



Eastern District Orchid Society Inc

Founded 1966
Patron Neil Symes MP



E.D.O.S. NEWSLETTER

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JUNE 2012

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Members are invited to attend the next General Meeting to be held on **Thursday 28 June, 2012** commencing at 8.00 pm at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

Trade Table: Pauline Webster

PLEASE NOTE: The Trade Table has "Gone into Recess" for May and June. If you require anything during this period please phone Pauline prior to the meeting to arrange to have the goods brought to the meeting.

RED SPOTTERS CLUB

Member Steve Stitz will be doing a presentation on "How I Grow My Dendrobiums". Steve is one of our more successful Den growers, so members will find this very helpful.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee Meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on **Thursday 5 July, 2012** at the Bayside Uniting Church Meeting Room, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

FEATURE ITEM

Our Guest Speaker for June will be Wolfgang from Horticultural Solutions. Wolfgang will be speaking on "Fertilising through the Winter Months", and "Pests and Diseases in the Spring Months". Wolfgang will also be happy to answer any questions from the members.

Christmas in July

Once again we will be holding our Christmas in July this year with a function on 21 July 2012 at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club, with nibbles at 6 pm, the main meal to be served at 6.15 pm.

The following members are requested to make themselves available for the next meeting:

Judges: Eric Locke, Bill Williams, Les Vickers, Arthur Cornell

Associate Judges: John Rooks, Brent Nicoll, Adrian Bergstrum

Observers: Please see Eric if you are interested

Scribes: Volunteers required please.

Supper Stewards: Marian Samuels, Daphne McKell

Hostesses: Margaret Rieck, Dot Rooks

Library : Helen Vickers

Plant Registrar: Ann Kable

Plants worth Noting: Reg Mcllwain

Tickets will be on sale at our next General Meeting. Cost will be \$20 per head for Members, and \$36 for Non-members. Soft drinks will be included, however any alcoholic drinks will be at your own cost.

If you are planning on coming along, please bring along a prize for the Cent Auction (please bring something you would be happy to win yourself)

It will be a great night, (there will not be any official business discussed on the night), so keep this date free and come along and relax, enjoy a great meal, and enjoy yourselves with your fellow society members.

New Supporter

EDOS Inc would like to welcome Councillor Ryan Murphy from the Doboy Electorate and thank him for supporting our Society by printing our Newsletter every second month. Councillor Murphy replaces former Councillor Campbell as Doboy representative on Brisbane City Council.

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Missing Library Book

We would appreciate it if members could check their bookshelves for one of EDOS Library's books. The missing book is "Vandas, their Botany, History and Culture" by Martin Motes. If you find that you have it please contact our Librarian Helen Vickers.

Plants Worth Noting

Spathoglottis Loretta shown at our May meeting caught my attention with its two 600 mm sequential multi flowered inflorescences emanating from the base of 50 mm bulbs. The 45 mm flowers being cerise with veined yellow centres.

This plant is as it is an interesting cross. The result of crossing Spathoglottis *plicata* and Spathoglottis *affine*, with *plicata* dominating the cross in a ratio of 3:1. Both grow in similar conditions in moist lowland forests in broken sun light as terrestrials. Spathoglottis *affine* is a small yellow flowering non aggressive deciduous plant endemic to south east Asia.

Spath *plicata*, a large robust plant with cherry red flowers that is fast growing has a demanding appetite and very easy to grow and not fussy about the growing medium provided it is moist and has generous amount of organic material. It is wide spread across Sub tropical Asia, western Pacific and northern Aust. from Cooktown to Cape York. Spath *plicata* has become an invasive weed in a number of sensitive tropical wetland habitats such as Florida in the US.

By combining the traits of both the breeder has achieved a plant that is of medium size, easy to grow and a pleasant colour combination and very undemanding in the potting medium required and would make a great addition to anyone's orchid collection.

Cycnoches barthianum 'Pink Dove'

Displayed in the novice growers section of our May meeting was a small plant of the species *Cycnoches barthianum* which was a delight to see and had an exceedingly large pendulous inflorescence for the size of this plant. The flowers had tawny green sepals heavily suffused with brown spots. I hope the grower can continue to propagate this little gem into a medium size plant and I look forward to seeing it again in the future.

It is a native of southern Columbia growing in the steamy jungles of the northern Amazon as a fragrant epiphyte in the upper canopy in full sun.

As with other members of the *cycnoches* genus when growing they require copious amounts of water and fertilizer and during winter when they become deciduous, dry rest is required. The growing medium required is one which holds moisture and I have found medium sized perlite with about 10% chopped sphagnum moss works for me plus a saucer under to hold some water during the summer months. Spider mite is by far the biggest problem and a good miticide is Crown or Folimat. If you have only one or two plants, Mortein is a good cheap alternative.

Steve Stitz

HORTICULTURAL SOLUTIONS

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Change to September General Meeting

It was agreed by a majority decision vote taken at the April General Meeting that due to the closeness of the scheduled September General Meeting to the Spring Show, the General Meeting will now be held at 2 pm on Sunday 30th September (prior to the Presentations at the Spring Show).

This will be an abbreviated meeting, with the majority of business being held over to the next meeting where

possible. Members are asked to be present and sign the attendance book.

More information is available in the attached Minutes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

What: North Morton Qld Orchid Council Inc
Where: Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha
When: 30 June and 1 July, 2012

What: Caboolture Orchid Society Inc
Where: Morayfield Community Complex,
Morayfield Rd, Morayfield
When: 6 to 8 July, 2012

What: John Oxley District Orchid Society Inc
Where: Auditorium, Botanic Gardens, Mt Coot-tha
When: 21 and 22 July, 2012

What: ANOS (Qld) Kabi Group Inc Aussie Native
Orchid Show
Where: The Lion's Hall, Lawnton Showgrounds,
757 Gympie Road, Lawnton
When: 25 and 26 August, 2012

What: AOC Conference and Show. (For more
information refer to web site
http://www.waorchids.iinet.net.au/19th_AO_C_Conference.htm)
Where: Perth WA
When: 11 – 16 September, 2012

What: EDOS Spring Show
Where: Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall
Road, Manly West
When: 29 and 30 September, 2012

What: Boonah Orchid Show and Qld Sarcocochilus
Festival
Where: Boonah High School Assembly Hall,
Macquarie St, Boonah
When: 20 and 21 October, 2012



EDOS members would like to wish members Dot Rooks, Barbara Allen and Tony Harrison Best Wishes and a speedy recovery from their recent medical issues.

Upgrade to Open Section

Congratulations to Annette Hawkins, Greg & Fiona Webb who are now in the Open Section for Judging.

CALL FOR HELP – RED SPOTTER AND GUEST SPEAKERS

We are looking for some ideas and people to help out with the above on Meeting nights.

If you have an idea, or you are prepared to spend a small amount of time on either of these sessions at our meetings, please speak to one of our Committee members.

If we can't fill the spots, these informative sessions may need to be discontinued due to lack of support. It is unfair to those few members who are doing it month after month.

Remember, knowledge shared is knowledge gained.

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Cultural Award

Dendrochilum.[Ddc.] *formosanum*

Grown by B & M Williams

Dendrochilum uncatum Rchb.f. var. *uncatum* is according to Henrik Pedersen the correct name for the species that we may know as *Ddc. formosanum* (Schltr.) Schltr. In his revision of the genus *Dendrochilum* in the Philippines, Pedersen (1997) mentions that there have been differing opinions as to whether the populations of this taxon in Taiwan should be recognised as an endemic variety: *Ddc. uncatum* var. *formosanum* (Schltr.) T.Hashim., or even as a separate species. Horng Jye Su (1988) made a careful study of the variation of the floral characters in Taiwanese plants and found that they were all too variable to justify separation from *Ddc. uncatum*. Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach first described *Ddc. uncatum* in *Bonplandia Zeitschrift fur die gesammte Botanik* in 1885 based upon a collection by Hugh Cuming from Luzon in the Philippines. The specific epithet is from the Latin *uncatus* (hooked, bent inwards)

and refers to the hooked arms of the column.

Plants of *Ddc. uncatum* var. *uncatum* consist of densely clustered, spindle-shaped pseudobulbs that are 1-4.5 cm long and 3-9 mm in diameter. The newly developing growth bears a single stalked linear-oblong leaf that is 3.5-20 cm long and 0.7-3 cm across. Inflorescences emerge from the centre of the newly unfurling leaves and are 5-22 cm long. The arched raceme carries 14-40 flowers that are 9-11 mm across in two alternating ranks. Faintly fragrant, the flowers vary in colour from green to usually yellow (rarely white). The keels on the lip and sometimes the side-lobes are brown to orange-brown.

Ddc. uncatum is distributed in the Philippines and Taiwan where it is found as an epiphyte (rarely as a lithophyte) in usually mossy forest between 930-2,500 m elevation. In the Philippines, this species has been found on Luzon, in the Visayas and on Mindanao. An intermediate-growing plant, *Ddc. uncatum* requires about 70% shade and a small container with a well-drained medium. Maintain high humidity with good air circulation and water it frequently during the warmer months. The leaves may be prone to red spider mite infestation if the humidity is low. Watering frequency can be reduced a little during the cooler months; however plants should not be allowed to remain dry for long periods.

References:

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Cootes, J. (2001) *The Orchids of the Philippines*. Times Editions, Singapore.

Fessel, H.H. & P. Balzer. (1999) *A Selection of Native Philippine Orchids*. Times Editions, Singapore.

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This information provided by Gary Yong Gee (OSS Bulletin March 2012)

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

If anyone has any articles they would be interested in having included in the Newsletter please let me know

For anyone who is interested in receiving their Newsletter electronically, please let me know your email address and I will include you in our email group. My email address is editor@edos.org.au

Request for Support

Our Committee recently received some information from Youngcare seeking support for their organisation.

If any member is interested in helping this very worthwhile cause, please see Secretary Ken as he has the information on what they do and how you can help.

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WEBSITE

www.edos.org.au. Our Webmaster Ray Girdlestone would like you to have a look at our EDOS website and make comment – remember it is still a work in progress and any suggestions will be appreciated. If you have any Cultural advice you think may be useful to others please pass it on to Ray for inclusion on the website.

Ray can be contacted on email

webmaster@edos.org.au or phone 3823 4277

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