

BULLETIN

EASTERN SUBURBS ORCHID SOCIETY INC.

MONTHLY ZOOM MEETINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Single \$15 Family \$20

(Due 1 July each year)

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Zoom Online Judging

All members providing orchid flower photos in April by email are warmly thanked. At the April Zoom meeting some members showed their flowers, and shared how they were grown. It was agreed that:

- there would be no "Popular Vote" or Raffle until further notice
- orchid photos (preferably jpeg file, not PDF) may be emailed to Ian (ianchalmers73@gmail.com) for judging any day during the month, **up until noon on the Sunday before the Zoom meeting** (17 May 2020)
- the same plants may be 'benched' for a number of months, if flowers are still in good condition
- the Plant of the Month, as well as Open and Novice Point Scores will be published in the monthly Bulletin as usual
- members are also encouraged to upload their photos onto the Forum section of esos.org.au as a permanent record
- Herbert Chen recommended the 'Wetransfer' option, if you need to transfer a lot of flower photos
- please ensure your Name (Open/Novice) correct Plant Name and Class is submitted, in order to obtain point scores
- a few words about where it was bought, how it was grown, and how long it has been owned would also be appreciated

Tips for Joining Zoom

- the host, Ian Chalmers, will email an invite to join the meeting at 7pm
- Check your audio and video are turned on when joining a zoom meeting, so that you can participate.
- Click on top right hand full screen/ '9 dots' to see everyone else
- During the meeting you can exhibit your flower photos, using the 'share screen' option located on the control panel.
- Zoom Tutorial support is easy to watch:
https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-Video-Tutorials?flash_digest=9e58fb8bdbcdcd320f12714e9cd8e522aec76bca

NEXT ZOOM MEETING: 7PM TO 8.30PM ON MONDAY 18 MAY.

APRIL ZOOM MEETING REPORT

In order to safeguard the well-being of members the Committee announced some measures to help limit the spread of Covid19, which has had such a significant impact on all our lives. It is with a heavy heart that we decided to cancel monthly meetings. We will actively review, update and communicate decisions about the Society in the future, because your health and safety remains our number one priority. We would like to continue recognising the beautiful flowers members grow by issuing Point Scores for flower 'benchings'. In lieu of monthly meetings we respectfully seek support in following the Zoom Online Judging Rules outlined on page 1.

ATTENDEES: Gavin warmly welcomed members, including Chris Head (Bangkok) Roger Lodsman (Queensland) and Chris Dalrymple (Tasmania). Gavin said Zoom meetings offer the added benefit of sharing with members who have recently left Sydney.

I & I Chalmers	C Wong
G Curtis	H Chen
H Mason	C Starrett
J & J Linton	R Trethewy
I Kaplin	B & B Thompson
P Malthouse	B Gertner
C Ping Li	C Dalrymple (TAS)
R Lodsman (QLD)	C Head (Thailand)

MINUTES: Minutes of the previous ESOS meeting held on 16 March 2020 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the last meeting held in person.

TREASURERS REPORT: The Treasurers Report by Chin Wong was accepted. Insurance is being negotiated due to a lack of meetings in the Hall.

CORRESPONDENCE: Members were notified that Orchid Nurseries are now selling online.

ORCHID OLYMPICS: Gavin asked members to comment on progress with their *Paphiopedilum* William Ambler orchids, and gave out some advice.

SOUTHERN ORCHID SPECTACULAR 2020:

Gavin reported that the SOS Committee (comprising ESOS and OSNSW members) is confident that this year's Show on 9-11 October will exceed last year's record event. As a result, more volunteers will be required, and the Committee is preparing procedures to manage large crowds. A point system will be implemented to share net proceeds, and so encourage volunteers from other Orchid Societies.

OTHER BUSINESS: a) The ESOS 70th Anniversary Celebration Dinner may be deferred until 2021.
b) Zoom meetings to be held from 7pm to 8.30pm.

NEXT ZOOM MEETING: 7pm - 8.30pm ON 18 MAY

Understanding Awarded Plants

Following Warleiti's plant Awards, members may be interested to understand what Awards are all about. You may have noticed on your plant labels that there are some capital letters after the name of the plant. In Australia we have various Quality Awards which are given to species or hybrids. These awards are for when a specific plant is grown particularly well, and can be:

- First Class Certificate (FCC),
- Award of Merit (AM),
- Highly Commended Certificate (HCC)

In addition, Cultural awards are awarded to a specific grower and consist of:

- Award of Cultural Excellence (ACE)
- Award of Cultural Merit (ACM)
- Award of Cultural Commendation (ACC)

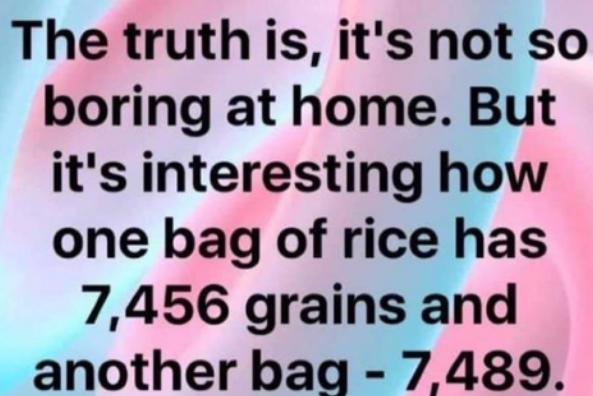
In addition to these awards, there are two awards relating to plants:

- Award of Distinction (AD), which is for a distinctive feature that can be used as a benchmark for future judging
- Certificate of Botanical Merit (CBM) is for a species or natural hybrid which is rare, and can be used as a benchmark for future judging

There is another award given to a breeder for an outstanding feature or achievement relating to the culture of orchids not adequately covered by the previously mentioned Awards-

- Award of Special Recognition ASR

Awards are written after the plant name followed by the authority who judged the Award eg FCC/AOC (Australian Orchid Council) or ACC/AOS (American Orchid Society). So if you have a plant labelled with an Award, look after it carefully, as it has been recognised with something of special value.



The truth is, it's not so boring at home. But it's interesting how one bag of rice has 7,456 grains and another bag - 7,489.

CONGRATULATIONS Warleiti!

Cymbidium dayanum 'Warleiti' AM-ACM/AOC-NSW-2020 and April ESOS Plant of the Month

At a special judging last month (March 2020) ESOS Committee Member Warleiti Jap, offered her *Cymbidium dayanum* for consideration for an award. The Judges decided to give two awards to the plant: an Award of Merit (AM) and an Award of Cultural Merit (ACM). The plant has been given a clonal name of 'Warleiti'.

The plant had 35 inflorescences evenly spaced around the entire pot with approx. 420 flowers and 50 unopened buds. Warleiti purchased the plant from Orchid Species Plus about 5 years ago at one of Sydney's Orchid Shows. She bought it as a small plant, and nurtured it over the years. Warleiti grows it in what used to be called Werner's *Cymbidium* Mix with additional Orchidata Bark added. It is fertilised with a slow release Basicote Plus (9 month), also regular Peter's CalMag, and an occasional dose of Molasses, Focus Orchid Grow and Focus Orchid Bloom. (not all at once). A tonic of Seaweed Solution is also occasionally used.

As Warleiti does not have a shade-house or other orchid house, one thing that Warleiti swears by is the use of Eco-Oil as a pest preventative. As a

bonus, Eco-Oil keeps the foliage clean and healthy looking. Fungicides are rarely used, and even then, only on suspect plants, as their use can slow growth.

This is the first Quality Award for Warleiti, but the second Cultural Award she has achieved. The previous award was for her *Cymbidium* Mary Green 'Warleiti', when she received the highest cultural Award of Cultural Excellence (ACE). Anyone who has seen Warleiti's orchids benched at Shows and Society meetings, will be confident that these awards will not be her last.

Cymbidium dayanum is found across Asia from the Eastern Himalaya to Japan growing at elevations of 150 to 1800m, depending on local climate. It enjoys good air movement with bright light in the region of 3000-4000 foot-candles. It should easily tolerate temperatures down to 6C in winter. This makes it an ideal plant to grow in central and eastern Sydney, providing the media is kept just barely moist in winter without completely drying out. On behalf of members, congratulations Warleiti on your awarded plant!



Sincere Thanks

On behalf of all members we would like to express our sincere appreciation to Ian and Irene Chalmers for their support in judging and ensuring that our Orchid Societies can continue to function, by issuing Point Scores to recognise the beautiful flowers members grow.

A Nasty Problem: How to Control Scale and Mealy Bug

Have you noticed a white woolly infestation on the underside of orchid leaves? It is sometimes hard to distinguish between a pest infestation of Scale and Mealy Bug but it is important to address the issue immediately, to prevent rapid spread throughout your collection. Here are some ways to help you eliminate this nasty pest problem:



SCALE

Scale are classified in the family Pseudococcidae, and are closely related to mealy bugs. These sucking insects feed on the underside of leaves, in leaf axils and on pseudobulbs and rhizomes.

Plants will lose vigour, and leaves, buds and flowers may drop. Scale insects insert long modified mandibles into plant tissues causing circular areas of chlorotic tissue (from toxic saliva) and rather rapid death of the plant.

A. Boisduval: Cottony white masses of males or white circular areas of eggs.

B. Hard and Soft Scale: Small brown flat oval or circular cones attached to leaves, flowers and pseudobulbs.

Distribution of infected plants remains the primary source of scale dispersion. Palms are natural hosts but scale is also common on *Laelinae* and *Oncidinae* orchids, and can be found on *Cymbidium*, *Stanhopea* and *Zygopetalum* species.

MEALY BUG

Mealybugs are classified in the family Pseudococcidae, and are closely related to scale insects. These sucking insects feed in leaf axils and are adept at hiding in stem sheaths and on the underside of leaves.

Plants will lose vigour, and leaves, buds and flowers may drop prematurely.

Defined small white cottony masses on upper or underside of leaves or in leaf axils. Unlike scale, mealybugs will move about to find feeding sites, and can be found hiding on roots and rhizomes deep in potting media. Also make sure you check for them in cracks and in joints on benches, under lips of pots and trays, and other hiding places. Spread of crawlers can occur both indoors and outdoors by floating on breezes or air currents produced by circulating and heater fans.



Look for Ants

Soft scale produces honeydew which attracts ants to farm the scale. This can in turn provide a substrate for sooty mould. So ant infestation may also have to be controlled.

CONTROL

1. If not widespread, dip an earbud in 70% isopropyl alcohol and scrape insects off. Or you may use 50% diluted methylated spirits mixed with an oil (white oil or eco oil) to improve the effect. Spray leaves thoroughly and drench the bark to kill insects within the pot.
2. Always remove old leaves and sheaths to make it easier to inspect your plants, and to minimise insect hideaways.
3. Inspect plants thoroughly for further signs of infestation, particularly under leaves and in leaf axils.



4. Every two weeks, use a pesticide such as Malathion, EcoNeem, or a product containing imidacloprid, until all signs of infestation are gone. Eggs may be very well hidden, so to kill any late hatchings, give a final spray 10-14 days after infestation is under control.
5. HIPPO Enhanced Eco-oil is a revolutionary approach to pest control, and is the result of a three year research project with Charles Sturt University. It will attract beneficial insects including lady beetles, lacewings, hover flies and parasitoids. Pretty impressive eh?!
6. If you use EcoNeem, which smothers the insects, never apply on a hot day or in direct sunlight (to prevent tissue/leaf burn). *Miltonia* and *Masdevallia* species may be sensitive to this product. Richgro Bug Killa granules provide a minimum of 2 months extended protection against a wide range of sucking insects, as the granules eliminate the risk of scorching plant leaves and gives plants complete protection against sucking insects even in the heat of summer.
7. Either change the potting mix or thoroughly drench it too. Dispose of it carefully in the garbage as it may harbour eggs and crawlers.
8. The key factor to controlling scale and mealy bugs are persistence, intensity, regular inspection, then a rapid application of control methods.
9. Or simply dispose of the plant and but a new healthy one!



TAKE PRECAUTIONS

1. Quarantine all new plants for two weeks before introducing them to your collection. Inspect any garden plants near your orchids for signs of infestation.
2. Practise careful hygiene procedures on tools and benches when re-potting to prevent cross-contamination.
3. If you are battling infestations for a long period of time (say, more than 9 months) and have been using the same control method, then you have probably developed a resistant insect population. The answer is to change control methods occasionally; by not using the same chemical mix more than 3-4 times in a row. Using too little of a chemical will enhance resistance, while using too high a concentration may damage the plant.
4. Outdoors, scale and mealybugs are vulnerable to a variety of parasitic and predatory insects, including wasps, brown and green lacewings, and lady beetles. Weather, especially heavy rains, also help to keep infestations low.



MEMBER'S PLANTS



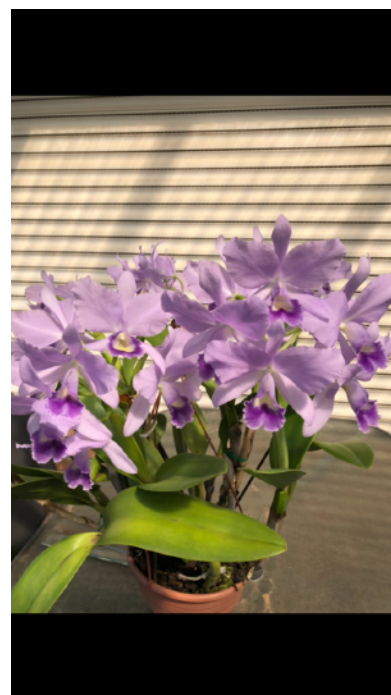
Novice Ian Kaplin came third in Class 30 with this lovely *Miltonia Bluntii* (left), and Chin Wong grew the enormous *Guarianthe bowringinia* (right) in Class 22.



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IN GAVIN'S GARDEN

Gavin would like to share with members some sensational flowers he has grown this month. These plants were all ready to win his usual prizes at the Royal Easter Show in April , but sadly it was cancelled. Enjoy.

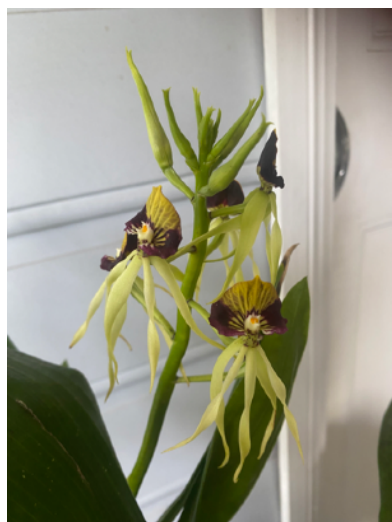


MEMBER'S FLOWERS



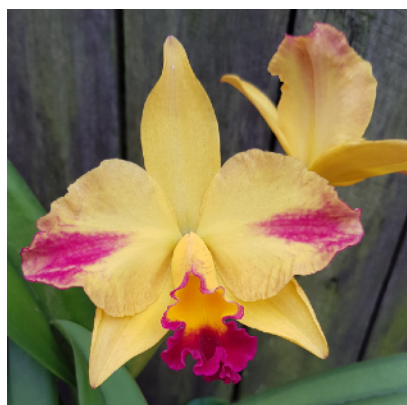
Congratulations to Novice Ross Trethewy who won first in Class 32 for this impressive *Vanda Somsri Glory 'Blue'* (left). He also grew *Brassidium Paradox Petit* (right) in Class 30.

The *Miltassia Aztec Toni* (below left) in Class 30 and *Prosthechea cochleata* 'Andrew Young' x *cochleata* 'Tinonee' (below) in Class 33 were grown very capably by Novice Cathy Starrett.



Herbert Chen grew some lovely first prize winning flowers, in Class 5 with *Rth.* Burana Beauty (left), in Class 4 with *R/c.* Hongying Sunbeam (below left), and in Class 2 with *Den.* Australian Rhubarb Pie 'Blackbird' x 'Henk Wants' (below centre). He came 2nd in Class 4 with *R/c.* Focus Taiwan 'Orchis' (right).

Noelene Weatherby grew the *Bulbophyllum rothschildianum* in Class 21 (above right).



MONTHLY RESULTS: OPEN

No.	Class	Plant	Exhibitor
2	Australian Native Hybrids	1 <i>Den.</i> Australian Rhubarb Pie 'Blackbird' x 'Henk Wants'	H Chen
4	Laeliinae Standard/Exhibition	1 <i>Rlc.</i> Hongying Sunbeam 2 <i>Rlc.</i> Focus Taiwan 'Orchis' 3 <i>Rlc.</i> Portage Glacier 'Pink Edges'	H Chen H Chen N Weatherby
5	Laeliinae Cluster/Novelty	1 <i>Ctt.</i> Portia 'Blue Grotto' 2 <i>C.</i> Portia 'Cannizarro' 3 <i>Ctt.</i> Porcia 'Cannizarro' var Bexley HCC 1976	W Jap G Curtis N Weatherby
6	Laeliinae Intermediate/Minature	1 <i>Rth.</i> Burana Beauty 2 <i>C. bowringiana coerulea</i> 3 <i>Blc.</i> Tzeng Wen 'Dragon'	H Chen G Curtis G Curtis
10	Dendrobium Hybrids	1 <i>Den.</i> Aussie's 'Warleiti' 2 <i>Den.</i> Fire Wings 3 <i>Den.</i> White Silk	W Jap W Jap H Chen
13	Oncidinae Hybrids	1 <i>Brassidium</i> Golden Gamine 'White Knight' 2 <i>Gomesa</i> Fire Free 3 <i>Alicea</i> Peggy Ruth Carpenter 'Pink Lady'	W Jap H Chen N Weatherby
16	Cypripedioidae Hybrids: Other	1 <i>Paph.</i> Tatonka	W Jap
17	Phalaenopsis Hybrids	1 <i>Phal.</i> Taisuco Mickey	W Jap
18	Vandaceous Hybrids (Excluding Phalaenopsis)	1 <i>Vanda</i> Gordon Dillon x Sunray	G Curtis
22	Species: The Americas	1 <i>C. perrinii</i> 2 <i>C. Portia coerulea</i> 3 <i>Guarianthe bowringiana</i>	G Curtis G Curtis N Weatherby

MONTHLY RESULTS: NOVICE

No.	Class	Plant	Exhibitor
25	Laeliinae: Hybrids	1 <i>Lc. interceps</i>	H Mason
30	Oncidiinae: Species/Hybrids	1 <i>Onc.</i> Sharry Baby 2 <i>Gomesa</i> Dancing 3 <i>Miltonia</i> Bluntii	H Mason C Ping Li I Kaplin
31	Paphiopedilum: Species & Hybrids	1 <i>Paph. spicerianum</i> 2 <i>Paph. callosum</i>	C Ping Li C Ping Li
32	Vandaceous Hybrids & Species	1 <i>Vanda</i> Somsri Glory 'Blue'	R Trethewy
33	Species, Other	1 <i>Coel. tomentosa</i> 2 <i>Prosthechea cochleata</i> 'Andrew Young' x <i>cochleata</i> 'Tinonee'	C Ping Li C Starrett



Chao Ping Li grew these eye catching *Paph. spicerianum* (right) and *Paph. callosum* (left).

