

GYMPIE & DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY Inc.



NEWSLETTER

June 2018

www.gympieorchidsociety.com.au

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On Saturday 26th May, we had our monthly meeting at Jim and Leanne Evans' place. It was a lovely balmy day and 3 new faces were welcomed to our meeting. Discussion included a reminder of the Qld Garden Expo in Nambour July 13th - 15th and the Aranbeem Orchid Sale Sat. July 7th 9am - 4 pm at Priest's Road, Deception Bay..

Our president thanked members for their efforts at our May orchid events and demystified the points system for judging club displays. There was interest from some members in a bus trip to this year's Hervey Bay Orchid Show.

Then followed some advice on various cultivation issues. Coside, a bactericide was recommended for the control of unwanted moss in the shade house and MPK, monopotassium phosphate can be applied to increase the cold tolerance of plants. Seasol is suitable for plants at the seedling stage but can cause colour break in flowering Cattleyas. As you may know, there are many forms of Osmocote a slow release fertilizer on the market. Doug Wilson recommended Osmocote Exact as his choice of these. Cymbidiums are spiking now and Jim Evans discussed the pros and cons of growing the various types in our region. He recommended Searle's Cymbidium mix as a safe choice of potting mix. After the raffle, we were treated to a tour of Jim's extensive orchid collection followed by afternoon tea.

The winter solstice has just passed and as the days grow longer we are already anticipating the burst of life and blooms that herald the Spring when our native epiphytes flower. But winter too has its magic with some of our demure terrestrials gracing our coastal and mountain regions.

These are a few photos from a trip to the Mothar Mountain rockpool recreation grounds and National Park area last week..



These are the leaves of *Chiloglottis sylvestris*, whose common name is the bird orchid. I've included the photo on the right for reference but the plants aren't flowering yet.



Whereas *Corybas aconitiflorus*, the spurred helmet orchid is out in considerable numbers beside walking tracks.



It was such a delight to discover these plants growing locally. The single leaves have a short stalk and the flowers grow directly out of the top of the stalk.

As you can see they grow in colonies and not every leaf flowers. They must have an extensive range as my first reference to them in orchid literature was that they had the distinction of being the southern most flowering orchid, before Antarctica growing in cold regions of Tasmania in heathland 'midst mosses and lichens. It happens that their range includes Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania where they grow at altitudes of from 10 to 1000 metres. There are 134 species in the *Corybas* genus.
(ref. "Orchid Whiz")



Pterostylus grandiflora commonly called the Cobra Greenhood has a larger flower than *Pterostylus baptisti* which also grows in our region.

Known Dates for 2018

July 13-15 th - Qld. Garden Expo Nambour

14th July - Combined Societies Workshop at Howard. Hosted by BOSI

18-21st July - Australian Orchid Council Conference & Show - Sydney

20-22th July - Caboolture OFS Show

August 10-11th - Maroochydore Orchid Show

11th & 12th August - AWOS Orchid Show. Set up and Judging 10th

31st Aug & 1st Sept. - CIDOS Spring Show. Set up and Judging

Thursday 30th

31st August-1st Sept. - Nambour Orchid Show

MDOS Show is on 13-15th September with set-up on 12th. Venue is St Paul's Memorial Hall, Cnr Ellena and Adelaide Streets, Maryborough.

Sept. 14-15th - Noosa Dist. Orchid Show

21-22nd Sept.- Glasshouse OFS Show

29-30th Sept. -ROSI Spring Show

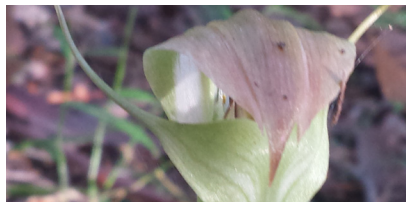
The HBOS Annual Spring Orchid & Garden Spectacular will be held at Xavier Catholic College in WideBay Rd Eli Waters. (off Dundowran Road) Dates for setup and Judging Thurs. 27th September. Open Friday 28th 8am -4pm and Saturday 29th 8am-4pm

Sunday 30th 8am -2pm Presentations.

Oct 12-13th - Bribie Island OFS Show

Nov 2-3rd - Nambour Species Society Show

14th - 15th September 2019: STOCQ Orchidfest Rockhampton



Our monthly meeting is this Tuesday, 26th June at St John's Church hall, on the corner of Duke and Pine Streets, Arrive 7pm for 7.30 start.