

MANLY WARRINGAH ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

ISSUE 592-593
JUNE/JULY 2020

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**ALL
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**NEXT MEMBER'S
MEETING**
Thursday 23RD July at
the Cromer
Community Centre,
Fisher Road North,
Cromer.

**NEXT COMMITTEE
MEETING**
To be announced



www.orchidsociety.com.au

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Hello everyone. Due to the large response we received, this month's meeting will be going ahead. It will however be in a shortened meeting with no speaker. Council has stipulated that we must follow all social distancing guidelines as well as wiping down all chairs and tables at the end of the night. We will have wipes provided, but if you could please help wipe down, at least your own chairs, this will make a huge difference.

Hopefully we are able to resume our full meetings at some time in the near future, however until that time we are committed to only holding meetings if we can do it in a safe manner for everyone involved. I look forward to seeing you all again soon,
Dylan.

ORCHIDS BY THE SEA SHOW HAS BEEN CANCELLED

ST. IVES ORCHID FAIR HAS BEEN CANCELLED CHRISTMAS PARTY HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

Our annual membership fees are due in July and the Committee have decided to waive membership fees for 2020-21. However those members who have their Bulletin posted will still have to pay for postage which is currently \$10 per year. Bank details are BSB 062 155 Account No. 00906498 and please leave your name for reference.

Please pay promptly as you will not receive the Bulletin if payment is not received by mid August.

We are able to have a supper break with tea and coffee however there is no food preparation allowed in the kitchen. The volunteer on the list for this month is Alyssia Pycraft for something sweet but no name down for sandwiches etc.

SALES TABLE will be open for business as usual.

LIBRARY will be open for business as usual.

REGULATIONS FOR MEETING

Do not come to the meeting if you are feeling unwell.

Sign in on the form provided with your name, telephone number and time in and then note time as you go out and sign.

Observe social distancing – 1.5metres.

Sanitise your hands with your own sanitiser or the one provided.

At the end of the meeting wipe chairs with the sanitiser wipes provided.

Help out with wiping down the tables.

DIARY DATES 2020

July 23 Member's Meeting

August 27 Member's Meeting

September 10,11,12 Spring Show Glenrose

September 24 AGM & Member's Meeting

October 9-11 Southern Orchid Spectacular

October 22 Member's Meeting

November 15 AUCTION

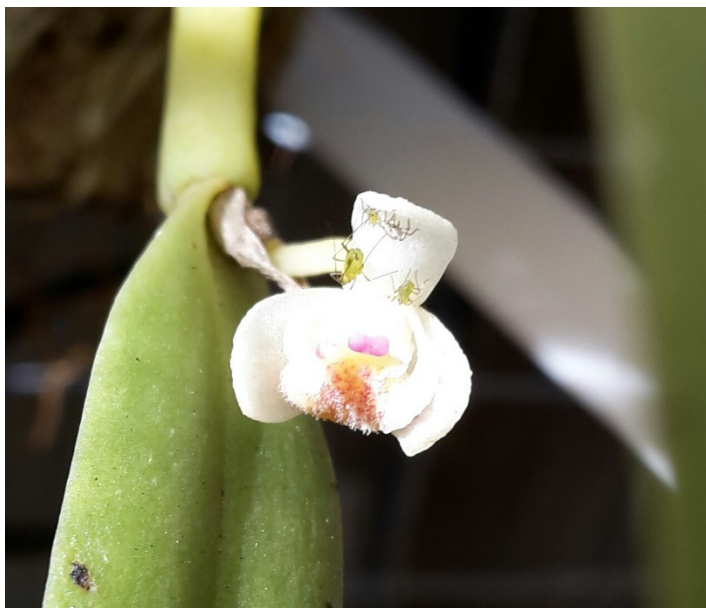
November 26 Member's Meeting

December 6 Christmas Party

December 17 Member's Meeting

Thank you to all the members who sent in photos in the last two months especially the novice growers. Hope you all have been viewing our facebook page.

Cadetia taylori + aphids grown by Mark Asbury.



Cymbidium grown by Ray Pycraft



Onc. Twinkle grown by Tricia Hamilton



Mps. Pink Cadillac grown by G&A



ALAN & MIRIAM MERRIMAN'S NEWSLETTER ALAN'S COLUMN JUNE 2020

Sorry we have not produced notes on our orchids for some time now things have been all out of whack this year. I and my wife have not been in the best of health, but we are now on the improve. Over the last few months I have had many samples sent down for me to look at. Most have been fungi attacks on bulbs – leaves etc. Most of the problems have been caused by many growers using the wrong fungicide. Remember you cannot use the same chemical to control the same fungi. Most bulb fungi can be controlled by the use of FOS-ACID. Remember to add a wetter when using it such as AGRAL®. Look at the label as there are many different ones and most are used at different rates. The common ones that it will control are *pythium* – *phytophthora*. All are root and bulb rots. FOS –ACID will help control these two fungi. *Rhizoctonia* cannot be controlled by the use of Fos-acid. For leaf spots on leaves ROVRAL® can be used. Get the AQUA ROVRAL® which does not mark the leaves or the flowers. MANCOZEB® is a good general purpose fungicide. NOTE If the spray you are using does not work, try another if possible in another family. Another very good fungicide for spots, rusts etc is YATES ZALETON®. It is good on orchids, azaleas, roses, ornamentals and lawns. The rate is 7.5ml per 100 L of water. Now is the time to check how our two spotted mites are going. HITMAN® is a not chemical soap that is very safe to use on the following pests: aphids, thrips, mealy bugs, two spotted mite white etc.

Every year I get the same question. What rate do I use lime.

DOLOMITE 2 PARTS – LIME 1 PART BY WEIGHT.

To treat pine bark for orchids

To one cubic metre = 1.5m high x 2m x2m wide.

2 – 5 kg Urea

1.0 kg Super phosphate – superfine if possible

0.5kg Iron sulphate.

Turn heap over after three weeks. After six weeks check pH and adjust. Remember when you buy your bark check the label to make sure it has been treated or you may find you may end up with nitrogen draw down.

Now is the time to give your plants a dose of CALCIUM NITRATE to give spikes a push along. Rate 250 kg per ha. I would use 400 to 800 grams per 100 litres of water. Use November – December / January – April/May.

Now is the time to cut back on fertiliser use. Half rate seems to be the go PETERS has a good range to use such as OSMOCOTE EXCEL CAL MAG. Use at 1.0 gram per litre of water once a week every

second week. Check for mitres under the leaves for signs. If buds are still in sheaf you may spray with ECO-OIL but at 3ml per litre of water. Water only on sunny – warm mornings. Only stake your flowering racemes up when your plants warm up or they may snap off! Always face your flowers to the sun or you may end up with twisted racemes! With you Cattleyas start to drop your watering off maybe weekly. Move plants around to get maximum light. If you live in a frost area, give plants an application ENVY®. Most growers give their show bench plants a dose of calcium nitrate ½ gram per litre of water and potassium nitrate ½ gram per of water give this application last week of June. Apply foliar.

AUSSIE NATIVES need an application of calcium nitrate now and another application in July and August. Use at the rate of 1.0 gram per litre of water in the mornings. If using BIOMIN CALCIUM use 0.5 gram per litre of water monthly of every two months you can use the BIOMINS at 1.5 gram per litre of water. By the way did you know you can use BIOMIN MAGNESIUM. BIOMIN MAGNESIUM is a bio – available organic plant nutrient that is systemic readily available and non phototoxic . Can be used before and during flowering improves photosynthesis which improves plant performance in general, especially during times of stress e.g. summer heat or winter cold.

Rates: apply when necessary, handy when plants are under stress e.g. pest and disease attacks. Apply at 1-2 g per litre of water. When necessary use on own. In next issue there will an article on the use of BIOMINS. Did you know that FOLIAR FERTILISERS are 8 to 10 times more effective than soil application!

A lot of new growers have asked do I have copies of a Few Short Notes for the Beginner Orchid Grower on Pest and Disease control. Yes but it is well out of date. I will rewrite it for all of our and reprint it in our notes!

I have run out of time now, as wife needs these notes in a hurry to type them out for you! No classes as yet. When they are ready to start they will be in our Newsletter .

DEBCO BARK has supplied the following. The bark has an ideal ratio between aeration and drainage plus trace elements and growths stimulants.

Till then any problems give me a ring or you may send an email but please put you phone number on it as I often need to talk to you regarding your problem. Unfortunately there are still no classes hope it will be able to start again soon.

Good growing

ALAN & MIRIAM MERRIMAN

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