

BULLETIN

EASTERN SUBURBS ORCHID SOCIETY

NEXT MEETING: 7.45pm Monday 19 February 2018 at Community Hall, on corner Arden and Varna Sts Clovelly (held 3rd Monday of each month except January) **Visitors always welcome.**

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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL MEMBERS!

"My Favourite Orchid and Why I Love Them"

Gavin Curtis identifies *Dendrobium mousmee* as one of his favourite species because: "They are showy and colourful and easy to grow".



The parentage of *Den. Mousmee* is interesting. According to Gary Hodder (SSOS Bulletin, April 2014) it was registered by Henri Vacherot from Vacherot and Lecoufle Nursery in France, on 1st January 1941. It is *Den. furcatum* x *Den. thrysiflorum*. This is where the confusion is created, as there are different synonyms for *Den. furcatum*. Some think that *Den. furcatum* is also known as *Den. amabile* syn

Den. bronckartii. Others say that this is not possible because *Den. amabile* has been extinct for more than 100 years, However Gary has this variety in his collection. There is also the belief that *Den. furcatum* has not been seen for over 100 years, but three Australian hybrids have been registered with it as a parent over the past 20 years. Sydney has an ideal climate for them, so why not try growing this sensational plant with such a mysterious past?

AFFILIATED PHOTO COMPETITION

The **Affiliated Societies Orchid of the Year Photographic Competition** is open to members of all OSNSW affiliated societies. The competition is to find the best orchids of the year exhibited at a show run by an affiliated society. Monthly meetings don't count! This competition is only open to members of affiliated societies of OSNSW. There are three divisions of the competition with **\$300** prize money for each:

- Hybrid Orchid of the Year
- Species Orchid of the Year
- Best Hybrid or Species Orchid of the Year exhibited by a Novice/Junior Grower.

There will also be a prize of **\$100** for the society involved in the show where the respective orchids were exhibited. The competition is open from 1st July to 30th June of each year. This means that the Grand Champion must have been selected prior to 30th June (even if your show is still in progress).

The Secretary of OSNSW will accept entries until **10th July** of each year either electronically or in hard copy form, providing the date of show judging is before June 30th.

Entries are to be made by forwarding the required **digital photographs which must be taken within 2 days of the show judging, and must be sent to the OSNSW Secretary as separate files (not imbedded into the word document)** to the Secretary, at secretaryosnsw@yahoo.com.au or on CD/DVD to: The Secretary, Orchid Society of NSW, PO Box 5396, Chullora NSW 2190, together with an [entry form](#). Required digital photographs are:

- Single flower, front, side and back
- Inflorescence
- Entire plant

MAKE SURE YOU TAKE THE CORRECT PHOTOS AND EMAIL YOUR ENTRIES ASAP!

BENCHING PLANTS AT MONDAY MEETINGS

When you arrive you need to book in your plants so that they are accurately recorded for point scoring.

1. Write your name in the left column of the Plant Booking Sheet
2. Record the total number of plants
3. Tick each class column in which you are entering a plant, and the number benched.
4. For each plant you need to complete a Plant Slip showing the plant name and benching class, whether Open or Novice, as well as your name, then place it on the bench beside your plant. If you are uncertain, please ask the Judge or the President.

Coming Up in 2018

- Royal Easter Show 23 March-3 April
- Orchids Out West 18-20th May
- AOCC2018 on 18-22nd July
- ESOS Show on 4-5th August
- St Ives Orchid Fair 17-19th August
- Southern Orchid Spectacular 5-7th Oct
- Annual Gavin Curtis Workshop/Open Day
- Seedling Growth Competition
- All You Ever Need to Know about Flasks' Member Workshop

Australian Orchid Council Conference and Show 18th-22nd July

Hawkesbury Indoor Stadium
16 Stewart St
South Windsor Sydney NSW



Registration Secretary:
aocc2018@orchidsocietynsw.com.au

Indian Dendrobiums (part 2)

by Gary Hodder

DENDROBIUM CHRYSOTOXUM

Dendrobium chrysotoxum is commonly referred to as the Golden Bowl Dendrobium or the Fried-egg Orchid. It is native to SE Asia as it has been found in the wild in Burma, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Eastern Himalayas, Bangladesh, Nepal, Yunnan, Andaman Islands and Assam India at elevations of 400 to 1600m where it grows in cool - warm conditions with medium amounts of light.

The species flowers from late winter through to late spring with yellow flowers arising from nodes near the apex of the pseudo-bulbs. The flowers are highly fragrant of honey, but are short lived and last for about a week. Like all SE Asian *Dendrobiums* these evergreen orchids have a growing period and a rest period, so the best way to grow *Dendrobium chrysotoxum* orchids is in a well -drained open bark mix. Keep the plants moist and heavily fertilised during the growing season. However during the dormant winter period reduce the watering until new shoots appear.



Don't forget to buy your ESOS logo purple T-Shirts (\$25) and bags of fertiliser (\$7/bag) and sphagnum moss (\$5/bag).

DENDROBIUM FIMBRIATUM



Dendrobium fimbriatum grows over a wide area in Asia, from southern China to the Himalayas, and south to Malaysia. It has deciduous canes, with each cane keeping its leaves for just under two seasons. This way, the plant is always in leaf, so when second year canes drop their leaves,

new canes have already started growing. The flowers are borne on an inflorescence that grows from the top of leafless canes, or canes in the process of losing their leaves. The inflorescences hang down. The usual form has a dark maroon spot in the lip. This is also the common form in cultivation, known as variety 'Occulatum'.

The plain form without the spot is rarer. The plain form is often confused with *Dendrobium chryseum*, which it resembles. *Den. fimbriatum* has more robust and taller canes, whereas *Den. chryseum* has thin canes. In *Den. fimbriatum* flowers, the edge of the lip is finely cut, whereas the lip of a *Den. chryseum* flower is smooth. The inflorescence of *Den. fimbriatum* has up to a dozen flowers, whereas *Den. chryseum* only has single flowers.

DENDROBIUM SULCATUM



This magnificent evergreen epiphyte has been found growing in Assam, Eastern Himalayas, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos and southern China in tropical valleys at elevations of 500 to 1000m. This Dendrobium grows in cool to warm temperatures with bright light such as 50-70% shade cloth.

It is a small to medium growing *Dendrobium* species with flattened 25cm pseudo-bulbs, which is unique and very ornamental even when not in flower. Its pendulous inflorescences are produced under the apical leaf with fragrant flowers in beautiful clusters of up to 18 yellow flowers per spike in late spring, which last for about 7-10 days. It is capable of flowering again from its previously flowered canes as well as from newly mature canes. This is a great temperature tolerant species.

Keep the plant moist and fertilise during the growth season. During late autumn withhold watering until new shoots appear in early spring. Mist the plant to prevent pseudobulbs from shrivelling. Grow in a well drained open mix of medium bark, coarse perlite, scoria rock and charcoal.



Fungi on Dendrobium Orchids

Dendrobium orchids are susceptible to many different types of fungi which may lay dormant in the potting media for many years without showing any symptoms of being present. During times of stress or adverse weather conditions (excessively wet) fungal spores get blown or splashed onto leaf surfaces. Damage to the leaf may be caused by brushing past leaves that overhang shelves, particularly in cold weather when the leaf may be more brittle, or a leaf may rub against itself or another plant. The spores of fungi can easily enter the wound and infect the plant.

Fungi include *Glomerella fungi*, *Cercostora Dendrobii fungi*, *Colletotrichum fungi*, *Phyllosticta fungi*, *Phytophthora rot* (commonly called Brown rot) and *Pythium rot* (commonly called black rot).

In all cases fungi are detectable, because leaves turn yellow with pink or brown spots appearing on the upper surfaces of the leaf, and small yellow spots appear on the underside. These spots soon develop so the fungi is visible on both sides of the leaf. The spots enlarge in a few days and eventually all the leaves turn brown and fall off. (See progressive development in the photo below).

All fungi infections are treatable with a phosacid spray (e.g Anti Rot) Mancozeb at the rate of 3mg/litre of water (DO NOT USE Mancozeb with added sulphur) or Eco-Oil at the rate of 3ml/litre of water.

It is advisable that all infected plants be removed from the orchid house and placed in a quarantine area. All debris from fallen leaves should also be removed and placed in a plastic bag in the garbage bin. Remember it is always better to take preventive action to keep plants healthy, by regular spraying.

Herbert Chen has created a very professional ESOS web site (ESOS.org.au). Members are urged to contribute to it, and to refer to the Discussion Forum for advice, or to sell plants.
Roger Lodsman is willing to place a bulk order with Garden City Plastics, so let him know what you need at the next meeting and save \$\$\$.

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