lack of support or interest then the future of the Orchid Council itself could well become an issue. If the Council should cease to exist for whatever reason, the hobby of orchid growing in this country would suffer a major reversal and all orchid growers, orchid society members or not, would suffer. The international orchid shows in this country, for example, run each 5 years under the authority of the Council, would be difficult if not impossible to run without the umbrella organisation of the Council. Now is the time for all orchid growers to really think ahead and of future generations of orchid growers.

Your action now will affect the future of orchid growing in this country over many years to come. 

WORLD

FOR

I have been Editor of this magazine Orchids in New Zealand for a total of seven years.

Over that time I have been assisted by very many people - members of the Council, the Publications Committee members, distributors, readers, writers, advertisers and friends

The production of the magazine has only been possible with your support and encouragement.

I have tried to make this publication as informative, interesting and attractive as possible. Not everything has worked, but I believe most of the goals were realised given the resources available.

As this is my final edition of the current publication I would like to say a big

'thank you'

to you all.

Without your assistance all this would not have been possible.

STRATFORD ORCHID CLUB

The Stratford Orchid Club was formed in December 1983 by a group of 23 enthusiasts all interested in the growing of orchids. Over the years members have come and gone and at the

moment we have 21 keen, hard working, loyal members.

We have staged shows and set up numerous displays which have created a lot of interest.

Travelling as a group to other society shows is a bonus which all members enjoy and the hospitality we have received from other groups has been wonderful, the latest being a trip to the Waikato in August by several members. We spent the weekend and were shown around many

orchid growers houses in the Waikato area, and were treated to a potluck tea organised by the Waikato Orchid Society members who were so friendly and made us all feel very welcome.

We will endeavour to make every effort to keep our club afloat in the future years ahead.

Fay Payton,

Stratford Orchid Club
Secretary



Sir



Letters to the Editor

I have subscribed to 'Orchids in New Zealand' for almost twenty years and thoroughly enjoy the various articles that are published, all of which are interesting and informative. I was therefore, quite concerned to read your Editorial and the Special Announcement in the latest edition of the magazine and would be very disappointed if it had to be discontinued on account of lack of support,

In recent times I have contributed to the Colour Fund and was grateful that the

donations were tax deductible. And this is where I must complain, As I said, I have

contributed to the Fund, but have had great difficulty in obtaining a receipt to send in with my tax return. On a previous occasion, I wrote four letters asking for a receipt before it finally turned up in a copy of the magazine. When my current subscription was sent I asked for a receipt - which was not forthcoming - and have subsequently written to Mr Gillbanks asking for it. I realise that I should probably have written instead to Mr. Jackson, the Treasurer, but surely there must be a line of communication

between him and Mr Gillbanks. One would hope so! Incidentally, I'm still waiting for the receipt.

If the Management of the magazine wish to cut down on postage, could a note be incorporated in the subscription notice asking those who want a receipt to send a stamped, addressed envelope when the subscription is renewed? This, I'm sure could save a lot of frustration, as well as postage.

Perhaps other subscribers have had the same experience and are showing their disapproval by not renewing subscriptions - who knows. Despite my grumble I really do appreciate the magazine and it's contents - especially the coloured photographs - and hope that it will continue for many years to come.

Mrs H. J. Martindale



SARCOCHILUS

BY JOHN ROBINSON

One of, if not the, easiest orchids to grow in "captivity". Their requirements for successful culture are within the reach of most hobby growers. These consist of - in common with most orchids - the following:-

Temperature -
Moisture - Media - Light
- Feeding

Temperature - Nearly all sarcs are cool growing which suits Wairarapa conditions. In saying that, we must remember we experience severe frosts most winters which means some form of protection is essential. Frost cloth is ideal and should last two to three years before renewal is necessary. A small fan and air movement will also help keep Jack Frost at bay. At the other end of the scale, we experience high temperature summer days. This last year especially. Air movement is essential under these conditions also as these little plants must not overheat.

Moisture - Sarcs must never be allowed to dry out as they do not have bulbs for water storage as do cattleyas, for instance. Although copious watering during the summer is beneficial, from April through to September water sparingly, keeping your plants just moist.

Media - They do well in medium grade bark with no fine dust to impede drainage. The better the drainage, the better the growth you'll achieve. I find pots made from sections of ponga ideal. However, any shallow pots - plastic or clay - are fine. Plastic nets pots are OK but whatever the type of container, shallow is the keyword. Some call them "squat pots".

Light - Sarcs must not be exposed to direct sunlight. In nature they grow mostly in shaded gullies near streams. So in hobby culture we must try to give them similar conditions. Mine are heavily shaded all summer. While in autumn and winter I take the shade cloth off, but still

keep direct light subdued.

Feeding - Being such easy going Aussies, they do not demand to be fed three times a day as do some of their fellow Ockers. In fact they require very little fertiliser at all. Mine get a very weak solution of whatever I am using on the other genus. Again WEAK is the key word - quarter the recommended strength is sufficient every other watering or so.

I find that if you can grow ferns well in your glass or shadehouse, you should find your sarcochilus do equally well. In fact, I have ferns - maiden hair in particular - growing in the same pots as sarcs each seeming beneficial to the other. With their ease of growing together with their delightful colour range, I find sarc the most rewarding of orchids.

Wairarapa Orchid
Society



THOSE WERE THE DAYS

Earlier this year when Trevor ordered some books from A.O.S. for the Society he bought himself the book '100 Years of Orchids'. This has some very interesting reading in it. In the chapter 1923-1932 you read about auction prices and the loss of prized species plants. This article was printed in *The Orchid Review* in 1927.

"The late Mr H. T. Pitt always kept his collection well up to-date by the acquisition of superior varieties, yet, at the same time, he rarely parted with any of the plants obtained during his early days of collecting. Consequently, the sale afforded opportunities to collectors of present-day novelties as well as to those seeking plants that have become rare through the discontinuance of importations. The sum of £945 obtained for three plants of *Odontoglossum Purple*

Emperor shows that a strong demand exists for first class odontoglossums, and the quite unusual figures realised for many of the comparatively insignificant species indicates that there are many amateurs interested in the so called botanical plants. When consideration is given to the fact that the late Mr Pitt obtained an infinite amount of pleasure from his plants during the greater part of his life, it will be realised that the expenses of his hobby were by no means so unproductive as many people think. Further, the total sum of £10,729 realised that the last should convince any doubting folk that the formation of an orchid collection is a safe investment".

Could many of us have afforded orchids as a hobby in those days !!!



PETER STEPHENS

Last issue we published a moving article written by Peter Stephens shortly before his death.

For the information of readers, Peter served a total of 9 years on the committee of the local club. During that time he was President, Vice-President and Committee Member, and was the only member to serve as President under both the Golden Coast and Kapiti society titles. Peter also wrote the society's newsletter for a total of 5 years.

A quiet, kind man, he gave much of his time and effort to his club. His greatest joy was in growing his beloved *paphiopedilum* orchids.

Lyn Sherlock



NEW ZEALAND ORCHIDS IN NEW ZEALAND BY DALE ALLISON-COOPER

*Member Howick Orchid Society
and Australasian Native Orchid
Society of NZ*

After reading a book on *Threatened Plants of New Zealand* by Catherine Wilson and David Giren and published in 1989, one tends to wonder about several possibilities. We add to our collections of orchids such genera as *Odontoglossums*, *Oncidiums*, *Cattleyas*, *Masdevallias* and various other, but do we stop to think of how many of those plants are headed for extinction? We go to meetings to listen to speakers who have gone into the hinterlands of Uruguay, Brazil, Chile and other countries in the search of, and photographing orchids *au naturale*. Then we are informed that thousands of acres of forest are felled, and burnt off and sown in pasture in the name of

progress. In this carnage, we are told that many orchid species as yet undiscovered, and unnamed, are destroyed, their beauty lost forever.

How many of us are aware that a similar fate is in progress in New Zealand, to some of our native orchids? How many orchid society members, of all orchid societies in New Zealand have actually seen a *Corybas*, *Chiloglottis* or *Thelymitra*? Very few I would imagine, yet some of those genus are in a very dangerous possibility of becoming extinct. Two varieties are already presumed extinct and they were last sighted between 1900 and 1920. Another species had only ten plants known in existence in 1989.

Several New Zealand native orchids are swamp and bogland inhabitants so

some areas of native species have been lost through draining of these areas to conservation to farming operations. The same has happened to areas of light scrub which were the habitats of orchids, which when the light scrub was cleared, the land was grazed and farmed.

There are one or two orchid societies of native orchid groups which are doing a magnificent effort in protecting habitats of New Zealand native orchids in their areas. Perhaps more societies and regional councils should get together and do something to protect our native orchids as is being done at Iwitahi. Do any orchid societies in Auckland know of a colony of native orchids on their back doorstep? Does the

Warkworth Orchid Society know of and native orchids in their area?

How many of our New Zealand native orchids are there being tended in collections? Would it be in the interests of our orchids, for someone who has studied these plants, or a group of specialised personnel to work together and help work out a cultivation system which would help bring our orchids to a situation where some hobbyists can cultivate and flower them? Some of these orchids have been cultivated away from their natural habitats. Think of the hundreds of orchids sent to England last century so that some could be grown in pots. In a lot of areas in New Zealand. There is at least one or maybe two orchid societies

close to a colony of New Zealand native orchids which they could study.

Currently, the range of orchids grown in pots is phenomenal and mind boggling. The pot culture of *Disa* orchids is being mastered by several hobbyists now, so couldn't we begin trying some *Cryptostylis*, *Spiranthes*, *Acianthus* as well as the *Pterostylis* in pots?

Somehow we must preserve our New Zealand native orchids in their natural habitat as well as getting them into some collections. There must be several hobby growers in New Zealand who would like another native species to keep a *Pterostylis* company. I would.

Here are the New Zealand native orchids under threat of extinction.

Caleana minor - endangered - 12 plants
Calochilus campestris - endangered - less than 10 plants.

Calochilus robertsonii - vulnerable.

Chiloglottis formicifera - presumed extinct.

Corybas unguiculatus - endangered.

Chiloglottis gunnii - vulnerable.

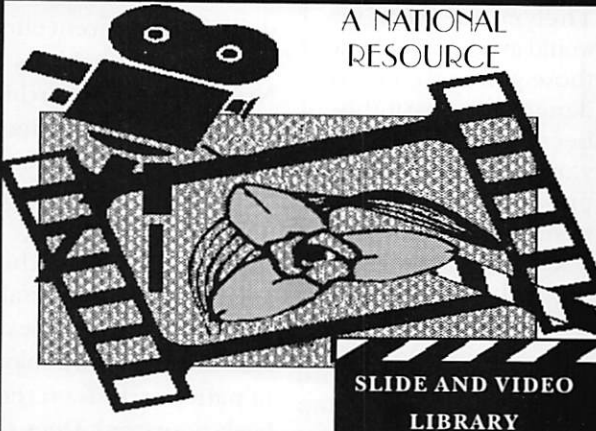
Cryptostylis subulata - vulnerable.

Pterostylis nutans - presumed extinct.

Thelymitra mathewsii - endangered.

For some of our native orchids it is too late, please let us do something to try to save others so that our grandchildren and great-grandchildren can enjoy the beauty of a *Thelymitra* (Sun orchid) in bloom in an orchid show.





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IF I CAN DO IT SO CAN YOU AND REAP THE ENJOYMENT

NEVILLE HEWINSON

In 1978 Jacqui and I ordered 5000 cymbidium mericlones in flask. We didn't know anything about orchids and it was a new industry so we joined the Whangarei Orchid Society and subscribed to *Orchids in New Zealand* and two other overseas magazines.

Over the years we watched them grow along with the greenhouses, packing shed, pumping and water storage etc. Weekends for the family developed into hard work and we referred to our property as the "slave labour camp". It was all good fun and froffed up a few home brews at the end of a day. Then the rewards of our labour was really appreciated when the flowers came and the exporting began.

In about 1983 we stopped going to the orchid society meetings but still stayed as members. We also had a handful of hobby plants as we called them.

In 1991 I contacted Myalgic Encephalomyelitis. M.E. is far

easier to say and life seemed to revolve around bed for the next two years. One day several months later when Jacqui bought in the mail with *Orchids in New Zealand* which I read for probably the first time (in the past I'd flicked through and only read about cymbidiums) and life started to change. I struggled out of bed and got 13 years of back copies plus six or seven years of the other two magazines and started to read up on everything that I'd missed out on since 1978.

Every picture I liked the look of I recorded the name, page and which magazine it was in. Next I got a Florifest flask list from John Scott and tried

to match my want list up to Florifest's. We went to see John and he asked me why I'd arrived at these particular flasks when he knew I was a commercial cymbidium grower. So I produced my want list and said this is what I wanted so I had cross checked the breeding hoping these were same or better. I frankly asked John's advice and he has returned it with, no, not that, you need heat or suggested others.

Jacqui would deflask and pot them up for me and I would endeavour to look after them. Back then a lot of plants went to the beautiful big greenhouse in the sky. I then did a do or die effort and went to the orchid show and met up with Syd

Wray and a few others again and over a cup of tea Syd introduced me to several more growers and so it was back to orchid society meetings and mixing with people who cared and wanted to help by sharing their knowledge, etc.

Then it was pull down a blown twin skin tunnel house and build a bigger one 15 x 9 x 4 metres high. We got some second hand agbar from a kiwifruit orchard who were paid to pull out their vines. Agbar is a galvanised rectangle hollow section 65mm x 38mm and a wall thickness of 1.5mm x 7 metres long. Then we had it rolled into 1/4 round and used joiners and timbered the ends with two rows of vents and one at the top of the walls. The plastic is held on with lock strip. With the twin skinning just lay the two layers in place. It is not necessary to have the top skin looser than the bottom, it will blow up and down. Same as a stopping roof, it comes up like a pillow. Cleaning a half round roof is easy, all you need is a piece of shadecloth over the top. Two friends, one each end pulling the shadecloth backwards and forwards and you squirting the hose over

the top saying "come on, come on".

Two turbo fans in the top blows the hot air that is normally trapped and wasted down under the benches again. The two turbo fans and the blower use 4.5 units of power a day and I can gain up to 9°C on outside temperature with ventilation. I have an oil filled heater on a thermostat for winter but with about 950 cubic metre air volume inside the heater is on the small side but I can maintain a minimum 12°C still economically.

I water and feed every day in summer and every two - three days in winter. I work on the theory that we have three meals a day, an animal is eating all the time, so why shouldn't a plant. I've flowered *Aeranthes grandiflora* from flask in 28 months and several others, as well as several other genera at 30 months. I also have a small waterfall which in the summer converts 60 litres of water a day into humidity. The small submersible pump uses about another 1.5 units of power daily. Syd with his 35 years experience is really amazed at the conditions produced in and by the tunnel house and the success of the

whole operation. It is a really good intermediate house and I am very pleased with it.

I have also developed an interest in NZ native orchids (refer article March 1996 Page 44) and joined the *NZ Native Orchid Group* which produces the *Native Orchid Journal* quarterly which serves also as a newsletter. Each year a conference come working bee is held at Iwitahi (15 minutes from Taupo) in the pine forest where the Taupo Orchid Society has been given 16ha for an Orchid Reserve. In the Reserve there is 13 genera and 35 species. *Thelymitra ixioides* was discovered there at the last December conference. The orchids in some patches cover several square metres of it is impossible to walk through them without standing on them. It is really mind boggling. *Calochilus robertsonii* for example is very rare and only grows in Northland, Rotorua, the central volcanic plateau and Nelson. We identified with quick stick dots 365 *Calochilus* in an area 30 or 40 feet by about 15 feet.

So next time you build or upgrade a greenhouse give some thought to a cheap insulation design

Continued on page 166

Life's Little Instructions

Reminders on how to live a happy and rewarding life.

1. Compliment three people every day.
2. Watch a sunrise at least once a year.
3. Have a firm handshake.
4. Look people in the eye.
5. Say 'thank you a lot'
6. Say 'please a lot'
7. Plant flowers every spring
8. Be forgiving to yourself and others.
9. Treat everyone you meet like you want to be treated.
10. Don't postpone joy.
- 11 Never give up on anybody. Miracles happen every day.
- 12 Admit your mistakes
- 13 Be brave. Even if you're not, pretend to be. No one can tell the difference.
- 14 Don't take good health for granted.

- 15 Avoid sarcastic remarks.
- 16 Think big thoughts, but relish small pleasures.
- 17 Be kinder than necessary.
- 18 Let people know what you stand for—and what you don't stand for.
- 19 Become the most positive and enthusiastic person you know.
- 20 Commit yourself to self-improvement
- 21 Don't waste time grieving from past mistakes. Learn from them and move on.
22. Don't major in minor things.
23. Never waste an opportunity to tell someone you love them.
24. Take charge of your attitude. Don't let someone else choose it for you.
25. Focus on making things better, not bigger.
26. Take care of your reputation. It's your most valuable asset.
- 27 Watch for big problems. They disguise big opportunities.
28. Call your mother.



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I've been thinking

by Viv Cave Levin Orchid Society



At the last AGM there were not enough nominations to fill all positions on the council. Why? I am not sure. There are plenty in our club capable so why the reluctance. Wouldn't it be great if there were so many nominations we had to have an election. I have always found by taking an active part in the various clubs to which I belong I get more satisfaction and pleasure. I always say you only get out what you put in. Likewise with the club plant displays. You can't tell me that the few who regularly display their plants are the only ones who grow good orchids.

Give it a go and I guarantee you will grow them better and also it will give pleasure to us all to see what other members grow. The ones who helped with the display at the

National Shaw can look back with pride and say "I helped with that"

I understand a few clubs are falling by the wayside. Our club is still pretty strong but if we all take an active part it will become even stronger.

This month two of our well known members descended on me and re-roofed and relined my glasshouse which had been getting too dark. This was a wonderful and much appreciated gesture so now I will have no excuse for poorly grown plants. Growing orchids like most gardening is an ongoing learning process and to me is much like the answer my father gave to a young chap who asked him how long it took to become a builder. He thought for a while then said, "I have been building for 45 years — 45 years so far"

I'VE BEEN THINKING

How — after 70 years I am still learning how to grow plants.

How — I am learning to accept the generosity of others.

How — fortunate I am to have joined these clubs
for the fellowship and friendships I have made.



REMOVING

PLASTIC

MARKS

by George Fuller

I was born in 1929 - the 'Year of the Slump' of which 1987 was only a mild after shock in international terms. As if consequent economics were not enough, my Victorian-type father had had the maxim 'Waste not, want not' inculcated into every impulse and laboured the point. Economies permeated down to the number of matches used to light a candle required to grope ones way at night to the mysteries and apprehensions of a remote toilet where carefully dissected pages of the NZ Herald hanging on a rusty 4" nail were the ultimate in papyraceous hygiene. Dunny technology had advanced from the proverbial long-drop to the two 4 gallon kerosene tins with No 8 wire handles, one out the back for No 1 activity only and one inside for No 2 - or was it the other way around?

Add to all this business training the fact that I have on occasions been described by the less-respectful (ie family) as 'penny wise & pound foolish' and it will be readily understood that I have a strong aversion to throwing away even such a low cost item as a used plant label. Thus it was that the dawning of the realisation that methylated spirits is a solvent for the inks used in spirit based marker pens heralded a new era in my obsession with minuscule savings. Most, but not all labels can be restored to near - pristine splendour with infinite simplicity and little cost or effort by the following means.

MATERIALS

375g sealed top jam jar or equivalent

Methylated spirits

Mild abrasive (Jif, Chemico, Vim)

Moist cloth pad

Container (bucket) of rinse water

Cloth to dry.

METHOD

Place labels in jar.

Pour in meths sufficient to immerse fully.

Wait for about 10-15 minutes for meths to saturate ink.

Remove a few labels at a time draining surplus meths back into jar. Dab pad into abrasive and wipe firmly over label.

If writing does not budge immediately and easily throw label away. Drop labels into rinse water directly after erasing.

When all labels are completed replace lid on used meths and secure to avoid evaporation because this can be retained for future use with re-topping as required.

Agitate labels in rinse water and wipe dry if they still have a grubby film, otherwise air-dry.

AVOID

Attempting to dean too many at a time. Meths evaporates rapidly and may leave indelible stains.

Spending more than a few seconds on each label.

Some will not be cleaned by this method and are best discarded.

THE MOST DURABLE MARKER

Without doubt, lead pencil is THE most durable but has the disadvantage of not being particularly bold, resulting in the temptation of 'handling' labels in order that they be read. Indian ink, particularly as it actually etched into the old celluloid labels was very durable but few wish to be encumbered with a nib pen and bottle of ink.

In the public display arena, it is essential that labels be bold, so I opted for the fine tipped Stephens 'Vivid' spirit based marker which gives several years permanency in indoor use. It does not provide for writing of fine detail. There are numerous alternatives by

which individuals swear and justifiably so but there are also so-called garden markers with very questionable performance. Some that are not claimed for garden use are well suited for that purpose. Perhaps I should have carried out a trial of the alternatives in controlled conditions, but you see my frugal upbringing precludes outlay on such a lottery! If you have useful data, perhaps you will write to me.

A WARNING ABOUT CODED LABELLING

If for reasons of brevity and expediency, security

or whatever you have resorted to digital coding on your labels, make VERY sure that in the event of the Grim Reaper deciding unilaterally that you are a component of tomorrows harvest, some readily accessible means exists for others to decipher your code. Utter confusion is not a recommended ingredient of the grieving process and won't do your reputation a great deal of good amongst your successors and most particularly those obliged to try to make sense of matters.



HAVING TROUBLE WITH ORCHID NAMES—TRY THIS PRONUNCIATION OF LATIN NAMES

Botanists don't always agree on specific rules for pronunciation, but the following guidelines are generally agreed upon.

1. To pronounce a Latin name, remember to divide the word into syllables and pronounce every syllable clearly. Each vowel is usually placed in a separate syllable.

2. When pronouncing the word, try and accent all syllables equally.

3. Say each syllable and word with conviction. Try not to sound as if you are asking a question!

4. Don't be afraid to say a name incorrectly, because pronunciation varies even among professional botanists.

CYMBIDIUM FEATURE

This issue a number of articles are featured on that most popular of orchids - cymbidiums. I trust all readers will find this feature of interest, involving modern articles contributed by members of the Cymbidium Society of Australasia (NZ Branch) together with a historic article by one of the 'founders' of modern miniature breeding, Emma Menniger.

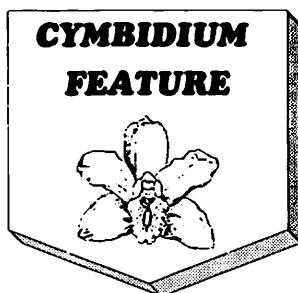
PARENTS THAT HAVE PRODUCED QUALITY NOVELTY CYMBIDIUMS OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

by John Brijevich

The first significant parent I will mention is Mary Pinchess (*pumilum* x Pajaro). In New Zealand the cultivar most used has been 'Del Rey' which received a B/CSA in 1965, described as a citron yellow. It has produced a number of crosses but two are of special mention. The first is Bonnies Pride (Mary Pinchess x Coraki) which gained the breeders award PBA/NZOS for Margaret Le Sueur. 'Colleen' was awarded HCC/NZOS and an

HCC/OCNZ, and 'Pure Gold' received a B/CSA and an HCC/NZOS. Both have fine clarity of colour on flowers presented on upright spikes. The second is Marycano

(Mary Pinchess x Volcano) which also received the breeders award PBA/NZOS, this time for Rose & Neville Armstrong. Two fine cultivars are 'Amber Glow' B/CSA, AM/NZOS and AM/OCNZ, and 'Tan' AM/OCNZ, again upright spiking this time with rich orange tan flowers.



Dag (Esmeralda x *pumilum*), another well awarded grex has been a successful parent, most successful in producing Little Big Horn (Dag x Sussex Moor) with many

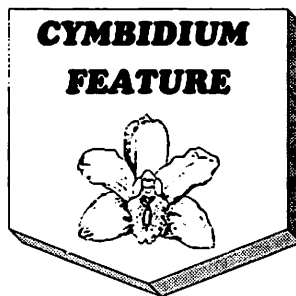
cultivars receiving awards in New Zealand and the USA. Two in New Zealand were 'Yellow Hair' AM/NZOS and AM/OCNZ, and 'Montessa Supreme' HCC/NZOS. These fine pure colour greens of good form are noted for prolific flowering on long spikes.

Speaking about novelty cymbidium parents must always include Peter Pan (*ensifolium* x *Miretta*). In its diploid form very few crosses were made but when Peter Pan 'Greensleaves' was converted to become tetraploid a landslide of hybridising was started. It was quickly found to some positive dominating features as a parent including ease of breeding, tendency to reduce size of bulb and foliage habit of its co-parent, upright flower spiking, and earliness in flowering. Moreover it was not dominant in flower colour and therefore when crossed with highly and different coloured parents many variations became possible. Two examples are Sunbreeze 'Sunrae' (*Cariga* x *Peter Pan*) B/CSA, a mustard yellow, and Runaway 'Pink Cloud' (*Radiant Harry* x *Peter Pan*) B/CSA, a soft pink.

There have been more awards with *Cym. devonianum* as a parent than any other. Some have been as miniatures but more generally they have come into the novelty category because of the wide *devonianum* foliage and because many crosses have been made with standard cymbidiums. One of the best is Jack Hudlow (*High Sierra* x *devonianum*) producing many tones of green with mostly deep red contrasting lips. 'Joan' B/CSA, AD/CSA and AD/OCNZ, and 'Waikanae' B/CSA, AM/NZOS, AM/OCNZ are two prime examples. Last Tango 'Geyslerland' (*Tropic Night* x *devonianum*) AM/NZOS is one of the finest novelty cymbidiums around over the past couple of years and it is noted that this cultivar has also been used in ongoing breeding. Last Tango 'Imai' also hit the spot with a B/CSA. Another lovely plant for

colour and lip is Pearl Dawson 'Kathleen' (*Miretta* x *devonianum*) B/CSA, HCC/NZOS and this is what often eventuates from *devonianum* crosses, a very boldly coloured lip and white pollen cap. Richard Tauber (*Radiant Harry* x *devonianum*) has been well awarded showing many flowers, another characteristic from *devonianum*, mostly in shades of pink and with bold lips. Awards for Mem Amelia Earhart (*Hazel Tyers* x *devonianum*) have been coming through, for example 'Rising Sun' B/CSA and 'Mae' B/CSA, all with stunning lips.

Cym. Dolly (*pumilum* x *Blue Pacific*) has produced successful novelties including One Tree Hill (*Coraki* x *Dolly*) with 'John's Quest' S/CSA, the very floriferous pure colour green awarded with 103 flowers on 5 spikes, and 'Waikanae Canary' B/CSA, HCC/NZOS and HCC/OCNZ to name only two awarded cultivars, and Globetrotter (*Dolly* x *Hazel Tyers*) the first of which was awarded in New Zealand 'Sunrae' B/CSA and HCC/NZOS and then came the off white 'Betty' which was first awarded with a B/CSA in 1994 followed by



next year on a much more floriferous plant. A second generation Dolly cross Del's Delight (Coraki x Peteete Doll) has also shown up well lately in New Zealand.

The miniature Ruby Eyes (*pumilum* x Sensation), particularly a tetraploid version 'Red Baron' has shown up as a parent of merit with Street Hawk (Claude Pepper x Ruby Eyes) cultivars 'Mem Tom Monk' S/CSA and AM/NZOS, 'Alert' B/CSA and HCC/NZOS, and 'Midnight' B/CSA. Khairpour (Chiefs Aura x Ruby Eyes) has also caught the eye of judges with many cultivars awarded.

The tetraploid version of Vogelsang 'Eastbourne' (*devonianum* x *insigne*) has now been used extensively as a parent of novelties, particularly by Andy Easton. One example is Rum Runner (Sensation x Vogelsang) four of which were awarded at the 50th Anniversary Santa Barbara Show, all B/CSA, 'Bert Tagami', 'Isanu', 'Phyllis' and 'Edith'.

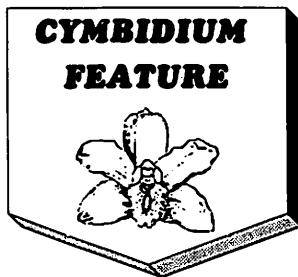
Cym. madidum is a species that has also been prominent in the production of novelties because although miniature flowers are often the result in crosses, bulbs and foliage are inclined to be gross. Some of the crosses to be awarded are Phar Lap (Flame Hawk x

madidum), Mad Peter (*madidum* x Peter Pan 4n), Mad Doctor (Dr Baker x *madidum*), Lambert Day (*madidum* x Hot Line), and Parish Madness (*madidum* x *parishii*). Perhaps the most striking though is the second generation Gladys Whitesell (Fifi x *parishii*), for example 'Profusion' gaining a B/CSA at Santa Barbara in 1995 with 66 flowers and 2 buds on 3 spikes. Loveliest of them all is 'The Charmer' GM/13 WOC, S/CSA and AM/AOS, Grand Champion at the 13th World Orchid Conference, Grand Champion at Santa Barbara 1994 and the CSA Orchid of the Year 1994.

PARENTS THAT HAVE PRODUCED QUALITY STANDARD CYMBIDIUMS OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

by Ross Tucker

This paper is on standard cymbidium parents which have been successful over the past decade. Perhaps we should set the parameters for such a bold task. Firstly, standard cymbidium.



You all know what I mean, the big ones. Secondly, successful. This may be a bit harder to define. Is it a successful mating, raising a few seedlings and then flowering them? Is it actually selling them to the great all knowledgeable "public",

who can appreciate all good hybrids, so there is financial success? But no, I think that talking to a group of CSA judges and members I am supposed to talk about successful standard cymbidiums that have gained awards. Mind you, from speaking about New Zealand CSA judges, I think that they are on the verge of redundancy. They cannot seem to find many plants to judge in New Zealand, they say they are all overseas and also that standard cymbidiums are now so good that no improvement is possible. You can tell this by the number of Gold Medal awards granted.

Now to the flowers. Pure Love (Pure Dawn x Puppy Love) has been awarded once by the CSA, 'Razzle Dazzle' B/CSA although other cultivars have been awarded by other New Zealand judging systems. It is under awarded by the CSA but will prove to be an important hybrid and parent,

Fanfare 'St Francis' 4n (Verde Grande x Mount Everest) has had only slight recognition as a parent but its progeny are still getting awards. Two recently have been Panache 'Royale Gem' (Fanfare x Blue Smoke) B/CSA and Valerie

Brown 'Raroa' (Fanfare x Zumma Boyd) B/CSA, both lovely greens with seventeen and sixteen flowers respectively on single spikes.

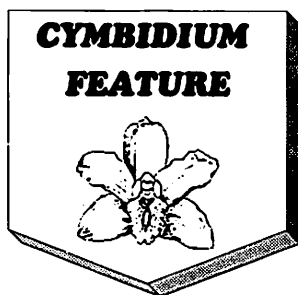
So Bold (Claudona x Claude Pepper) is another good parent again given slight recognition. Three recent awards have been So Bold 'Brown Eyes' B/CSA, Phyllis Chim 'Phyllis' (So Bold x Cora Paddison) B/CSA and Phyllis Chim 'Drury Hills' B/CSA, the former a rich brown and the latter two tan to orange.

Winter Fair (Fred Stewart x Stanley Fouraker) has made an impact and four recent awards are Sylvan Fair 'Princess Kiko' (Sylvania x Winter Fair) B/CSA and three cultivars of (Betty Ford x Winter Fair), 'Juncial', 'Cachuma' and 'White Diamond' all B/CSA and all floriferous whites. Winter White

'Harvey Field' (Winter Wonder x Cleo Sherman) also secured a B/CSA.

If we are talking grandparents, top of the pops must be Rincon 'Clarisse' 4n (Pearl x Windsor). It would be well ahead of the field and must now be recognised as the grandparent that has influence the most spectacular advances in standard cymbidiums in the last decade, and through its progeny is the most important parent. I can speak of three awards with Rincon 'Clarisse' 4n as a parent and fifteen as a grandparent, all recent, and this is by no means exhaustive.

Via Rincon Vista 'Osos-Sunrise' (Rincon x Via Vista) B/CSA, a yellow, Fancy Free 'Kevin Hipkins' (Rincon x Snow Sprite) B/CSA, white flushed pink, Claude Pepper 'Betty' (Rincon x Doris Aurea) B/CSA, deep red, all with Rincon 'Clarisse' 4n as one of the parents. As a grandparent there is Sonoma Sunset (Cora Paddison x Claude Pepper) 'Summer Dancer' and 'Natsuko' both awarded B/CSA and tan orange, Autumn Crisp 'Cinnabar' (Claude Pepper x Thanksgiving) B/CSA, copper red, and Regal Ruby 'Emiko' (Cora Paddison x Red Beauty) B/CSA, a pink.



Rincon 'Clarisse' 4n has also produced the current winner of the breeding competition, the most successful parent in the CSA breeding stakes, Solana Beach (Rincon x Atlantes). The converted form Solana Beach 'St Francis' 4n has produced so many award quality orchids including Via Nogales (Solana Beach x Sussex Dawn) 'Laura', 'Koyaana', both awarded S/CSA and 'Rose Quartz' B/CSA, all fine white standard cymbidiums, Via Del Playa 'Pink

Pussycat' (Solana Beach x Rincon) B/CSA pink. Perhaps we should look in New Zealand for these types of orchids. Anneke Bart 'Ortega Ridge' (Rio Rita x Solana Beach S/CSA a pale pink, (Musita x Solana Beach) 'Showtime' and 'Pink Dawn' both B/CSA and pink, (Mem Francis Cobb x Solana Beach) 'Valentine Rose' and 'Pink Perfection' both B/CSA and again pink. Awarded in New Zealand were Peter Dawson 'Bravado' (Solana Beach x Lunagrad) B/CSA and of

course Peter Dawson 'Grenadier' G/CSA, the former a delicate cream and the latter white with highlights.

One final note is that it is important for all judging systems to be active in promoting orchids through their judging system. They must recognise new hybrids and not just endorse choices made by other systems. It is a matter of opportunity.



Cym. eburneum AND ITS INFLUENCE ON MODERN HYBRIDS

by Cliff Hutchings

In the first book of *Sander's List of Orchid Hybrids* there are listed twenty three hybrids with *Cym. Eburneo-lowianum* as one parent. Among these are some quite interesting primary hybrids such as

Cym. Jean Brummitt (*devonianum* x)

Cym. Eburneo-giganteum (x *giganteum*)

Cym. Holfordianum (x *grandiflorum*)

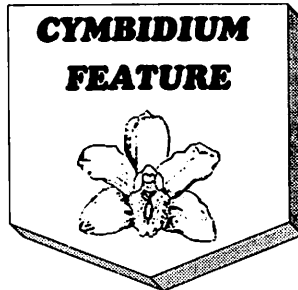
Cym. Gottianum (x *insigne*)

Cym. Wiganianum (x *tracyanum*)

Cym. Eburneo-lowianum (x *lowianum*)

Many of us have never seen these in flower although Andy Easton has remade some and plants of these are still available if one looks around. Most are of special interest only and would never be considered for an award in judging systems of today.

Because of the large number of hybrids around today that have



Cym. eburneum in their background (over 6,500) we will start with a rundown on the species itself, taken from an article by C & M Baker in the Nov/Dec 1993 issue of The Orchid Advocate.

Origin/Habit:

Nepal through to Northern India, Northern Burma and Southern Yunnan in China.

Climate:

Probable extremes of 35 degrees celsius and 0 degrees celsius.

Light:

2,500-3,000 foot candles - reasonable low light but plants in cultivation need as much light in autumn and winter without burning the foliage.

Humidity:

80-85% summer, early winter - 65-70% late winter, early spring.

Water:

Heavy, late spring into early autumn - decrease rapidly over one month to a winter dry period.

Fertiliser:

Half recommended strength, once a week

while plant is in active growth. Rest Period: Water greatly reduced for 3-4 months from late autumn - early summer.

Plant size:

Medium sized perennial epiphyte to 60cm tall.

Pseudobulbs:

Clustered rather ovoid somewhat compressed and about 100mm tall. Not produced annually but continue to grow in an indeterminate fashion for about three years before a new growth is produced.

Leaves:

5-7 fresh leaves produced annually that are about 60cm tall. Each pseudobulb will produce a total of 15-17 leaves during its active life.

Flowers:

Normally 1 or 2 per stem. They are 8-12 cm across, waxy, long lasting and very fragrant. Petals are white or faintly pink, lip is white with a bright

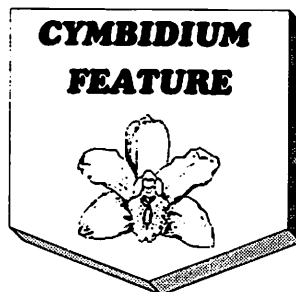
yellow central and basal patch on the mid lobe. The mid lobe is occasionally marked with pale purple/pink spots

Hybridising notes:

Chromosome count is 2n (40), although Andy Easton has recently produced a 4n (80) using colchicine.

Now that the species itself has been covered let us look at a select hybrid that has been made with *Cym. Eburneo-lowianum*, made by Veitch in 1989 and in fact the first man made orchid hybrid produced. The original Sander's List names 31 hybrids using *Cym. Eburneo-lowianum* as one parent and among them one in particular stands out as a forerunner to many hybrids. This is *Cym. Alexanderi* (*Eburneo-lowianum* x *insigne*). Now the numbers begin. The original Sander's List names 127 hybrids using *Alexanderi* including a cross with *Gottianum* which was named *Cym. Eagle* which when backcrossed to *Cym. Alexanderi* again, produced *Cym. Jungfrau* which is still used today for cut flower production.

In 1934 *Alexanderi* was crossed with *Rosanna*, itself being (*Alexanderi* x *Kittiwake*), to create *Cym.*



Balkis, which then became a good breeding parent producing:

Cym. Wallara (x *Auriga*)

Cym. Alegria (x *Rincon*)

Cym. Fred Stewart (Early Bird x)

Cym. Amy Stuart (x *Coronado*)

Cym. Baldoyle (x *Mission Bay*)

Cym. Evening Star (*pumilum* x)

With *Cym. Evening Star* we now have *Cym. eburneum* showing up in miniature and novelty lines.

In 1918 *Cym. Alexanderi* was crossed with *Cym. grandiflorum* making the hybrid *Cym. Pearl* which was then used with *Cym. Windsor* (*erythrostylum* x *Louis Sander*) to create *Cym. Rincon*. Interestingly enough *Cym. Louis Sander* is (*Alexanderi* x *Ceres*). *Cym. Rincon* is a very much used and successful

parent and has produced among others *Cym. Solana Beach* (x *Atlantes*) and *Cym. Via Del Playa* (*Solana Beach* x). Once again *Cym. Atlantes* is (*Alexanderi* x *erythrostylum*).

Another cross using *Cym. Alexanderi* (x *Vesta*), *Vesta* being (*Alexanderi* x *insigne*) created *Cym. Olympus* and then *Cym. Olympus* crossed with *Cym. pumilum* gives us *Cym. Olymilum* used in novelty and miniature breeding. *Cym. Olympus* crossed with *Cym. Pauwelsii* (*insigne* x *lowianum*) gave us *Cym. Babylon* and a number of other legendary hybrids including *Cym. Clarisse Carlton* (*Cambria* x *Babylon*), *Cym. Oriental Legend* (*pumilum* x *Babylon*), *Cym. Burgundian* (*Remus* x *Babylon*) and *Cym. Cleo Sherman* (*Alexanderi* x *Babylon*).

So all these well known cymbidiums, and of course many more, all go back to having *Cym. eburneum* in their background. But can you really see *eburneum* in these plants? However the main facts of *eburneum* when used in hybridising are:

—lowers the flower count

—usually does not pass on its fragrance

— multi-spiking properties.

However, that master hybridiser Andy Easton maintains that once past the forth generation the influence of *eburneum* is virtually non existent. In other words the other species dominate.



PARENTS THAT HAVE PRODUCED QUALITY MINIATURE CYMBIDIUMS OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

by Alf Day

When looking for successful parents in the hybridising of truly miniature

cymbidiums it becomes apparent that clear breeding lines far

removed from the species have been difficult to find. Species themselves predominate as the parents in the production

of quality miniatures awarded under the current CSA award system. This is not surprising when one considers the criteria for judging miniature cymbidium species that a plant must have known dwarf species in its primary or secondary parentage. Is this rule restricting hybridisers in developing breeding lines for truly miniature plants beyond second generation species parentage?

During the course of this research due note was taken of earlier articles in *The Orchid Advocate* pertaining to miniature species and miniature cymbidium breeding by Pat Rowlands, Clive Halls, Andy Easton, and Ray Dix and also of interest was the Bermagui story by Grant Cole. In these articles the principles and requirements of miniature breeding were clearly stated. It is always interesting to dig back into *The Orchid Advocate* for information and these articles are as relevant today as when written.

The two predominant species used have been *pumilum* and *devonianum* and these have been combined to make Miss Muffet which when

colchicine treated is unrivalled as a parent of quality miniatures. Mimi (*pumilum* x Doris Aurea) registered in 1961 is probably the oldest miniature hybrid to continue to appear in modern breeding and other species that have made an appearance in awarded plants are *ensifolium*, *maddidum*, *suave*, *canaliculatum*, *sinense* and *kanran*.

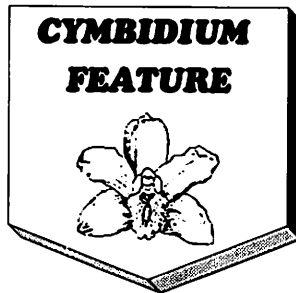
Early popularity rested with *pumilum* as the favoured dwarf species parent but this role has been taken over recently by *devonianum* with a number of successful crosses. Included in these are Bermagui (Negrito x *devonianum*) 'Charlie' B/CSA, 'Anna Marie' B/CSA, and 'Winnie' S/CSA, and Brook Street 'Featherhill' (Mayfair x *devonianum*) B/CSA. Devon Flute 'Charmer' (Magic Flute x *devonianum*) B/CSA has a

touch of another species in magic Flute (Blue Pacific x *kanran*).

Recent awarded *pumilum* hybrids include Little Bit 'Pala Pala' (Taboo x *pumilum*) B/CSA, Olymilum 'Ivory Elf' (*pumilum* x Olympus) B/CSA, and Sarah Jean 'Vapour' (*pumilum* x Sleeping Beauty) which received a recent CA/CSA but other cultivars have been recognised.

Miss Muffet 'Julie' 4n (*devonianum* X *pumilum*) CA/CSA is an example of this successful cross although 'Agate' 4n has been used as a parent more successfully by Andy Easton. Examples are Magic Muffet 'Tatsui' (Magic Flute x Miss Muffet) B/CSA, and Topo Gigio 'Louella' (Mighty Mouse x Miss Muffet) B/CSA. Langleyense (*devonianum* x *lowianum*) when combined with Miss Muffet has produced good results for Andy Easton. Another Miss Muffet cross successful with awards is Brown Ale (Showgirl x Miss Muffet) having an additional injection *pumilum* from Showgirl.

Other recently awarded miniatures having species other than *pumilum* or *devonianum* added include from *sinense*, Minnehaha (*sinense* x



devonianum) 'Cha Cha' B/CSA and 'Shizue Kage' B/CSA. The straight species *sinense* 'Summer Palace' B/csa was also recognised, from *canaliculatum*, Chiisana (Mimi x *canaliculatum*) 'Kristen' B/CSA, 'Kawaii' B/CSA and 'Hisako' B/CSA, the straight species *canaliculatum* 'Cinnabar' B/CSA was also recognised, and from *madidum*, Cricket 'Cascade' (*devonianum* x *madidum*) received a B/CSA.

Two other dwarf species of note that were recognised with awards recently were *ensifolium alba* 'Sister' B/CSA and *forrestii* 'Amanda' B/CSA.

During investigation of awarded miniatures it became clear that grexes

CYMBIDIUM FEATURE



awarded under the miniature category were also awarded as novelties, indicating that some cultivars were too large either in flower or foliage to be judged as miniatures. This is because frequently a miniature species is crossed with a larger flowering hybrid. Larger plant size is thus inherent in the cross, even though some progeny will veer towards miniature. Perhaps the future of

miniature breeding lies with the sole use of miniature species in crosses and in this regard we should have high hopes for the Asian and Australian species now coming more into cultivation than previously. There also remains the question of that restrictive rule barring any cross with miniature species in parentage beyond grandparent. If a breeding line is developed producing true miniature characteristics it should be given due recognition in the miniature cymbidium category, surely.



spectrum of types derived representing a broad Southern California, nearly all these in bred in California and Cymbidiums to date were registrations of miniature Nearly 70 of the 96 California breeders. the fancy of a number of which particularly caught

hybridization Cymbidium in trend established a new tall racemes, pink flowers on hybrid with small This delightful species *punctatum* and the dwarf species *insigne* son with the

novelty cross made by his Alexander's Minnet, a flowering of Mr H. G. the year 1942 with the first drew attention about Cymbidiums flowered species. A few gathered, these can only be considered tentative. Numerous crosses involving *punctatum* and other species are in the pre-flowering stage and we shall soon add to our knowledge of the dominant and recessive and breeding traits of the various species.

the so-called second include species: treated which miniatures will be categories of miniatures will be treated which include species: the so-called second generation hybrids; the polyploids (polyploid miniatures) the hybrids of the coriaceous complex with small flowers on fairly large plants. We shall keep in mind that a Cymbidium miniature flower should be two and one-half inches or less in



Miniature cymbidiums are popular today. This article, first published by Alex Hawkes in his publication The Orchid Journal in July 1964 is an interesting review of the start of this popular line of breeding.

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Miniature-flowered Cymbidium Species and Hybrids

Emma D. Menninger

size, preferably on a small plant, otherwise it might be considered a small standard type *Cymbidium* flower.

Since nearly half of the registered hybrids to date derive from the dwarf species *pumilum*, these will occupy the main part of the paper. In the space allotted, only a small number of these can be considered. The typical brownish red variety of *pumilum* has a dwarf habit and floriferous semi-erect racemes. The leaves are narrow and usually under one foot in length; the flowers an inch or less in width. There are a number of varieties, some with variegated leaves: one, *pumilum* variety album is apple green, sometimes suffused with brown, and with only light lip markings. Two colourful varieties are *yashima* and *shiratoma*, the latter owned by Viola and Don Saurenman.

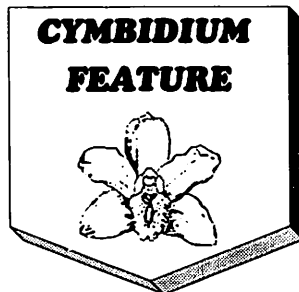
Only two years after Minuet, McBean's Orchids registered Pumander (Louis Sander x *pumilum*). Several clones of this cross came to California and the cultivar, 'Imp' received and Award of Distinction from the Cymbidium Society for the late Arno Bower. Pumander 'Greenoaks' is a similar

clone. Both are apple green when flowered in subdued light, otherwise a brownish suffusion mars the clear colour. Other early *pumilum* hybrids, Flirtation (Zebra x *pumilum*) and Bo-Peep (*pumilum* x *Purpleum*) both registered by Fred A. Stewart, Inc., and Polka (*pumilum* x Madeleine) and Sweetheart (*pumilum* x Alexanderi 'Hamilton-Smith') by Arno Bower are justly popular. The immense specimen of Flirtation 'Wallingford' was an eye-opener at a San Diego show. Soon after came our cross of Fairy Wand (*pumilum* x Princess Maria).

Princesse Maria has a very tall raceme of well-formed pink flowers that called a pink hollyhock to mind and seemed the ideal parent for a miniature when mated to *pumilum*. This cross as a whole is consistently good and a number of clones have won awards, and many others, I believe, are just as good. Among

the awards, Fairy Wand 'Ruby Wine' flowered by Stewarts won an AM from the American Orchid Society and the Orchid Digest Corporation as well as a Bronze Certificate from the Cymbidium Society. It is a very dark wine colour and has been distributed among a number of growers. Fairy Wand 'Mognon' also had a Bronze from the Cymbidium Society and the cultivars Fairy Wand 'Santa Maria' (originally listed as cultivar 'Santa Anita') and 'Bewitched' received awards from the O.D.C. Fairy Wand 'Sanremo' is one of my favourites because of its deep rose colour and smaller than usual flowers. The colours of Fairy Wand range from light pink to deep wine. The majority of them have tall racemes well above the foliage.

Pipeta (*pumilum* x Spartan Queen) also comes in beautiful wine shades. It is an origination of Mrs. Mary Bea Ireland. The cultivar 'Mary Bea' won a Bronze from the Cymbidium Society. Pathfinder (*pumilum* x Cariga), registered by Dr. Lee Lenz, has produced many good clones, one of which is Pathfinder 'Marjorie' owned by Mr Leonard Brummitt of England.



The Dos Pueblos crosses Alice Williams (*pumilum* x Shina Black), Tom Thumb (*pumilum* x Coronado) and Mary Pinchess (*pumilum* x Pajaro) have received a good share of awards.

Mimi (*pumilum* x Doris Aurea 'Cardinal') of which the 'Sandalwood' cultivar is outstanding, is especially admired because of its unusual lip. On presenting it for an award last year, I was told that it lost by half a point. True or not, it is one of the most sought for miniatures in our collection and has been illustrated in the English publication, *Selected Orchidaceous Plants* by Roy and Ann Grubb. Some seedlings of this cross had deformed flowers on first flowering and I have heard of another *pumilum* cross with a red flower as one parent that also had deformed flowers. So far, the genetical reason, if such it is, is not understood. Mimi 'Sandalwood' shows no sign of this defect over a period of years.

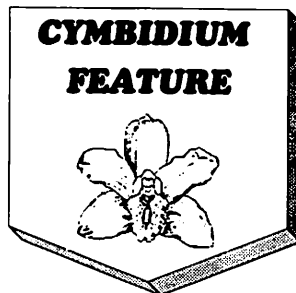
Our cross 'Celadon' (*pumilum* x Ruskin 'Majestic') is of note that nearly all the clones flowered to date have been light green, a few being tan. The *pumilum* parent was the type brown

variety, while the Ruskin was green. From the evidence, it looks as though *pumilum* is more or less colour recessive, although some varieties of *pumilum* have green tones. It seems not to matter very much whether the brown or the album form is used as a parent, for the second parent usually dominant for colour. Indeed, there are white and near white cultivars of Flirtation as well as Evening Star 'Snowball'. Both, I believe, were bred from the brown *pumilum*.

Cherry Blossom which had the brown *pumilum* as one parent, was mated to the very colour dominant white species *erythrostylum*. The resulting hybrids are small editions of *erythrostylum* in tints of white pale pink. The form of flower and colourful lips are evidently derived from *erythrostylum*. Filigree (Dingleden x *pumilum*) is strongly influenced by the devonianum parent of

Dingleden, both as to its flowers and pendent to semipendent habit of raceme. The fact that *pumilum* appears so colour recessive gives much leeway in the choice of the second parent to secure variety of colour in the offspring.

We now come to the polyploid miniatures which I have called polymins. In two crosses of Dr. Lee Lenz, Oriental Legend (*pumilum* x Babylon 'Castle Hill') and Evening Star (*pumilum* x Balkis) there is improved form and substance of the flowers. Although the size of the flowers is larger than in the diploids, it is not so great as to eliminate them from the miniature class. Many awards were given to these two crosses, as many as six, I believe, at one meeting of the Cymbidium Society. It early appeared that Oriental Legend was a freer bloomer, but this may have been due to the slower maturity of the Evening Star. Among Oriental cultivars shown by Stewart's were Oriental Legend 'Fairy Jewels' which received a Bronze Certificate from the Cymbidium Society and Oriental Legend 'Fairy Charm' which received the Bronze award from the Cymbidium Society as



well as an HCC from the Orchid Digest Corporation. The cultivar 'Cinnamon' won a coveted AM from the Orchid Digest Corporation and a Bronze Certificate from the Cymbidium Society.

A recent polymin to flower is our cross Pinafore (*pumilum* x *Pauwelsii* 'Comte de Hemptinne'). Only four seedlings, to my knowledge, have flowered to date, all being pale yellow to gold. Pinafore 'Sailor Boy' has an upright spike with yellow-gold flowers. These flowers were very long lasting. There appear to be two types of seedlings; those characterized by strong growth, and others that are much smaller. It will be interesting to compare both types in flower to see if there is a correlation with the growth habit.

A recent exciting development is the flowering of the so-called second generation *pumilum* hybrids. The late Arno Bower made a number of crosses using several clones of Sweetheart with large-flowered types. Many seedlings were excellently grown and flowered by Mr Paul Miller who exhibited them for

awards which they won with acclaim. Among these are Gareth (Nereid x Sweetheart) HCC/O.D.C., King Arthur 'Merlin' (Sweetheart x Nila), a Bronze from the Cymbidium Society, King Arthur 'Gem Stone', Lynette (Blue Smoke x Sweetheart), and Pelleas 'Zuma' (Sweetheart x Claucis) HCC/ODC and AOS. Another cross Showgirl (Sweetheart x Alexanderi) was in one case made with Alexanderi 'Hamilton-Smith' and in another with Alexanderi 'Weston-birt'. Showgirl 'Zuma' and Showgirl 'Dawn', both, I believe, were derived from Alexanderi 'Hamilton-Smith'.

A number of breeding characteristics of *pumilum*, as well as the growth habits of its hybrids may be briefly stated:

1. While *pumilum* has given seed when its pollen is applied to the larger flower, the chances of success appear much

greater when *pumilum* is used as the seed-bearing parent.

2. A strong dose of *insigne* genes in the larger flower, in most cases, gives an erect raceme to the progeny.

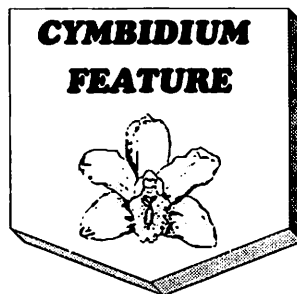
3. Hybrids of *pumilum* show a tendency to flower over a period of many months that is not necessarily related to the spring flowering of *pumilum*, nor to the flowering period of the other parent. Indeed, we have had Fairy Wands in flower in every month of the year.

4. A succession of racemes on the same plant is not unusual in hybrids, often a new spike appearing when another is in full flower. Mrs. Patricia Rowland has had a succession of five spikes on Fairy Wand 'Elma' that kept the plant in flower for six months.

5. The species *pumilum* resents greenhouse culture here in Southern California and usually refuses to flower unless grown outdoors.

6. Hybrids of *pumilum* will flower under warmer night conditions than either *pumilum* itself or other cool-growing Cymbidiums.

7. Mr De Garmo's experience has shown



that *pumilum* hybrids stand much colder when grown outdoors in Southern California.

8. The species *pumilum* appears to have limited colour dominance.

9. The progeny of *pumilum* when mated to larger flowers, are smaller than might be expected, even to the second generation.

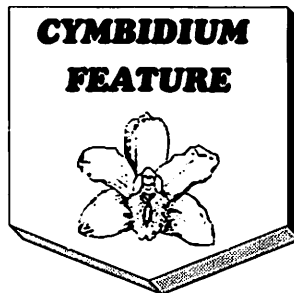
10. Many *pumilum* hybrids appear to be sterile; however there are a few proven breeders. These include clones of Sweetheart, Oiso, Camelot, several Fairy Wands and no doubt others. Since some of the *pumilum* hybrids are fragrant, I have been interested to learn if they are breeders. A number of clones of Oriental Legend are scented, and although believed to be sterile triploids, they are being tested out of curiosity to see if they will breed.

A number of species other than *pumilum* have been employed to breed miniature Cymbidiums. Among these is *Cymbidium devonianum*. It might be mentioned here that there seems to be no sterility barrier in the *devonianum* hybrids as that found in the *pumilum* progeny. The species

devonianum was among the first dwarf species to be hybridized. This species is a medium size plant with wide petioled leaves and many-flowered pendulous racemes. The flowers are about two inches in width of greenish brown, the lip heavily covered with purplish brown. This species is very dominant for colour, pendant raceme and lip pattern. There are exceptions as in the case of Vogelsang (*devonianum x insigne*) and old hybrid recently remade by McBean's Orchids. Here, *insigne*, usually very dominant for erect racemes, has made a hybrid with semi-erect racemes of fawn pink. Dingledden (*Alexanderi x devonianum*) and Jean Brummitt (*devonianum x eburneum*) have white or near white parents on one side, but the clones that I have seen of these two crosses are all fairly dark with pendent spikes. However, in Cameo, when *devonianum* is bred

with the dominant species *erythrostylum*, the colour of the progeny is white to light pink and tans. In one of our new crosses, Cricket (*devonianum x madidum*) the apple green of *madidum* seems entirely lost for the flowers are brown and much smaller than most *devonianum* crosses. Mrs. Ireland's cross Sola (*Cota x Jean Brummitt*) comes in browns, tans and greens with pendent spikes. The hybrids of *devonianum*, as well as *devonianum* itself, are best flowered outdoors in Southern California.

The summer flowering, fragrant species *ensifolium* has been collected in a number of varieties with colours ranging from light cream, to yellow and green. Some varieties are clear coloured, but many have red-brown lines and suffusion. The fine variety *unge kwanon*, concolor cream, appears to me to be identical with the species *shoshin*, which is probably a form of *ensifolium*. The *ensifolium* raceme is generally erect and this trait is usually contributed to its offspring. Peter Pan (*ensifolium x Miretta*) is a Dos Pueblos cross. The cultivar 'Greensleeves' won an HCC from the AOS and O.D.C for its



owner, Lloyd De Garmo. It is noted for its lovely green flowers and very tall well-flowered racemes. A recent cross of ours, Kim (*ensifolium* x Pearl 'Mastiff') is very similar. An advantage of *ensifolium* as a parent, aside from its erect raceme, is the tendency of its hybrids to flower in late summer and fall. A late cross of Stewart's, Korintji (*ensifolium* x Rangoon) has interesting flowers in tints of yellow. Among several cultivars shown at the last fall Arboretum show, one was awarded.

The species *tigrinum* is very dwarf with pseudobulbs the size of a walnut and about as wrinkled. The leaves are small but wide, the flowers are fairly large for the size of the plant of yellowish-green, being about two inches in width. The modern crosses by Stewart's include Tiger Tail (*tigrinum* x Alexanderi 'Westonbirt'), Tiger Hunt (*tigrinum* x Nam Khan) and Tiger Cub (Esmerella x *tigrinum*). These plants are fairly large as are the flowers. Considering the small size of *tigrinum*, one would say it is recessive for plant size. The flowers of the first two, being polymins, are generally of a clear

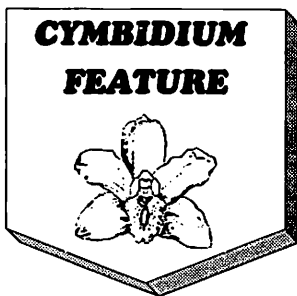
yellow. An older cross in our collection is Jewel (Pauwelsii x *tigrinum*). The flowers are stary of deep yellow-green.

A rather ubiquitous species, *dayanum* (syn. *simonsianum*) is found from Sikkim to Sumatra and it appears that the area from which it was collected determines the season of flowering. Our plants came from the Philippines from about 5000 feet elevation and flower in December and January, while those from northern habitats flower earlier in the season. The dull white flowers are stary shaped with the petals almost clasping forward, as do so many of the Asian species of *Cymbidium*. Mr De Garmo's *Dayanum* variety *tartar* CCM/ODC 1963 was grown from a three-bulb import to a ten-inch container in 10 years without any dormant bulbs. The persistent leaves of *dayanum* permit the plant to grow to a

large size while retaining the leaves on all the pseudobulbs.

We have two hybrids of *dayanum*, Amethyst with Charm and Lavalliere with Fairy Princess. Both have long leaves, rather stary flowers but flatter than *dayanum*. Amethyst has colours true to its name, while those of Lavalliere are lavender pink. Both crosses are distinguished by their graceful, many-flowered racemes, which on a specimen plant are very attractive.

The three Australian species, *canaliculatum*, *madidum* (syn. *iridifolium*) and suave have very small flowers, less than an inch in width. The floriferous racemes are very beautiful and, I fear, like the prophet, are not appreciated in their own country. The strain of *canaliculatum sparkesii* has thick leathery leaves of grey-green. The flowers appear almost black in the bud and on first opening, then turning to a deep maroon. There are a number of varieties of *canaliculatum*; some having much green, some having flower segments bordered with green, and at least one that has a tan background with speckled spotting. Coming from different



areas from deserts to tropical Queensland, varieties should be grown with their native habitats in mind.

Hybridization of *canaliculatum* is not always easy, but we have seedlings with *devonianum*, *pumilum*, Lyoth and others.

The apple green form of *madidum* as well as the yellowish variety *leroyi* have pendulous racemes with many flowers. The pseudobulbs are very large and almost conical. The leaves are long and wide and of bright green colour. Mrs. Ireland has flowered a number of *madidum* crosses with large-flowered parents. The plants, much reduced in size from the *madidum* parent, are distinguished by their long arching racemes and flowers in tints of yellow and green. These include *Impish*, *Mitzi* and *Torette*. Our cross of *devonianum* with *madidum* has many small brown flowers that earned its name, *Cricket*.

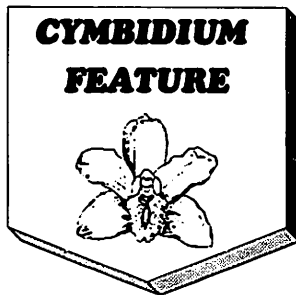
Cymbidium suave, one of the least known of the Australian species, is a little jewel in tints of green and yellow. It blooms profusely in its native haunts in the bush and is said to be a

wonderful sight when in flower at the tops of trees. The growth of the plant is most peculiar for a *Cymbidium*, it having no pseudobulbs, with narrow leaves in tufts that almost give the appearance of a climber in the succession of growths. The flowers are somewhat similar to those of *madidum*. We have seedlings of *suave* with *madidum* and with *pumilum*. The season of flowering of the three species is in spring with *canaliculatum* being earliest, *madidum* next and *suave* latest.

The *Cymbidium suavissimum* (no connection with *suave*), is so far as I know, represented by a single clone that has been in the Charlesworth collection in England for at least 30 years. Not much is known of its origin, but having recently flowered, its value as a parent of miniature *Cymbidiums* was realized and it was featured in recent

numbers of the *Orchid Review* by the editor, Mr Blowers. The flowers resemble *pumilum*, but there the similarity ends for *suavissimum* has very long racemes on a fairly large plant. Since *suavissimum* has never had the baptism of the botanists as a valid species, we wonder if it could be a hybrid. Often mentioned as having an Award of Merit from the Royal Horticultural Society, there appears to be no record of this award. From the reports of the flowering of *suavissimum* in various periodicals, it would appear to be an autumn bloomer.

A few other species that have been hybridized include *niveo-marginatum* from China allied to *ensifolium* and *hoosai*. Mr Willard Graves has a lovely rose coloured hybrid with *Cymbidium John Blowers* named *Chanticlear*. Mrs. Ireland has a cross of *hoosai* with *Rio Rita 'Radiant'*, a deep red that has lost the clasping petals of *hoosai* to give a well-formed flower. Two Asian species, *formosanum* and *lancifolium* with similarly shaped flowers with forward inclination of the petals, are somewhat difficult to hybridize, but Mr De Garmo has a cross

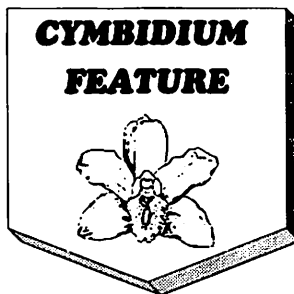


with Greenwood on *formosanum* in the early seedling stage. Because of *formosanum*'s narrow leaves and dwarf habit, it seems an ideal parent for miniatures. A similar species, but even dwarfer, is *virescens* with solitary green flowers. It has been crossed with *pumilum*, but the first flowering was somewhat disappointing, for the flowers were of drab colour and were hidden in the foliage. Recently a polymorph of *virescens* with Balkis has shown improvement with well-shaped flowers on a raceme above the foliage. This probably points the direction that can be followed for satisfactory hybrids of *virescens*.

The species *longifolium* and *elegans* (the latter also referred to the genus *Cyperorchis*) are both found in Northern India with *Gammieanum* which is believed to be a natural hybrid of the two. The three *Cymbidiums* were growing beautifully in hanging baskets outside our hotel window in Darjeeling, India, in October. I do not know the temperature, but the nights were very cold.

The coriaceous-leaved *Cymbidiums* must be treated briefly. These species are very interesting and because of their many similarities,

they are difficult to identify. We have attempted to collect as many as possible and feel that we may have the largest collection anywhere. One species that presents the most problems is *aloifolium*, which, so far as I have seen, at least a dozen so labelled clones have been *simulans* of Rolfe. One species of this group is the rare *atropurpureum* which we have crossed with the hybrid Lyoth. Other species in this group are *bicolor*, *finlaysonianum*, *pubescens* and *pendulum*. The last mentioned is distinguished by pointed leaves, while most of the others have blunt leaves usually notched at the tip. A characteristic feature of *simulans* is the vertical red lines on the front lobe of the lip. I might say that I am not convinced that *aloifolium* and *simulans* are not one and the same species.



The cross Patricia Anne (*aloifolium* x *Dryad*) was registered by Mr Norris Powell and is rather widely grown in Southern California. It becomes a large plant before it flowers and if space is available, is worth growing for its attractive flowers of white to pink. Nearly all the hybrids of this group make large plants adapted to hanging pot or basket culture. Because many of the parent species are from regions of high night temperatures, their hybrids may flower in places where cool-growing *Cymbidiums* are difficult to flower. This is being tested in Florida, Rangoon, the West Indies and Singapore.

In closing I would like to suggest that we strive for more variety in miniature *Cymbidiums* and not feel that our goal is to achieve a rubber stamp replica of larger awarded *Cymbidiums*. I believe that too much sameness will in time breed disinterest. David Grayson in "Adventures in Contentment" opines that we are inclined "to worship standardization".

Greenoaks Arcadia, California



JUDGING CRITERIA FOR INTERMEDIATE AND NOVELTY CYMBIDIUMS

BY RAY DIX

INTRODUCTION

In 1994 the Manual of Award Judging was revised. Such a step is bound to cause a whole heap of discussion and controversy. It is human nature to resist change and some of us scream louder and longer than others. However if the changes do stand the test of time they become the norm, and the screams die off to be reborn when the next changes come up. Why make changes you may ask? It is important for judges to keep an up to date awareness of trends in hybridising so that judging standards and criteria keep abreast. Hybridisers make changes to strive for improvement to their breeding lines with the expectation of recognition by judges, exhibitors and the general buying public, and it is important that any judging system is also right in amongst this interaction.

The most interesting change to the revised manual is the introduction

of the new class of Intermediate Cymbidiums. These are my personal thoughts on the reasons for this new class and the interplay with the Novelty Cymbidium class.

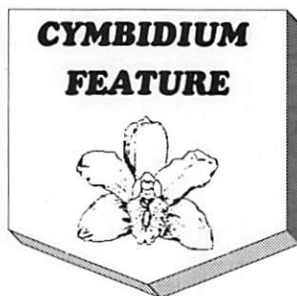
There is still criticism of the need for the new class of Intermediate Cymbidium. But standard cymbidiums were getting bigger, a very wide range of novelty cymbidiums were getting awarded, and a large number of well formed cymbidiums were appearing which because of their breeding were compact, accepted and admired by many, but fell into a no category hole. With this new class introduction comes also

changes to Novelty Cymbidium criteria which supports truly novel types of cymbidium with dwarf parentage.

INTERMEDIATE CYMBIDIUMS

Classification is to encourage and recognise the more compact flowering cymbidiums with classical form. It is not for poorly grown stunted standard cymbidiums and dwarf parentage is not required although not barred.

Form has exactly the same criteria as for standard cymbidiums including the open star shaped form and a new oval type form, added to both categories since last revision of the manual. Seventy five percent of the available points for form are required before an award is granted. With 36 points out of a total of 100 for form as for standard cymbidiums, form quality is important and good balance and symmetry is stressed. Clearly a small standard flower is sought for this classification.



Colour has also exactly the same criteria as for standard cymbidiums with 75% of the available 36 points necessary before an award is given so again it is clear that a small standard cymbidium is sought.

Floriferousness of spike and plant gives discretion to the judge in that one or more spikes are allowed according to the size of the plant and actual numbers of flowers is not defined beyond the statement that a reasonable number should be present. This departs significantly from standard cymbidium criteria which has an exact number of points according to the number of flowers on the spike to be judged. Size of the flower is not scored at all unlike criteria for standard cymbidiums which has a precise point chart to match flower size. My personal view on the size range applicable for intermediates is for a maximum size of about 10cm. It is clear that the appearance of the flowers relative to the total plant is the guide in this section of pointing.

Spike habit and flower arrangement criteria for intermediates are the same as for standard cymbidiums with flowers ideally clear of foliage and well presented on the spike. Spikes can be

upright or arching but pendulous spikes are not catered for in this category.

Substance and texture are the same for both intermediate and standard cymbidiums so pointing in the latter three categories are identical. However, the last scoring category for intermediate cymbidiums, that of charm and distinction, is not pointed in standard cymbidium judging. Charm and distinction is a phrase difficult to define. It requires something of a sense of the artistic of judges, an ability to approve of the whole plant as a balanced entity which is special and pleasing. Therefore no cut spikes are judged in the criteria for judging an intermediate cymbidium.

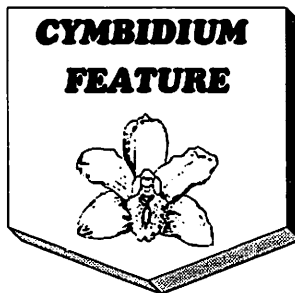
NOVELTY CYMBIDIUMS

Classification is for miniature type cymbidiums which are not necessarily miniature in growth or flower habit and would not qualify under miniature cymbidium

classification. This wording straight out of Ireland no doubt, is rather hard to be definite about. Suffice to say that plant or flower size can range from miniature upwards but there must be dwarf species in the parentage.

A wider range of form types is now acceptable for novelties but with an accent on symmetry and balance and pleasing proportion the importance of form is still present, and 75% of the available 20 points needs to be scored before an award is granted. Nevertheless it does appear that truly novel cymbidiums can fit into this category providing that dwarf parentage is present in the breeding. Note that the word I have used is novel, not ugly.

Acceptable colours are now more completely defined for novelty cymbidiums recognising breeding trends in colour ranges. Bright fresh looking colours are still paramount. As for form, 75% of the available 20 points must be scored before an award is possible. However it is important to note the reduced value of form and colour for novelties compared to intermediate cymbidiums, 20 points compared to 36 for each category. Another indication that novel types of cymbidium are encouraged in this classification.



As for intermediate cymbidiums the number of spikes should be in proportion to size of the plant so it is a judgment discretion. Number of flowers per spike however is more precise with a guideline of 12 or more. Indicative again that novel types with a heavy flower count can fit well into this classification, particularly with 15 available points. The *devonianum* breeding lines fall readily to mind as an example.

A reduced number of points to five from ten for substance and texture reduces the importance of this category again giving more lenience in judging novel cymbidiums.

Spike habit and flower arrangement has more succinct wording than previously to state that flowers should be clear of foliage be they on upright, arching or pendulous spikes, and be well presented on the spike. An important criterion with 15 points available.

Appearance of foliage also has a relatively high value of ten points making it clear that for novelty cymbidiums the whole plant is judged, cut flowers are not accepted.

Increasing the value of charm and distinction from ten to fifteen points also places the whole plant

under judgment. In a similar way as for intermediate cymbidiums judges are left to their own artistic senses to score this category.

SUMMARY

In comparing available points in the judging criteria for intermediate and novelty cymbidiums it is clear that there is a greater emphasis on form and colour for intermediates. To balance this novelties score more in the combined total for other characteristics of floriferousness, substance and texture, spike habit and arrangement, appearance of foliage, and overall charm and distinction. Individually of these, substance and texture scores less for novelties, and there are no points for appearance of foliage allocated for intermediates.

With space limitation imposed on many growers these days and a wish by many to avoid plants that are too large to lift or transport to shows, intermediate and novelty cymbidiums are two very important classes within our judging system. These cater well for the small to medium flowering cymbidiums and my interpretation of the revised judging criteria for them are:

• **I n t e r m e d i a t e** cymbidiums - smaller than standard cymbidiums - no miniature parentage, necessarily well formed - whole plant is judged.

• Novelty cymbidiums - truly novel types miniature parentage - medium to small flowers with charm holding more value than form - whole plant is judged.

Ray Dix
May 1995



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IMPORTATION OF ORCHIDS

Orchid Plants:

Orchid plants are classified as nursery stock and require a prior permit to import and post entry quarantine in a MAF approved greenhouse for a minimum of three months. Plants must have any rooting media washed off the roots before export and must be accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the official Plant Protection Agency in the country of export. Plants will be subject to inspection on arrival by an MAF Quarantine Officer. On the permit application form the orchids must be scientifically named, preferably to species if possible. Before a permit can be issued the

proposed quarantine greenhouse must be approved by an MAF Field Officer. For more information about MAF greenhouse requirements or for a permit application form for quarantining nursery stock in a private greenhouse, please contact the nearest MAF office where a Field Officer is stationed.

If you do not have a greenhouse of your own, another option for a small amount of material is to have the plants quarantined at the NZ Plant Protection Centre Lynfield. Quarantine fees are based on the amount of bench space used. The minimum fee is \$250 + GST for one

square metre of bench space. Beyond this the fee is best discussed with the Greenhouse manager. To obtain a permit to import using Lynfield for quarantine, contact the Permit Officer, Plant Protection Centre, Ministry of Agriculture, Box 41, Auckland for an application form.

There are costs involved with the importation of nursery stock. The permit fee is \$80 including GST and fees are payable for the Field Officer's time and mileage for inspections in a private greenhouse.

Orchids Growing In Sterile Flasks:

No permit or post entry quarantine is required for

orchids in flasks but the following precautions must be followed.

Labelling: Cultures must be carefully identified with their scientific name.

Cleanliness: Cultures imported in growing media must have been grown in the vessel in which they are imported. The container must be rigid, clear plastic or glass.

Phytosanitary Certificate (PC): Cultures must be accompanied by

a PC, certifying that they have been inspected in the country of origin and are free of any contaminating organisms.

For plantlets recently removed from culture the PC must be endorsed that:

"These plantlets were removed from the original culture containers in which they were grown, not more than 48 hours before export, and have not been in contact with any other growing media".

These conditions for importing nursery stock are in accordance with

NASS STANDARD 155.02.06 Specification for Importation of Nursery Stock.

(Reprinted from New Zealand Orchid Society Newsletter March 1996).



Transporting your cymbidiums to shows

Transporting your cymbidiums to and from shows is always a problem. The low aerodynamic motor vehicle of today has one major design problem. It does not easily fit a large plant with spikes of flowers one metre or more in height. No wonder the serious grower and exhibitor have adopted vans as their preferred style of transport. A van provides the necessary height for a plant to be placed in the vehicle with sufficient space to avoid damage to the blooms. Alternatively

a trailer with a canopy performs the same function, although it is wise to run the trailer with slightly lower air pressure to minimise the bumpy ride. A cymbidium in flower usually has very poor balance — drive carefully and have your plants firmly secured. Quick stops and takeoffs and fast cornering are recipes for disaster. (Also stopping suddenly to check road names in an unfamiliar area would have the same effect.

Sorry about reporting that Helen. Who knows that lady in the car behind may just be an orchid club member from somewhere and will now know just who it was that frightened the living daylight out of her!).

An easy way of securing plants is to obtain a polystyrene box, turn it upside down, cut a hole in the centre equal to the size of the pot at the base. Place the pot in the hole and because of the increasing width of the pot, it grips securely in the foam box.



Whangarei Orchid Society celebrates its 21st Birthday

After months of planning and worrying whether the wet weather had delayed the flowering season, setting up day arrived. Although the day was wet, we needn't have worried as car loads of plants began arriving. Show Marshal Bruce Gover soon had the workers in organised groups and by the end of the day, the hall looked a grand sight. The main display in the centre of the hall was by the Whangarei Orchid Society which was constructed around a large cake measuring four metres square at the base and reaching a height of four metres. Other displays were entered by the Bay of Islands Orchid Society, Dargaville Orchid Society and several private members alcoves. The Bay of Islands Orchid Society which won the cup for the best display, which also featured a cake

made up of hundreds of cymbidium flowers all individually set in tubes.

Friday morning and the judges had their customary early breakfast made by Marie Finegan and her helpers and their task was over well before the main doors were due to open. The Best of Show was awarded to Nola Chisnall's *Dendrochilum tenellum*. This plant was last year given a cultural award and this year was even more magnificent with its thousands of flowers in a very even display around the plant.

Other plants which caught the eye were David White's *Paphiopedilum Julia* with ten flowers on six spikes, and Wally and Margaret Lomas's display of four *Phal. formosum*, two of which came first and second in the phalaenopsis class, and Nola and Gordon Chisnall's *Masdevallia Reinstall* and (*Dendrobium tetragonum* x Star of Gold).

The doors of the show opened Friday at 11 am and the public entered in a continuous steady flow for the next two and half days, which resulted in the treasurer being kept busy and pleased to announce that the door

takings were up five percent on the previous year. Was this the result of more advertising? The local papers certainly did us proud with colour photographs and a write up on the front pages of the Thursday and Saturday editions.

Saturday evenings 21st birthday dinner was a great success with 86 members, ex members and friends attending. The meal was delicious. President Wally Lomas welcomed those present and presented those foundation members who are still members of the society with a certificate and a ceramic plate engraved on the back with "Whangarei Orchid Society Foundation Member". The after dinner speech was given by the first President of the Society Mr Rob Smith who spoke of the possibilities of a botanical garden in Whangarei.

Now we have on the memories of a very successful 21st Birthday show and can look forward to the next 21 years and wonder what will be in store for us in the orchid world.

David White



OCNZ AWARDS 1995

HCC	<i>Paph</i>	<i>tigrinum</i> syn <i>markianum</i> 'Fulford'	Fred Zumbuhl
HCC	<i>V</i>	Palmerston Blue 'Alicia'	Bernie & Kay Killington
HCC	<i>Alcra</i>	Syd Wray 'Tawhai'	Joy & Syd Wray
HCC	<i>Ascla</i>	John De Biase 'Plum Heart'	Albert Blumhardt
AM	<i>Den</i>	<i>cuthbertsonii</i> 'Blossom'	ID (Jim) & Rae James
CCG	<i>Den</i>	<i>cuthbertsonii</i> 'Blossum'	ID (Jim) & Rae James
HCC	<i>Paph</i>	<i>dianthum</i> 'Margaret'	Joy & Syd Wray
HCC	<i>Masd</i>	<i>coccinea</i> 'Mac'	Ross Macdonald
HCC	<i>Dgmr</i>	Mosaic 'Paradise Tiger'	Ron Maunder
HCC	<i>Z</i>	Blue Lake 'Nancy Harris'	Roy Harris
HCC	<i>Paph</i>	<i>liemantianum</i> 'Tihi-o-tonga'	Selwyn Hatrick
HCC	<i>V</i>	<i>coerulea</i> 'My Lady'	Patrick Kelly
AM	<i>C</i>	Vaupes Sunrise 'Shannon'	Margaret & Wally Lomas
CCC	<i>L</i>	<i>pumila</i> 'Prue'	Judith Darling
HCC	<i>Den</i>	Annes Rainbow 'Keri'	TR and SJ Wallace
HCC	<i>Paph</i>	Onyz 'Greenpeace'	Selwyn Hatrick
HCC	<i>Blc</i>	Cachen's Casablanca 'Kahukura'	Barbara & Fanie Johnson
HCC	<i>Onc</i>	Golden Harvest 'Butterball'	Nola Chisnall
HCC	<i>Den</i>	Graeme Banks 'Kamo Gold'	Nola Chisnall
HCC	<i>Phal</i>	Unregistered Grex 'Spinnaker'	Ngaire & Stan Pye
		<i>Phal</i> (Misty Pride x Paifang's Queen)	
HCC	<i>Disa</i>	<i>uniflora</i> 'Paradise Perfection'	Paradise Orchids
HCC	<i>Cirr</i>	Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'	Alan & Maureen Grapes
HCC	<i>Wils</i>	Space Planet 'Solar Flare'	Chris Francis
CCC	<i>Paph</i>	<i>parishii</i> 'Danny'	Ralph Woodhouse
HCC	<i>Paph</i>	Via Quantal 'Sylvia'	Ewen & Sylvia Perrott
HCC	<i>Paph</i>	JoAnne's Wine 'Liquid Death'	Mr K J Godwin
CCC	<i>Den</i>	<i>teretifolium</i> 'Elsie'	Graeme & Margaret Landon
HCC	<i>Lc</i>	Tropical Chip 'Space Time'	Barbara & Fanie Johnson
HCC	<i>Paph</i>	<i>micranthum</i> 'Oceanbeach'	Brian Enticott
CCC	<i>Masd</i>	'Tuakau Candy 'Oceanbeach'	Brian Enticott
HCC	<i>Masd</i>	'Tuakau Candy 'Oceanbeach'	Brian Enticott
CCC	<i>Sarco</i>	<i>hartmannii</i> 'Oceanbeach'	Brian Enticott
HCC	<i>Lpt</i>	<i>bicolor</i> 'Oceanbeach'	Brian Enticott
HCC	<i>Den</i>	<i>aphyllum</i> syn <i>pierardii</i> 'Melissa'	Biddy & Cliff Hair
CCC	<i>Den</i>	<i>aphyllum</i> syn <i>pierardii</i> 'Melissa'	Biddy & Cliff Hair
AM	<i>Cym</i>	Cricket 'Cascade'	June Matches
CCC	<i>Cym</i>	Cricket 'Cascade'	June Matches
HCC	<i>Den</i>	Zeppelin 'Faith'	Faith & Wolf Grausch
HCC	<i>Cym</i>	Street Hawk 'Memoria 'Tom Monk'	Frank Brljevic
HCC	<i>Cym</i>	Kiwi Melody 'Redvale'	Ross Tucker
HCC	<i>Paph</i>	William Ward 'Tudor'	'Tudor Orchids
AM	<i>Den</i>	<i>primulinum</i> 'Arcady'	Biddy & Cliff Hair
CCC	<i>Den</i>	<i>primulinum</i> 'Arcady'	Biddy & Cliff Hair
AM	<i>Lc</i>	Mini Purple 'Iamami'	Bernie & Kay Killington
AM	<i>Phrag</i>	<i>besseae</i> 'Ruapehu'	Selwyn Hatrick
HCC	<i>Cym</i>	New Zealand Endeavour 'Choice Lady'	Beryl Calder
HCC	<i>Phal</i>	Livingston's Love 'Candy'	Noeleen & Robert McKay
HCC	<i>Masd</i>	Rubicon 'Bryce'	Cliff & Ruth Coles

CCC	<i>Den</i>	<i>amethystoglossum</i> 'Judy'	Mr M Stringer
HCC	<i>Den</i>	Elegant Starlight 'Tawhai'	Syd Wray
AM	<i>Paph</i>	<i>micranthum</i> 'Peter'	Syd Wray
HCC	<i>Angest</i>	Andys Gift 'Jessica'	Margaret & Wally Lomas
HCC	<i>Paph</i>	<i>malipoense</i> 'Betty'	Syd Wray
AD	<i>Cym</i>	Auntie Mary Kovich 'Haley'	Margaret & Wally Lomas
HCC	<i>Sarco</i>	Southern Cross 'Jamie Cee'	Nola Chisnall
HCC	<i>Sarco</i>	Verolica 'Vanilla Ice'	Nola Chisnall
AM	<i>Masd</i>	Bella Donna 'Pink Mist'	Nola Chisnall
HCC	<i>Masd</i>	Bella Donna 'Pink Perfection'	Nola Chisnall
CBM	<i>Drymoanthus</i>	<i>flavus</i> 'Catlins HS'	Jean Jenks
HCC	<i>Masd</i>	Minaret 'Durie Hill'	M Stringer
CCC	<i>Masd</i>	Minaret 'Durie Hill'	M Stringer
AM	<i>Milt</i>	Clive Halls 'Jessica Mary'	Ellen Manson

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Masd. Minaret 'Durie Hill' — M Stringe

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and *Cym.* 'Cricket Cascade' — June Matches



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Continued from page 136

and enjoy the other varieties that you couldn't grow before and I hope you get the same pleasure from those orchids that I have.

As I still cannot work but can potter artound, orchids are my insurance to sanity and I really appreciate all the help and interest people give me. Thank you.

NEVILLE HEWINSON
Pearson Road
RD 9
Whangarei

I have always said that one of the real benefits from orchid growing is the meeting of people, and the above article only reinforces the generous and caring nature of the majority of orchid growers.

Editor

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A New Zealand native orchid specimen grown and proudly displayed by long time Wellington orchid personality Dick Reichenbach. Dick is well known to many long term growers through his past importation and distribution of many orchid plants, mainly species, and his membership of orchid societies in the lower North Island.

This plant has been grown to perfection for over 30 years in bush peat, regularly putting on a superb display of thousands of small fragrant flowers.

Photo P.C. Tomlinson

