

QUALITY CYMBIDIUM SEEDLINGS

Standards

Musita 'Pinkie' x Joan of Arc 'Mem Dave McLean'

Super new triploids for exhibition and cut flower production. Very free blooming pinks.

Claude Pepper 4n (Doris Aurea 4n x Rincon Clarisse 4n)

Round reds, pinks, bronzes and polychromes will dominate in this line. Sure to be awards and some fine parents for the future amongst these seedlings.

Fascination 'Amethyst' x Doris Aurea 'Cardinal' 4n

Small flowers on medium length stems. Very dark shades which should prove ideal for the European export market.

Cabernet 'Noel Wilson' x Vieux Rose 'Deil Park'
Rose to reds of superb quality.

Doris Aurea 'Cardinal' 4n x Firewheel 'Ruby' 4n
Tetraploids in all shades ranging from deep rose through ruby reds.

Vienna 'Blue Danube' x Bartolme Ferello 'Patrician'

Exhibition yellows, very vigorous and late blooming.

Firewheel 'Ruby' 4n x Joan of Arc 'Mem Dave McLean'

Pink exhibition tetraploids where the long arching spike of Firewheel 'Ruby' 4n will complement the shorter, upright spike of the Joan of Arc.

Wallara 'Gold Nugget' x Sensation 'Vieux Rose'
Expect bright colours from this crossing.

Acapulco Gold 'Coburg' x Swallow 'Golden Gate' 4n

Expect 100 per cent yellows of full form.

Claude Pepper 'Coburg' x Remus 'Sunset'

Remus "Sunset" has a very tall spike. We anticipate 10-12 blooms on straight upright spikes with colour tending heavily to the reds and browns. European export.

Miniatures

Coversheen 'St. Patrick' x Dag 'Little Jewel'

Green novelties, many of which will be con-colour or have very little lip marking.

Rosiante AM x Showgirl 'Coburg'

Dark pinks on upright spikes. Full but not round flowers with spike averaging 11-14 blooms.

Kalinka 'Pacific' (Cooperi 'Plush' x Cinnabar 'The Globe') x Ann Miller 'Midnight'

Expect some very dark colours from this crossing, tall stems of beautifully formed 3" flowers.

Kalinka 'Pacific' (Cooperi 'Plush' x Cinnabar 'The Globe') x Chief Joseph 'Featherhill'

Heaviest in red shades, the flowers will be a little smaller in this cross. Robust growers with medium sized pseudobulbs.

Touchstone 'Mahogany' x Doris Aurea 'Cardinal' 4n

Touchstone "Mahogany" has not previously given seed, despite many attempts so this is a first. Expect long semi-pendulous spikes of deep reds and browns.

Vieux Rose 'Deil Park' x Chief Joseph 'Coburg'

Intermediates in the strong bronzes, golds and pinks. Flowers about 3½" diameter on medium length upright spikes.

Dag 'Little Jewel' x Nila 'Green Gold'

Superb greens for cut flower or exhibition.

Showgirl 'Coburg' x Barushka 'Featherhill' (Babylon x Red Imp)

Some will be quite small-flowered, others of a more intermediate character. Mostly yellows and gold of award potential.

\$3.00 per plant or 10 plants for \$25.00

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John S. Hannah

"GROWER OF FINE ORCHIDS"

Walters Road, R.D. 2, Papakura, New Zealand

Phone 298-4287

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ORCHIDS IN NEW ZEALAND



 **air new zealand**

MAY/JUNE 1979

OFFICIAL CARRIERS FOR OUR 1980 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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VALLEY ORCHIDS listings — Our recommendations

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V504	SLEEPING DREAM 'GOLDRUSH' AD/SA 4n. August, vigorous and prolific, 18 flowers, intense yellow with orange lips.		150
V509	ZUMMA BOYD 'TETRAHIGH' AM/AOS 4n. Aug. green 14 x 4 3/4" full shaped flowers on strong spikes, large bulbs produce 2 spikes each for 3 successive years.		150
V603	SLEEPING DREAM 'CASTLE' 4n. 2n pictured in catalogue, 12 x 4 1/2" brick coloured flowers on long upright spikes.		150
V805	VALYA CRAIG 'SUNSET' 3n. Aug. Brilliant apricot yellow 14 at a time on strong upright stems.		80
V824	WARONA 'TOMMY' 4n. Late September, up to 14 x 4 1/4" purple red flowers on tall semi arching stems.		100
V826	SLEEPING GIANT 'TETRAKING' 4n. A late pure colour dark green with yellow lips up to 13 flowers on tall stems.		100
V827	VALLEY FLOWER 'TABASCO' 4n. Late September unusual red, prolific. 16 x 4 3/4" 'starry' open flat blooms.		100

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	From our own listing.	Mericlone flasks	\$NZ
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	GUADALAJARA 'SIESTA' BM/CSA. Sept/Oct. a large full apricot yellow 2 stems per bulb. Very much sought after. Flowered 2 years 9 months from flash for us.		150
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F.A. Burke Ltd.

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COVER PHOTO: This colourful display of Miltonias (Pansy orchids) was captured on film by the camera of George Fuller. Part of a display in New Plymouth's Pukekura Park Glasshouses.

*THE ORCHID GARDENS OF
MELBOURNE, HOBART, ADELAIDE
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\$699.00 per person share twin room
\$677.00 per person share triple room
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**INFORMATION FROM THE
ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND
OR
TRAVEL GLOBE HOLIDAYS
BOX 4299 AUCKLAND**

**THE OFFICIAL ORCHID CONVENTION TOUR
FOR THE ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND**

retardant incorporated in its makeup would be the best to use. This will last much longer than standard polythene. An alternative product being marketed is polybubble. From reports I have received, this appears to be quite suitable (I have had no experience with this product to date, but will be trying some this year). If and when you line your house, endeavour to have an air gap between the glass, or whatever material your house is covered with and the lining material. The gap will act as an insulating barrier and so reduce heat loss. Likewise it will act in reverse in hot sunny weather. Remember you still require ventilation, even in winter, but avoid draughts. A circulation of air is essential at all times of the year.

Spraying: Check your plants for any sign of insect or pest infestation, spray accordingly. A good precaution is to have a general clean up spray, before bringing the plants into your house. A good spray is malathion and oil. Kelthane is also a suitable insecticide (less dangerous than malathion). Thiodan (a semi systemic spray) is suitable for all chewing and sucking insects, but must be used with caution. (The necessary precautions are stated on the container). Fungi, an orthicide of Z78 or captan is safe for botrytis etc. Derosal, is another semi systemic spray suitable for fungi. Once again it must be handled with caution.

Watering: As the days are getting shorter, and temperatures lower you will need to watch watering. Now that autumn is here, (with winter approaching) water your plants sparingly, preferably before 3 pm. During the colder temperatures of winter even less watering will be needed. At this time of the year

plants, should be protected from extreme cold and frosts. Mature cymbidiums are fairly hardy and will stand cool conditions; In fact they will be all the better for being grown hard, as they resent too much heat and winter warmth.

Feeding: As with watering a similar programme is required with feeding. Gradually ease up as cooler weather approaches. Don't worry about feed during the winter months. The odd foliar feed will be beneficial.

Stakes: Spikes will no doubt be showing now. Have your stakes in readiness. If you use wire stakes, see they have been sterilized, either by the flame method, or by boiling.

I hope the foregoing notes will be of help to readers, particularly to those of you who have just picked up the orchid craze.

ORCHID COUNCIL OF NZ JUDGES

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Autumn and Winter Care

by Norm Wood — Palmerston North

This article I have prepared involved a general maintenance and clean up programme. Soon you will have to bring your plants inside for winter protection, or arrange for some means of shelter. Prepare a list of items requiring attention. The following will give some order of sequence to follow.

Benching: Check benching for any signs of decay, particularly at joints of timbers, and the damper areas of your glasshouse, greenhouse, or shadehouse etc. These previously unnoticed weaknesses have a nasty habit of showing up and possibly collapsing after you have loaded your benches or staging with flowering plants, particularly cymbidiums, which are in larger pots and therefore heavier.

Glazing: Check the glazing while your plants are outside, and if requiring attention have it attended to immediately. Nothing is worse than trying to repair leaks when your house is full of plants. During the first part of the season a few drops of water are not important but at flowering time they spell disaster. Nothing can be more heartbreaking than to see the blooms you have carefully grown for the annual show covered with unsightly brown spots when an hour or two's work early in the season would have prevented this.

Hygiene: Scrub out and clean away algae that collects in awkward places. Use any household detergent, disinfectant, or bleach for this operation — then hose down

thoroughly. Clean out all debris that seems to collect in odd places. With a clean and tidy house you will have less chance of an infestation of pests. Now that you have repaired all your benching, fixed your leaks, cleaned everything up, have a good look round to see what you have forgotten. **You will have missed something.** A pot laying under the bench, that you intended to shift months ago, some decaying vegetation, a hook you had a basket fall from last year, which you intended to fix but did not. All these little things should be remedied. Stakes need to be checked, cleaned and ready for use.

Heating: If you use any form of heating, I would suggest you check your system out. Iron out last years problems. It is very upsetting and annoying if you suddenly require a little extra heat and you find your system is not functioning satisfactorily. Winter is just around the corner. Be ready.

Shading: Think about removing some of your shading in the near future. A glasshouse that has been painted for summer will probably need some removed — A paint scraper or stiff bristle broom will be of help here. Under glass shade cloth or scrim can be taken down.

Energy Conservation: I probably should have mentioned this under the heading of heating. However to maintain the maximum heat that is required for your particular conditions, I would suggest you consider lining your glasshouse or greenhouse with clear polythene. A polythene with an ultra violet

NEW ZEALAND INDIGENOUS ORCHIDS

BY Albert H. Blackmore.

The Orchid Council of New Zealand will be holding the first National Orchid Conference and Show in 1980. New Zealand Indigenous orchids must be featured especially as many overseas Orchid growers will be attending.

I have noticed that groups from several Orchid Societies are organising searches in their districts to gain knowledge of the natural habitat of these orchids and reports show that in spite of so much destruction of natural growth, some good finds have been made.

For those unfamiliar with the orchids and their natural position of growth, I shall endeavour to give some help in this direction.

I remember as a small boy, when living in the Waikato on a farm which was in the process of development, finding many terrestrial orchids growing in unploughed ground. I would dig them up and gather the little, clear coloured, waxy bulbs, taking them to my mother saying that they were little potatoes. I doubt whether there are any left now as where orchids grew, cows and sheep eat grass and clover. Such is the price of necessary progress.

Of the twenty one (21) orchid genera identified in New Zealand, seventeen (17) are terrestrial and four (4) are epiphytic, these being divided into sixty six (66) species of the former and six (6) of the latter. Seventy two (72) in all. When studying them one cannot fail to observe that most have their counterparts in Australia and many are Indo-Malayan in origin, coming down by way of Java and New Guinea into Australia and on to New Zealand; leaving some in Lord Howe Island on the way.

It may be difficult for some to understand how orchids could travel the large distance across the Tasman, but because of the lightness of orchid seed and the prevailing winds coming

from the west, this is possible. It is not uncommon to see a heavy dusting of Australia's red earth on plants in New Zealand after a strong dry westerly wind.

DESCRIPTIONS AND DRAWINGS:

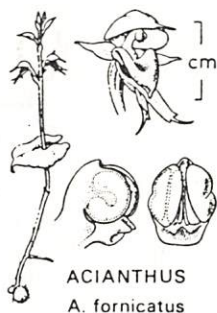
I have been fortunate in obtaining permission to use copies of drawings from "Flora of New Zealand, Volume 2" published by the Government Printing Office. My description will be limited on account of space allowable in "Orchids in New Zealand," but it should be sufficient with the drawings to allow identification of plants. My remarks will be of type (terrestrial or epiphytic), place and habitat, some description of plant and flower giving colour and months when flowers are expected. Abbreviations will be seen on the drawings, the meanings of which will be shown early in the article and as several issues of the Journal will be used, it will be necessary to refer to back numbers from time to time.

MESSAGE TO THOSE WHO INTEND SEARCHING. BE CAREFUL THAT NO PLANTS ARE DESTROYED. TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS AND IF YOU TRANSPLANT, DO SO WHEN YOU ARE SURE IT COULD BE SUCCESSFUL. LET ME INFORM YOU THAT I HAVE HELD THE STATES COMMISSION OF HON. INSPECTOR OF SCENIC RESERVES FOR FORTY YEARS.

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS ON DRAWINGS

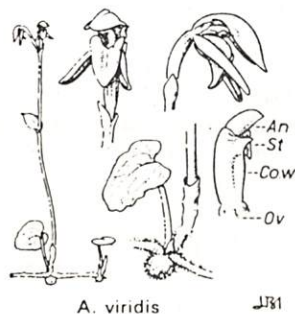
An:	anther	La. t:	labellum tip
Ca:	callus	Lf. s:	leaf sheath
Cap:	capsule	Ne:	nectary
Co:	column	Ov:	ovary
Co. w:	column-wing	Pet:	petal
Co. f:	column-foot	Po:	pollen masses
C-s:	cut surface	Pol:	waxy pollinia
D.Sep:	dorsal sepal	Psb:	pseudobulb
L.Sep:	lateral sepal	R. 1:	rosette leaves
La:	labellum	Ro:	rostellum
La. a:	labellum appendage	St:	stigma
La. l:	lateral lobe of labellum	Stp:	stipe
La. m:	mid lobe of labellum	Tu:	tuber

1. **ACIANTHUS** having three species, *fornicatus*, *reniformis* and *viridis*. Terrestrial growing on both Islands.

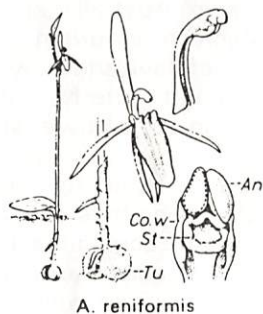


- (a) *fornicatus*, Grows under light shade. When not flowering it can be found by a large leaf on the surface of the ground. Flowers 3–6mm across May to September, green with dull red on labellum.

- (b) *reniformis*, Grows under light shade of scrub etc. in moist conditions. Flowers pink to greenish in August and September.



- (c) *viridis*, Found in mossy floor of forest and subalpine scrub. Flowers greenish during early spring.



A commemorative calendar will be on sale during the Conference. We believe it will be a collector's item and the utmost care is being taken in its preparation. Societies throughout the country will be given the opportunity to obtain these for sale to members and friends towards the end of next year.

A North Shore member has donated \$100 towards Conference funds, as well as making \$1,000 available in the form of a loan towards initial expenses. Another member has also donated \$25, and we are most grateful for this practical help at a stage of planning when it is most needed.

6TH AUSTRALIAN ORCHID CONFERENCE 1979

Tour Escorted by Mrs Rose Bell, Vice President Gisborne Orchid Society.

15 DAYS From 29th September to 13th October.

Visiting Orchid Show and Conference in Hobart, Plus Melbourne, Adelaide, Sydney.

Tour Cost: Share Twin \$728.00 + Tax \$45.00
Single Room \$853.00 + Tax \$45.50

Registration Papers available at

B & C World Travel,
60 Peel St.,
Gisborne
Phone: Gisborne 6823

OBITUARY:

Digby Graham

With the passing of Digby Graham, the world of orchids has lost a most accomplished artist and scholar of the genus *Paphiopedilum*.

Digby did not actually grow orchids, His early interest in painting was concerned with birds but over recent years his talents had been channelled almost exclusively toward research and painting of *Paphiopedilum* species. So intense did his passion become that he had almost reached the threshold of being recognised as a world authority on this group of orchids. To have achieved such a distinction in Europe or the United States would have been a commendable accomplishment, but to have done so in New Zealand, far removed from centres of research, literature and close contact with other authorities has always astonished me.

Those closely associated with persons possessing such artistic and creative drive are often called upon to make sacrifices and Digby's wife and daughter must have had experience of this. We offer praise and understanding for their tolerance and condolences in their sad loss.

Let us hope that some way will be found for the fruits of Digby's labours to be used to enhance our understanding and appreciation of *Paphiopedilum* species, as he envisaged it would be. We should be very proud that a New Zealander set himself such a formidable target and got so far towards achieving it. He will be greatly missed.

George Fuller

WAIKATO

12 Oct. 1979: 1.00 pm to 9.00 pm
13 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
14 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 3.30 pm
LOCATION: Ferry Bank Lounge, Grantham Street, Hamilton.

OTAGO

Exhibit in conjunction with local church functions. Further information from the Secretary, Mr M.L. Young, 61 Argyle Street, Mosgiel.

WELLINGTON

20 Oct. 1979: 1 pm to 6.00 pm
21 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
22 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
LOCATION: St. Oran's College Hall, High Street, Lower Hutt.

NORTH SHORE

20, 21, 22 Oct. 1979.
LOCATION: Teacher's Training College Hall, Akoranga Drive, Takapuna, Auckland.

CATTLEYA SEEDLINGS

Pot. POTOMAC x Lc. CANHAMIANA 'ALBERTS', delightful, medium size, light lavender blooms expected. Fine substance and texture. B - \$5.00, C - \$7.50.

Pot. CLOWN, Heavy, beautifully shaped flowers in sunset to orange-red hues. These should be good. B - \$6.00, C - \$9.00.

Blc. FALL SPLENDOR, Has the potential of producing one of the finest lavender crosses to date. B - \$5.00, C - \$7.50.

C. STANLEY FOURAKER 'LAVENDER PALETTE' x Blc. YUKON RIVER 'YELLOW FLEECE', hope for some attractive splash petal art shades and possibly tricolours. B - \$5.50.

Lc. S.J. BRACEY 'WAILANI' AM/AOS x Bc. MOUNT ANDERSON 'OLYMPIC' HCC/AOS, unusual art shade colours are possible in this cross. The pod parent is a light green with a bronze overlay. B - \$5.50.

These and others, available from:

PAM BOON

30B Waiwaka Terrace,
New Plymouth
Phone: 86-544

1980 CONFERENCE

All New Zealand Societies will shortly receive a supply of invitations to attend the 1980 Conference at Ellerslie Racecourse, Auckland, 16 - 19th October.

These invitations are in the form of a brochure containing tear-off coupons for individual members to complete and return so that the Steering Committee for the Conference can now gain a definite indication of the number of guests we may expect.

Registration forms will be drawn up towards the end of this year, but in order to keep our fees to a minimum, we need to know likely registrations at an early date. When your Society receives its brochures, please advise us of your intentions immediately as some functions at the Conference may have to be on a 'first come, first served' basis.

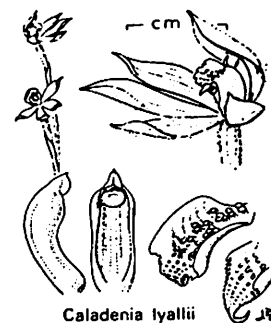
The finalised pre- and post-Conference tours will be set out in the brochure, together with details of the Conference timetable and speakers. We are honoured that so many orchid experts from overseas have indicated their willingness to visit us and present papers - indeed the predominance of overseas speakers is greater than originally anticipated, this being, after all, a New Zealand Conference - on the other hand, we may wait some years before having the opportunity of meeting these personalities again. Their offers to come have therefore been eagerly accepted and we are delighted to announce that the most recent acceptance came from Maurice Lecoufle, or Vacherot & Lecoufle, France. He will speak on Cattleyas.

- 2 **ADENOCHILUS** has one species only in New Zealand, *gracilis* a terrestrial.

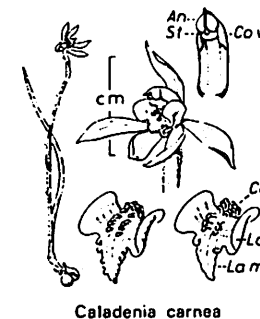


- (a) *gracilis*. Found under forest and scrub in Coromandel Peninsula southwards to Bay of Plenty and further south. Flowers have dorsal sepal greenish, lateral sepal whitish, labellum disc with reddish stripes, calli yellow, column reddish inside. Flowers in December.

- 3 **CALADENIA** having two species, *lyallii* and *carnea* being terrestrial found south of 38 degrees latitude, usually in Beech forest, high altitude scrub and grassland, but to sea level in the far South.



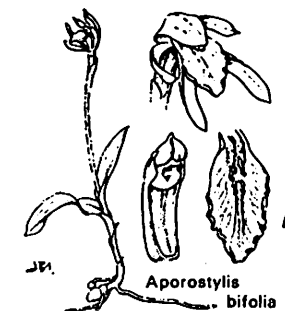
- (a) *lyallii*, flowers white to pink, labellum transversally barred with red, calli yellow from October to January.



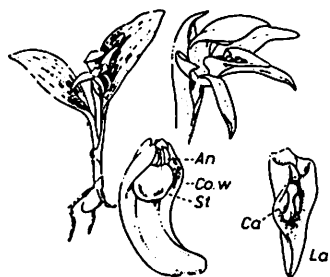
- (b) *carnea*, can be found under light scrub and on dry open clay hills. Flowers 1 to 2 cm, bluish white also pink to purple and red, labellum transversally barred with red. Flowers October to January.

- 4 **APOROSTYLIS** having one species, *bifolia* a terrestrial found Coromandel Peninsula south, usually in high areas, Volcanic Plateau southwards to sea level in the South.

- (a) *bifolia*, Flowers 2 to 5 cm diam., White or pink, calli yellow, in 2 median rows at base. Flowers borne on hairy stem during December and January



- 5 **CHILOGLOTTIS** having two species, *cornuta* and *formicifera* being terrestrial.



Chilolottis cornuta

- (a) cornuta, found in both Islands in very damp places on decaying roots of trees in shaded places. It is rare. Flowers between or above spreading leaves coloured green with labellum dark green to reddish. Flowers in October.
- (b) formicifera, found in Northland in vicinity of Kaitaia. Very rare. As with cornuta the flowers are green with labellum green to reddish. Flowers in September.

6 LYPERANTHUS one species antarcticus, terrestrial.



Lyperanthus antarcticus

- (a) antarcticus, found in wet and peaty places, higher altitudes in the North, to sea level in the South. None in Northern part of North Island. Flowers green spotted with dull red brown. Flowers September and October.

(To be continued)

The Witsieshoek Affair – An Affair to Remember

Continued by M.J. O'Connor
South Africa

After finding the *Disa cephalotes* the first rumbles of thunder were heard and the sky behind the mountain started to darken. The members then decided to abandon all hopes of going higher and to return to the cars. A small party of members from the Transvaal decided to take a different route down and explore one of the small peaks near where *Disa cephalotes* had been found. This group led by Gerrit van Ede returned triumphantly to the parked cars displaying a plant of *Monadenia basutorum*. This orchid has only been found by three people previously and thus Gerrit joins the honoured little band to make four. After a beer or three the members re embarked in their cars and proceeded back to the motel. On the way back the cars stopped every so often alongside the road and a plant of *Disperis cardiophora* in full flower was found. This little *disperis* is characterised by having all its flowers facing in one direction.

On arriving at the resort the heavens opened and with flashes of lightning and peels of thunder the rain poured down. The members dispersed to their various rooms, the finds being celebrated in some with wine from the Cape. By about five the afternoon thunder storm, which is characteristic of the berg areas, had passed off and

Show Exhibition Dates

WINTER

TARANAKI

16 June 1979: 9.30 am to 4.00 pm
LOCATION: Baptist Church Hall, New Plymouth

N.Z. ORCHID SOCIETY

12, 13, 14 July 1979.
LOCATION: Mt. Albert War Memorial Hall, New North Road, Mt. Albert, Auckland.

WELLINGTON

13 July 1979: 11.00 am to 9.00 pm
14 July 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
15 July 1979: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
LOCATION: The Green Room, Wellington Town Hall.

GOLDEN COAST

28 July 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
29 July 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
LOCATION: Memorial Hall, Paraparaumu.

WAIKATO

28 July 1979: 8.00 pm to 11.00 pm
Social evening show open only to members of any orchid society.

SPRING

POVERTY BAY – EAST COAST

14 Sept. 1979: 12.00 pm to 9.00 pm
15 Sept. 1979: 10.00 am to 6.00 pm
16 Sept. 1979: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

WHANGAREI

14 Sept. 1979: 12.00 pm to 8.30 pm
15 Sept. 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
16 Sept. 1979: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
LOCATION: Ladies Gardening Club Hall, Rust Avenue, Whangarei. Non competitive display.

MARLBOROUGH

15 Sept. 1979: 2.00 pm to 9.00 pm
Marlborough Horticultural Spring Show.

Orchid display staged in conjunction with Daffodil Show.

LOCATION: Centennial Hall, Blenheim.
28 Sept. 1979: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.
Display and Stall at Centrepont Mall, Shopping Centre. To be confirmed.

GOLDEN COAST

27 Sept. 1979: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
28 Sept. 1979: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
29 Sept. 1979: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.
LOCATION: Coastlands Shoppingtown Mall, Paraparaumu.
Show staged within Shopping Mall, open to all passersby, no charge for admittance.

NZ ORCHID SOCIETY

27, 28 and 29 Sept. 1979.
LOCATION: Mt. Albert War Memorial Hall, New North Road, Mt. Albert, Auckland.

MANAWATU

28 Sept. 1979: 11.00 am to 9.00 pm
29 Sept. 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
LOCATION: All Saints Church Hall, Church Street, Palmerston North. Non competitive display.

SOUTH TARANAKI

29 Sept. 1979: 10.00 am to 6.00 pm
30 Sept. 1979: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
Times to be confirmed.
LOCATION: Hawera Community Centre, Albion Street, Hawera.

BAY OF PLENTY

5 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
6 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 5.00 pm
LOCATION: Tauranga Wesleyan Church Centre.
Non competitive display.

HAWKE'S BAY

5 Oct. 1979: 1.30 pm to 9.00 pm
6 Oct. 1979: 10.30 am to 8.00 pm
7 Oct. 1979: 11.00 am to 4.00 pm
Times to be confirmed.
LOCATION: Hastings, St. John Ambulance Hall, Southland Road.

WAIRARAPA

5 Oct. 1979: 12.00 pm to 9.00 pm
6 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 9.00 pm
7 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.
LOCATION: Masterton Town Hall.

TARANAKI

12 Oct. 1979: 1.00 pm to 9.00 pm
13 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 6.00 pm
14 Oct. 1979: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
LOCATION: Queen's Hall, New Plymouth.

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the members prepared for the evening's sessions. At 6.30 pm the members once again assembled in the lounge and Joyce Stewart gave us a talk on the genus *Disperis*. By means of diagrams Joyce explained to us the various botanical terminology relating to this fascinating genus. The talk was thoroughly appreciated and will prove a help to all those members who attended when they are faced with having to identify any *Disperis* from keys in the books. The lecture session was adjourned for a quick sundowner before supper.

After the evening meal the party proceeded back to the lounge where Joyce continued her lecture by showing us slides of some *disperis* species. She pointed out on the slides some of the features she had been talking about. Joyce's lecture was followed by a lecture by Douglas McMurtry on the genus *Eulophia*. There were some unbelieving looks and giggles when Douglas quoted from a book about plants needing tender loving care and were sensitive to suffering and tissue destruction. Douglas during his talk raised some interesting thoughts about the whole future of conservation and particularly the growing of indigenous species. He then proceeded to show us slides of *eulophias*. Following this talk there was then some time allowed for discussion. Gerrit van Ede raised the point of propagation of South African species. Various thoughts on this subject were aired but the overall consensus was that a lot of work is still to be done in this field. In closing the evening session the possibility of organising these outings as an annual event in different areas so that orchid growers become thoroughly conversant with our South African

orchids was discussed. The participants unanimously agreed that these outings should become an annual event and it was decided that the next outing would be either in Transvaal in February 1978 or in the Cape in September 1978, or both.

After breakfast on Sunday the members proceeded along the route that had been followed on the Friday afternoon to observe those orchids that our scouts had discovered previously. Proceeding through the gate into the Royal Natal National Park the party passed the colonies of *Satyrium longicauda* and *Corycium nigrescens*. Following a contour path plants of *Disperis cardiophora* were found as well as plants of *Schizochilus albiflos*. Further along, and close to the boundary, plants of *Monadenia brevicornis* with very nice dark maroonish flowers were seen. Proceeding along the path the party came across plants of *habenaria* and following Ted's instructive talk on Friday night the members closely examined the lip of this *habenaria* to determine whether it was *Habenaria dregeana* or *Habenaria lithophila*. After closely looking at the lip structure it was decided this was *Habenaria dregeana* and the party proceeded. Plants of *Habenaria dives* with white flowers were soon found. In a small gully on the edge of the rocky walls two plants of *Disa oreophila* were found, plants of *Disa dracomontana* with small pink flowers. This species has not yet been fully described. Close to the *Disa dracomontana* were plants of a *disa* which members took to be *Disa thodei*. However after studying many plants it was suggested that this *disa* might well be *Disa jacottetiae*. In an area close to the camp this *disa* was

rather frequent, growing alongside the stream. Unfortunately, as a growing companion, it had chosen a Berkheya with sharp spines and those members bending to photograph the disa in situ were subjected to a few sharp pricks. Close to one of the first plants of the disa a disperis with white flowers was found. The grass surrounding it was certainly flattened as members sprawled in various poses to try and get a good photograph of this Disperis wealei.

Around 12 o'clock the party once again ascended the mountain to the contour path and the resort. After a quick bath, change and lunch the party left for home at about 2 o'clock. The members on bidding their farewells all said how much they had enjoyed the weekend and how much they looked forward to meeting again on another outing.



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TEN FAVOURITE CYMBIDIUMS

by Gordon Maney, Palmerston North

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1. SENSATION 'CHIANTI' Very good midseason red.
2. TAPESTRY 'LONGBEACH' Long spikes, red with scarlet lip, August flowering.
3. BURGUNDIAN 'CHATEAU' Top bronze with beautiful lip.
4. LEVIS DUKE 'BELLA VISTA' Top show bench green or yellow depending on light, November flowering.
5. BARCELONA 'MAJIC WAND' Long spikes of green, average 21 blooms. October flowering.
6. ANITÁ 'ROBERT MEADS' Dark green, lovely lip on very long upright spikes, October/November.
7. WILLIAM HERTRICH 'MEADOW FROST' Lovely July flowering green with red stitched lip.
8. VALLEY FLOWER 'CHERRY RIPE' Lovely October pink.
9. Miniature. IVY FUNG 'RADIANCE' Deep maroon, wonderful display.
10. MEM. ROBERT CASAMAJOR 'DEL MAC' Lovely large white with beautiful lip, October/November blooming, very prolific.

the next trip I intend to take a full set of safety ropes.

The afternoon was almost over by the time we had returned to the car — hot, tired but still full of excitement about the plants we had gathered in the mountains.

Apart from a further work session, the following day was spent potting the different species that made up our collection. From the notes taken about each plant we were able to set the pots in similar orientation to the sun or shade as the plant had been found. Our main concern was to the obvious increase in the salt spray on the coastal strip where the pots were. How these changes would affect the plants could not be guessed at and I would have preferred a controlled glass house instead of the natural environment available. Thirty eight well formed plants had been potted and there were at least fifteen distinctly different species with each plant in some way varied from the others.

My final day in Samoa was lazily spent lying in the shade drinking coffee, sketching the plants of the collection and imagining the many species still undiscovered high in the mountains. Inside the sound of the House Girl packing my bags reminded me that, on this trip, I would make no more discoveries and I realised that the plants collected were only a drop in the bucket compared with the potential range of varieties growing on this one small Island.

The sun was setting over the mountains as the Air New Zealand Jet lifted from the Pago Pago runway to return us to Auckland. Next summer we will return to collect the plants that had been potted and to gather even more varieties in the place where orchids grow in the trees.

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gathered two reed stem denrobiums, a soft stem denrobium, two epidendrums, a bulbous plant like a phyonopis and a plant like a bunch of spring onions bearing a flower spike similar to an asparagus spear covered with tiny pinhead sized white flowers. At first this plant was not considered an orchid but under the glass the flowers were definitely orchid in form.

The following day being Sunday is a day when nothing much is done. The Islanders wander along to one of the many village churches, dressed in their Sunday whites, carrying their bibles and singing favourite hymns. The local Yacht Club was having a regatta over the Sunday and the Monday, which was a public holiday so we headed around to the harbour to watch the races. The House Girl packed picnic baskets and we spent the time sunning under the coconut palms on the sparkling white coral sand. Apart from the periodic excitement at the beginning and end of each race the day drifted by and apparently no one really cared who won each event.

Tuesday was also a holiday on my programme and an excursion into the mountainous ridge of the Island to seek out other varieties of orchids was planned for the day.

The Island of Tutuila being the major Island of American Samoa has approximately the same area as Lake Taupo and rises to 1800 feet above sea level. The sides of range are precipitous offering beautiful views over the many headlands, inlets and reefs forming the coastline of the Island. To the west the vague shape of the Islands of Western Samoa can be made out amidst the heat haze rippling over the deep indigo blue ocean.

We left the car at the pass where the road crossed over the

mountainous range and set out to clamber up the broken ridge towards the tops.

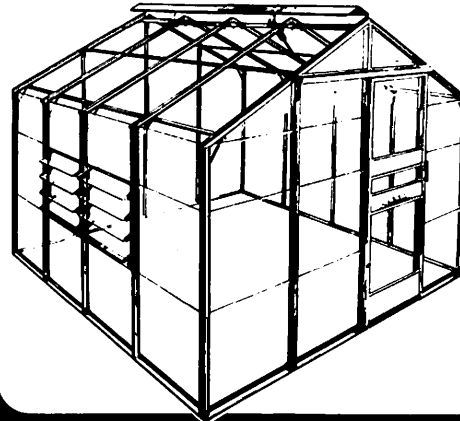
The only terrestrial orchids we discovered were almost by-passed, a small blue flower at the base of a clump of flax like grass caught my eye and investigation showed it to be an early flowering of a juvenil plant similar in growth to the assumed clump of flax. The climbing was hard, and we welcomed time out to loosen a piece of the orchid and take notes. In the immediate area of this first discovery two other quite different terrestrial forms were located. The second was very similar to the Cymbidium plant and the third consisted of widely spaced pseudo bubs with broad fluted leaves later identified as belonging to the Phaius family.


Further into the mountains the excitement mounted as more and more orchid type plants were sighted. Mostly the forms could be described as Dendrobium type and on a fallen tree eight distinctly different plants were found. The most unusual plant discovered was a series of bulbous nodes of approximately 1/2 inch diameter forming a tight perfect ring generally 3 inches in diameter. From each nodule two elongated leaves similar to the Cattleya emerged. No matter how big the plant grew the nodules always formed a perfect ring unless forced out of shape by the host tree.

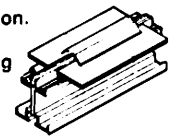
On climbing higher we discovered more and more Cattleya type plants and in our enthusiasm to collect "bigger" and "brighter" specimens took a few stupid risks. Scrabbling up tree trunks and onto branches overhanging the precipitous faces, which dropped over a thousand feet into that beautiful shimmering ocean, was exciting and rewarding, but on

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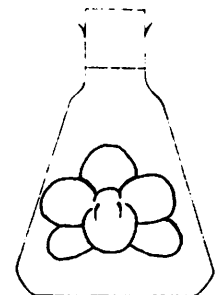
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PUKEKURA CORNER

By George Fuller, N.D.H. (N.Z.),
Curator Pukekura Park, New Plymouth



Cymbidium dayanum. Reichb. f.

For those wanting a Cymbidium choice. It hails from a vast area that doesn't look like one and requiring only a fraction of the usual space, this species would be a good

With pre-conceived ideas about how a Cymbidium 'should' look, we are in for quite a surprise when viewing this starry flowered specimen. Usually about six to eight blooms are produced on a pendulous raceme which is sometimes rigid enough to present the blooms horizontally. Each bloom is about three to four centimetres across, sepals and petals narrow and pointed to give a star shape, cream or pale pink in colour and very notably marked with a central band of maroon of blood red. This same colour extends into the narrow lip, the point of which is rolled under. The flowers are of heavy substance and have a somewhat stiff appearance, lasting well.

Coming from such an extensive natural habitat, distinct geographical forms are likely and this is evident in the two clones in the Park collection, one flowering regularly in February–March and the other always in July, August, September.

Growth characteristics are best described as "grass-like" with leaves much narrower than conventional Cymbidiums and pseudobulbs almost absent though small ones do exist.

C. dayanum is probably one of the easiest to cultivate of the "non-conventional" species and I recommend it for that reason – also because it is dainty. Our plants seem quite happy out in the shadehouse with their grosser contemporaries through the summer but they are brought indoors for the cooler periods though they may even survive that. You may find plants masquerading under the synonym of *C. simonsianum*.

Orchids in the trees

Continued by Graham Cooper, Taupo

By four thirty the sea breeze that had made the morning so pleasant had dropped and having completed a good session of appointments I decided to give up and headed for the house, another quick shower and a long cool beer. Almost as soon as I had settled down the family started arriving home.

Feeling more refreshed and full of enthusiasm to find some orchids we decided to climb the beautiful little stream that fell out of the mountains above the house. It wasn't long before all signs of development was left behind and as we clambered higher the orchids in the trees became more and more luxurious.

Most of the plants grew in the forks of the trees or on the moss matted trunks. The predominant species was the epidendrum similar to the ones growing in the trees around the house, these I was informed were weeds and "the orchids" would be found higher up.

It was in this area that we found some well formed denrobium plants and made our first collections of healthy plants and some fern fibre for potting. The potting mix that I made up closely followed the natural moss setting of the natural habitat of the plants, consisting of equal parts of leaf mould, coarse bark and lichen moss, with some charcoal added to sweeten the mix.

Darkness follows sunset very quickly and it was soon necessary to return to the house. We had however,