

# Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc.

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## Newsletter

P.O. Box 1173,

Bundaberg, 4670

**Volume 07/13**

**July 2013**

**Ed. Barry Mellefont**

Office Bearers.

President	Robert Shield	Phone 41550783
Secretary	Rene Thompson	Phone 41521619
Treasurer	Glenda Coster	Phone 41527980

Meetings are held at 7.30 pm on the third THURSDAY of each month at the Avenell Heights Hall, Thabeban Street.

**Visitors and past members are especially welcome to attend.**

### Date Claimers

**4 Aug SOCM** Repotting Workshop at A & B Heidke's 159 Heidke Rd. at 9am.

**22 -24 Aug.** Native Orchid Conference Strathpine Conference Centre.

**6-7 Sept.** CIDOS Spring Show

**6-7 Sept.** Nambour Orchid Society Spring show

**7-8 Sept.** Rockhampton O.S show, Rockhampton S H S

**19 - 21 Sept.** MDOS Spring Show. Set up on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**4 - 6 Oct.** Hervey Bay Orchid Show. Set up on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**9 Nov.** STOCQ meeting, CSSA Hall, Nutley Street, Caloundra.

**Meeting Duty Roster :** July C Group August A Group Sept B Group

Overheard at an Australian Native Orchid Society bush house crawl:

"The experts say orchids are epiphytes or lithophytes but they are parasites. They suck all the money out of your wallet." - Chris Phillipps

**SOCM** on 4<sup>th</sup> August is an orchid repotting workshop for new and old growers. A special invitation is extended to all new growers to come along and see how it is done by the experts. The club hopes that all growers will take advantage of this meeting to stock up on your potting requirements for the repotting season. Remember the club merchandise is available only to BOSI members not the general public.

Ladies please bring a plate for morning tea and don't forget your chair.

**Meeting topic 18<sup>th</sup> July:** Available Club merchandise for the repotting season.

The club holds an extensive range of pots, fertilizer, bark, charcoal, perlite, labels, etc.

**Bulk Booklet Orders and/or Enquires:** [jbhughes4670@gmail.com](mailto:jbhughes4670@gmail.com) or Ph. 41521937

**The Club merchandise is available only to BOSI members not the public.**

The merchandise, when available and in stock, includes Sterilizer-Trisodium Phosphate, fertilizer Plantacote, Peters All Rounder, Blossom Booster, Steri-prune Spray, Coloured Labels, White Labels Long and Short, Clips Large, Medium & Small, Pencils (8008), Pencils China Black & White, Stainless Steel Pruners, Modiform Pots, 70mm, 80mm, 110mm, 130mm, 150mm 170mm, and Bags Bark(Large/Medium/Small /Mini) and Charcoal. Charcoal bag graded in sizes of 5, 10, 15 and 20mm.

Please phone Bev on 41593291 to arrange suitable time or she may bring your order to the meeting for you if it is convenient.

Labels, clips, trisodium phosphate, pots, fertilizer, etc can now be purchased from the librarian at monthly meetings or from Alwyn & Bev's (Please phone 41593291 to arrange suitable time).

While the Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc. endeavours to ensure reliability and accuracy in this Newsletter's editorial content, responsibility for advice and views expressed is not assumed by the Society or the Management Committee.

**Raffle Winner – June meeting 2013**

**1<sup>st</sup> – Margy Hood**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – R. Shield**

**Lucky Door – D. Jennings**

**Exhibitor – M. Amore**

New Members

A warm welcome from the committee and members to the new members who have just joined and been accepted into our society. Please make them feel welcome and help where possible. New members are:

Clint HEATHORN & Amanda HILLIER, Phone 0427 008 886

Arthur & Betty MCKENZIE, Phone 4152 4375

Col DAWSON & Julie FRY, Phone 4159 8088

**Wide Bay Combined Orchid Societies Annual Orchid Workshop at Howard**

Congratulations to Maryborough & District Orchid Society on the quality of the guest speakers and the smooth running of the workshop. Ross Maidment (Aranbeen Orchids) talk and slides on his Orchid Adventures in Thailand in three words *cleanliness, quality and quantity*. Darryl Banks gave an interesting and detailed talk on growing *Promenaea* and *Zygopetalum*. Shane Snow impressed with his detailed knowledge of various forms of *Den. canaliculatum* and its hybrids. Terry Bade won the container gardens and Dianne Barnes won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the raffle. Excellent day, can't wait till next year.



## 7<sup>th</sup> Australasian Native Orchid Conference & Show Strathpine 2013



The Australasian Native Orchid Society (Qld) – Kabi Group Inc. is hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> Australasian Native Orchid Conference and Show at the Strathpine Community centre 199 Gympie Road Strathpine Qld. We invite your society to attend our conference and show to share the **special orchids and plants of the Australasian region**.

The show will be open to the public over three days starting Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> August from 9.00am to 5.00pm, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> from 9.00am till 5.00pm and Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> from 9.00am to 3.00pm. Admission will be \$5.00 for adults with children accompanied by a paying adult, free.

The bus convenor has booked a bus for this event on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August. The bus leaves from Bundaberg Coach Tours office, Takalvan St., at **5am**. The cost of the trip will be **\$50** which includes your admission into the show. On the way home we will call in at The Strawberry Farm Orchid Nursery so you can spend the last of your money. For your comfort a 46 seat coach has booked and 10 seats have been allocated to another club so be quick and get your name on the booking sheet at Thursday's meeting.

### SEASOL

Seasol is a 100% organic plant conditioner. It is derived from King Island Bull Kelp and contains naturally occurring growth regulators (plant hormones), trace elements, alginates, carbohydrates and vitamins that can significantly aid in improving stress tolerance of plants. Seasol is safe to use on all plants.

When using Seasol, its naturally occurring plant hormones and alginates assists the plants greater frost and cold tolerance (-6.1°C). It will lower the temperature at which cells will freeze. It is taken up by the plant systemically, the protection effect will last for several weeks after application.

Seasol contains virtually no nitrogen or phosphorus, so there is no interference with other fertilizer programs. It is normally used every four to six weeks in the growing season as a plant tonic and in the winter every 12 to 14 days during the cold/frost period.

Seasol increases the heat tolerance of the plant, by reducing transpiration/water loss; it can reverse the effects of dehydration.

Application Rates; For all uses, mix at 2ml per 1 litre of water.

**Popular Vote Results June 2013**



**Cattleya:** *C. Egretlane*  
B & D Barnes



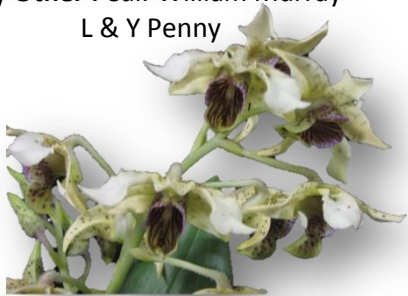
**Species:** *Paph. villosum*  
B & D Barnes



**Any Other :** *Cal. William Murray*  
L & Y Penny



**Vanda :** *V. Brighton's Two Tone*  
E Cross



**Dendrobium :** *Den. New Guinea*  
R & G Coster



**Novice:** *Paph. Unknown*  
M. Aplin



**Judge's Choice:**  
*Vasco. Marlene's Friend x Ascda. Betty May Steel*  
E. Cross

Some of the other tabled plants at June 2013 Meeting.



*V. Pachara Delight*



*Den. bigibbum*



*Rlc. Mal Jenkinson*



*Den. Nopporn Green Star*



*Alcra. Dorothy Oka*



*Neof. falcata 'Pale Pink'*



*C. AOS Beach Magic*



*Zgz. Swan's Spice*



*Rth. Dal's Emperor  
x Rlc. Goldenzelle*



*Wils. Space Mine*



*Rlc. Pokai x Rlc. Tangerine*



*C. elongata*

## Top 10 Orchid Terms You Should Know

As an orchid grower, it is helpful to carry knowledge about orchids so here are a few tips on terms to make you sound orchid savvy.

- Column – the tiny, rounded, column-like extension between the two largest petals. This little guy is the central reproductive organ of the orchid flower
- Inflorescence – the flowering part of a plant
- Keiki – a small plant growing from a node on the flower stem
- Lip – the part of the flower that is almost completely divided from the rest of the flower, however, it is connected by the column. The lip is specialized to aid in pollination
- Medium – the material added to an orchid's container, which can range from varieties such as soil to bark
- Node – A distinct joint or notch on the inflorescence from which a secondary flower stem can emerge from after the primary inflorescence has finished blooming
- Sepal – the outer segments on an orchid flower. Similar to petals, sepals are the three smaller segments of the flower that create a triangular shape
- Spike – a flower stalk
- Throat – the inner portion of a tubular orchid lip, often quite colorful
- Yellowing – term used when a leaf is literally yellowing, which indicates an issue with the orchid

### Mixing Trisodium Phosphate $\text{Na}_3\text{PO}_4$

Use a container, with a lid, deep enough to hold your secateurs. The TSP must cover the blades entirely. Stir TSP into warm water until the solution reaches the saturation point and no more TSP will dissolve. If there is undissolved TSP on the bottom of the container then the solution is a saturated solution.

Polly prep sugar soap also Selley's sugar soap powder are Australian brand names for trisodium phosphate but is cost effective to buy trisodium phosphate from the club.

The major use for trisodium phosphate is in cleaning agents. The pH of a 1% solution is 12, and the solution is sufficiently alkaline to [saponify](#) grease and oils. In combination with [surfactants](#), TSP is an excellent agent for cleaning everything from laundry to concrete driveways. This versatility and low manufacturing price made TSP the preferred basis for a plethora of cleaning products sold in the mid-20th century.

**Saponification** is a process that produces soap, usually from fats and lye. **Surfactants** are compounds that lower the surface tension of a liquid, the interfacial tension

between two liquids, or that between a liquid and a solid. Surfactants may act as detergents, wetting agents, emulsifiers, foaming agents, and dispersants.

Saturated Trisodium phosphate is a strong alkaline chemical and reacts with aluminum and its alloys. Secateurs with alloy handles don't like it.

**Poisoning** can occur if you accidentally swallow, breathe in, or spill large amounts of this substance on your skin.

**Orchid viruses:** As with other plants, sap transmission will carry virus from an infected orchid to a non-infected orchid. This commonly happens with cutting implements such as scissors, secateurs, knives and the like. Plant leaves rubbing together or even just touching, on the nursery bench, during transport or at shows may also transmit virus.

Touching your plants, especially running your fingers along the leaves as many growers do to kill aphids, may also transmit virus. Pollen transfer is also known to result in virus transmission.

Virus particles are very small and can enter through the tiniest of wounds on a plant, wounds that may be quite invisible to the naked eye.

When working on your plants (repotting, potting-on, grooming etc) keep your work surfaces clean and use fresh sheets of newspaper between each plant. When you have finished with a particular plant, wrap up all plant debris, old potting material, pots, stakes and the like in newspaper sheets you have been working on, and dispose of the package. Then wash and dry your hands, lay out fresh sheet of newspaper, and start on the next plant.

**Plant viruses:** One of the best applications for trisodium phosphate in your garden is to use it to clean and sterilize tools, especially if you have been using the tools to remove part or all of a diseased plant. After thoroughly washing your tools -- including pruners, shovels and trowels -- with warm soapy water, soak the tools for 30 minutes in a saturated solution of TSP and water. Do not rinse the trisodium phosphate and water mixture off your garden tools after soaking, but allow them to air dry.

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**PROMENAEA:** The following article is 1<sup>st</sup> part of Darryl Banks talk at Howard. Darryl was kind enough to email me a copy of his talk on *Promenaea* and *Zygopetalums* which I will share with you over the coming months.

*Promenaea* if grown well will flower in a 50mm tube, producing a flower or flowers as big as the plant and within a 2 -3 of years can form a specimen in a 100mm pot that can carry 30+ flowers.

## PROMENAEA by Darryl Banks

This is a little known genus of miniature epiphytes from the moist forests of Brazil.

They were first described in 1843 by Lindley

There are currently 18 species of the genus

Technically they are from the Tribe Maxillaria, subtribe Zygopetalinae

They were named for the Greek priestess – Promeneia



*Prom. Colmaniana*



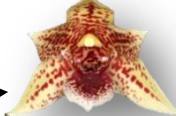


*Prom. Kiwi Raider*







*Prom. Norman Gaunt*

### Species

There are currently 18 recognised species in the genus ; they are (together when first described)

<i>lentiginosa</i>	1843		<i>malmquistina</i>	?
<i>riograndensis</i>	1925		<i>microtera</i>	1881
<i>rollisonii</i>	1843 →		<i>ovatiloba</i>	1906
<i>acuminata</i>	1919		<i>paranaensis</i>	1921
<i>albescens</i>	1919		<i>xanthina</i>	1843
<i>catharinensis</i>	1921		<i>stapelioides</i>	1843 ←
<i>dusenii</i>	1921		<i>paulensis</i>	1922
<i>fuerstenbergiana</i>	1921		<i>silvana</i>	1995
<i>guttata</i>	1856 →		<i>sincorana</i>	1993

Of the 18 species the following 5 are the only ones used in breeding to date. The following lists those species together with their main characteristics

- xanthina →  - strong yellow colour, very easy to grow, floriferous
- stapelioides →  - bold red/brown markings on green base, almost solid black lip, large full flowers, a little harder to grow
- guttata →  - brown barred on yellow base, gold lip, floriferous
- ovatiloba →  - pale yellow, large starry flowers, easy to grow
- rollisonii →  - fine spotting, very easy to grow, last to flower so extending the season