



Nambour Orchid News

March 2019



Steve being presented with the STOCQ award for best species 2018 - Cattleya loddigesii 'Brooke' AM/AOC-STOCQ

Great day at Bunnings sausage sizzle



The workers



Shirkers



Socializers



Secretary news

March:

Sausage sizzle 14th March was a great success. It was very hot but a great number of members came to assist so we could swap jobs frequently. We won't mention the name of the person who forgot to bring the sausages.

April:

Next Sausage Sizzle Tues 9th April.

Caloundra Show: Set up Thursday 11th April for a Friday, Sat show. This is a display show, members showing plants will need their names in to Alison by Monday 8th. so labels can be completed for set up. Set up time is 2.30pm Thursday. Show details are on the calendar at the end of the newsletter and also on our website.

South Burnett Show: Saturday 20th April This is a 1 day show, set up 7am on the day. This is a benched show. Members do their own labels.

Bribie Island Show: Set up Thursday 18th April for a Friday, Saturday show. This is a benched show so members are responsible for their own labels. If you have not benched at this show before you will be given a show number on arrival.

Gympie Show & Garden Expo. Set up Friday 26th April for a Saturday, Sunday Show. This is a display show, names to Alison by Monday 22nd April.

Our AGM is over for another year, this means that Memberships are now overdue. If you have not yet paid your subs for 2019 and intend to remain financial, details on how to pay are on Info. Page 12 Cost is \$10 single and \$15 Family. March will be your last newsletter if you are no longer financial. Thank you to all the members who have already paid.

President's March Message

As we move into Autumn – it will cool down eventually - I hope that you are checking your plants for all those pests and problems that seem to come with summer and treating them accordingly. Don't forget to bring your queries to the Culture Corner before our meeting starts, to help you with good growing practices in your orchid collection. The AGM is over and it looks like you will have to put up with me for another year! But seriously, thank you for your support and thanks also to all who indicated their willingness to work towards sharing the load at meetings and shows. All offers of help are appreciated very much.

I look forward to seeing some great *Dendrobium bigibbum* orchids flourishing after David's presentation last month. He stressed what we tend to overlook, when growing this orchid, how important it is to take note of climatic conditions and treat them as closely as possible to how they grow in their natural habitat.

Alison and Jean attended another information evening for the various groups who sizzle sausages at Bunnings, Maroochydore. There are a few new rules to observe. Thanks for standing in for me ladies. Due to various problems that seem to arise, procedures when working at a Sausage Sizzle get "tweaked" from time to time and if you are helping out please comply with instructions given.

Final words from "Orchid Wise" by Roger Rankin – 'Over-watering causes almost half an orchid's ills; and under-watering the other half'. **Gina**

A selection of plants on display at the February meeting



Rlc. Arom Gold



C. labiata - Rod & Jan



C. Caudabec Candy
Marty & Anita



Erycina pusilla - Gabrielle



Ctsm. Orchidaglade 'Bab'



V. sanderiana - Rod & Jan



Milt. Goodale Moir
Rod & Jan



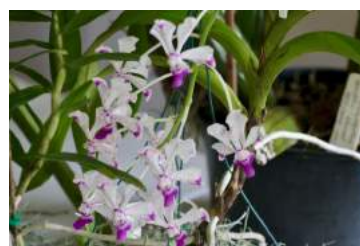
Phaius Maculato
Grandifolius - Luda



Milt. Sandy Cove - Judy



V. Sumon Spot x Guo
Chia Long - Rod & Jan



V. luzonica - Rod & Jan



Vdnps. Irene Dobkin
'Peaches' - Judy



Den. Purple Spiral x *gouldii* - Cliff



Gram. scriptum - Rod & Jan



Bulb. odoratissimum
Wayne & Jean



Brassavola nodosa - Judy

***Dendrobium bigibbum* Culture Notes by David Hunter**

There are three (3) main varieties in the *Dendrobium bigibbum* complex. They are *Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *bigibbum*; *Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *compactum*; and *Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *superbum*.

Distribution

Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *bigibbum occurs in northern Queensland on some Torres Strait islands, in the east from Cape York to the Archer River and on the western side of Cape York Peninsula from 0 -350m elevation. This is a hot climate with high humidity most of the year with exception of a dry winter and spring with humidity returning in mid-late November. See climate Statistics below for Weipa. Note the main rainfall months and the length of the dry months (very important to keep in mind for culture requirements, see below).

Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *compactum occurs in north-eastern Queensland on the coastal ranges between Daintree and Cairns (Hartley’s Creek and Mossman River Gorges) at about 350-750m elevation. This is a slightly milder climate with more regular rainfall but with a distinct long dry-season. See climate statistics for Port Douglass and Mareeba

Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *superbum occurs in north-eastern Queensland from Cooktown to Font Hills west of Mount Molloy from 5-350m elevation. This is a similar climate to *Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *compactum* but with less rainfall.

Climate Statistics

Weipa elevation 18m

Statistics	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Temperature													
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	31.9	31.4	31.8	32.2	31.8	31.1	31	32	34.4	35.6	35.6	33.9	32.7
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	24.2	24.1	23.8	22.8	21.3	19.9	18.9	18.7	19.7	21.8	23.4	24.2	21.9
Rainfall													
Mean rainfall (mm)	482	536	409	99.4	17.7	3.9	1.5	5.8	1.3	22.7	109	271	2009
Decile 5 (median) rainfall (mm)	500.8	440.5	372.3	65.9	5.3	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.0	8.4	59.4	259.8	1907.0

Port Douglass elevation 8m

Statistics	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Temperature													
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	30.3	30.1	29.5	28.3	26.7	25.1	24.6	25.3	26.7	28.3	29.5	30.3	27.9
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	23.7	23.5	22.8	21.5	19.5	17.7	16.8	17.1	18.6	20.8	22.3	23.3	20.6
Rainfall													
Mean rainfall (mm)	401	429	427	204	72.8	47.4	25.6	24	31.8	51.7	107	210	2032
Decile 5 (median) rainfall (mm)	354	394	377	152	59	34.8	18.1	17.6	23.4	35.6	79.8	137	1992

Mareeba elevation 400m

Statistics	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	31.3	30.8	29.8	28.6	27	25.4	25.3	26.6	28.1	30.5	32.1	32	29
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	20.9	21.2	20	17.8	15.4	12.3	11.2	11.7	13.5	15.9	18.7	20.2	16.6
Rainfall													
Mean rainfall (mm)	200	250	192	46.6	22.2	14.7	7.1	6.8	5.3	14.3	52.2	105	918
Decile 5 (median) rainfall (mm)	173	218	155	29	14.7	8.5	3.8	2.8	2	6.3	29.6	102	880

Culture

John Green highly recommends keeping the pots as small as possible when repotting *Dendrobium bigibbum* allowing as many roots to grow outside the pot as possible as they need plenty of air around the roots for



Dendrobium bigibbum var. *bigibbum*

healthy growth. Use an open mix that will hold some moisture around the roots in the heat of the green-house over the summer months but capable of drying out within 12 hours. It is important to remember their natural environment and to imitate this as best as possible for each variety. The type of potting mix will of course depend on many variables. I use a simple mix of medium grade treated pine-bark with similar sized charcoal and a small addition of coco chip. I mix these items in the following ratio (all by volume not weight):- 45% medium grade treated pine-bark; 45% medium grade charcoal; and 10% coco chip. If your mix is different, it doesn't matter as these orchids are very tough.

Another important point on repotting needs to be emphasised here and that is that because you are only watering these pots for six (6) months a year (see below), the decomposition of the potting mix is slower than normal orchid growing but I still recommend adding lime on the following year after potting and replacing the mix after the second year around mid-November. Stale mix only invites issues with the roots and because they only require small pots the expense is minimal- it's not worth risking damaging your orchid roots.

In summer we need high temperatures to get good, strong growth. With light watering once weekly commencing in late October till late November-early December. Then water heavily daily till Mid-March then reduce to every 3rd day from mid-March till late April. Then watering ceases until mid-October with light watering commencing again. Fertilising (mixed at $\frac{1}{4}$ recommended strength) commences around early December, applied daily with watering, ceasing in mid-March. The fertilising regime should alternate between a high Nitrogen (I use Calcium Nitrate) and a high Potassium blend. This will provide lush growth with strong flowering potential in the autumn. It is important to keep in mind that in late October in South-East Queensland minimum temperatures are still only 16-17 degrees C (check the corresponding temperatures in the tables above in October-Weipa: 21.8 degrees C). So don't be too keen to give them that "Tropical deluge" via the hose just yet.



Dendrobium bigibbum var. *compactum*

Remember good growth is dependent on HEALTHY roots and this is what we are aiming for... the plants will do the rest provided the roots **are** healthy.



Dendrobium bigibbum var. *superbum*

Over winter *Dendrobium bigibbum* can cope well with cold nights so long as the days are warm, and the roots are **DRY**. A covered greenhouse provides ideal conditions and also keeps rain off the plants when you don't need it in winter. Position the plants at the highest place in the greenhouse. Dry conditions are essential with only occasional misting and then only once every 3 weeks or so and only on above average day time temperatures.

They must be completely dry again by sunset!!! This cannot be over-stressed and will stave off too much pseudobulb shrivelling and minimise leaf drop. Keep in mind between May and the end of October the median rainfall is 18mm (Weipa) with each rain day only dropping 0.2-0.5mm. This would barely wet the leaves and barely touch the roots and average daily temperatures are still @ 32 degrees C. Although the other statistics show more rainfall at this time of year the trade winds are strong and very drying in these locations over the drier months and so create what most of us would consider terrible conditions for orchid growing, yet this is **their** natural environment. As stated earlier these **are really tough plants**.



Dendrobium bigibbum var. *superbum* forma *alba*

In summary I would like to stress that although I have included a large amount of detail to digest, it really is not hard to have complete success with the Queensland floral emblem in your collection and furthermore many 'southerners' will be so envious every Easter when they come to visit to see your beauties blooming profusely and you comment "Oh they are so easy to grow here". Enjoy your *Dendrobium bigibbum* collection and you will appreciate how rewarding they really are.

Note: the climate statistics quoted in this article are via the Bureau of Meteorology web site and are copyright for research/discussion purposes only.

Judges Choice - February - Gomesa Alosuka 'Claire



I grow the plant in a small bush house with walls lined with 50% shade cloth and the top lined with 75% shade cloth with the plant positioned in the centre which would be one mt. from the ground.

The plant does not receive any special treatment than other general plants around.

The growing medium I use is made up of grade 2 and 3 pine bark with added perlite and charcoal .

The standard mix I purchase from Orchid Shows.

Once a week I fertilise with Campbell's A for the major part of the year and the remaining time with Campbell B and only water as needed. **Julie**



Judges choice - Novice - *Phalaenopsis fasciata*



The Striped Flower Phalaenopsis is native to the Philippines. It can usually be found near rivers, at an altitude of 0-457 m. It is a small sized, hot growing, epiphytic, which can reach a height of 15-20 cm, with short stems enveloped by several imbricating persistent leaf bearing sheaths carrying ditichous, elliptic, obovate-elliptic or obovate, obtuse or rounded apically leaves that are dorsally keeled. The leaves are 15-20 cm

long. *Phalaenopsis fasciata* blooms on a lateral, suberect to arcuate, racemose, zigzag, 10" (25 cm)

long, many flowered inflorescence that is longer than the leaves and has small, triangular, acute bracts occurring from summer through autumn. The long-lasting flowers are fleshy, waxy and fragrant. The flowers are 5 cm in diameter, they are fleshy, have a waxy texture and have a star shape. The petals of both whorls are light to dark yellow, often with a greenish shade and have light to dark cinnamon stripes. The top of the orange-yellow lip is a bright purple or crimson colour. The side plots are yellow with red dots. The inflorescence can produce new flowers for years so remove them only if they are dead. I was given this orchid by a private grower in Nambour. I have had it about 3 years and it has flowered each year. I grow it in sphagnum moss to keep it moist. The only fertilizer I have used is an occasional worm wee watering. **Glenda**

Species

Plant of the month - *Cattleya intermedia* var. *orlata* 'Crown Fox'



Cattleya intermedia is native to Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, where it grows in the Atlantic coastal forest on rocks and small trees near the sea or streams, in areas with high humidity, and the plants have moist, but not soggy, roots. It is small to medium size, intermediate to warm growing, and requires average light with good air circulation. I was given this plant a few years ago by a good friend, (thanks Tom). It is growing in a mix of perlite and peat (12-1)

with small amounts of bark, charcoal and diatomite, with gravel in the bottom of the pot and on top of the mix, this makes it quite heavy, so my plants very rarely blow over even in strong wind. It is located on a high shelf, under 70 percent shade cloth, with my larger foliage plants underneath which supply extra humidity. It has small amounts of Plantacote High K controlled release fertiliser twice a year, and lots of different sprays to keep all the plants happy and healthy. **Judy**

Cultural plant - *Miltonia moreliana* which used to be known as *Miltonia spectabilis* var *moreliana* is a species endemic to Brazil. It grows quite easily into a large specimen and with good culture an extremely rewarding orchid to have. We grow ours hanging high under 50% shade cloth, but because of the surrounding vegetation it is more like 70%. So we would recommend it be grown under 70% during the warmer months. We water it every 2nd day during hot weather and only once weekly during the cool months but this all depends on prevailing weather conditions. Fertilizing is done twice weekly with Peters Excel CalMag Finisher from September to May and once a week during the cooler months and an application of Plantacote High K IN September. It is grown in Perlite and Fine Bark with a small amount of coir, and repotting is normally done in September. **David & Lorraine**



A very hot afternoon greeted us for our species get together at Graham & Beryl's place, but we were very comfortable in the shady spot of Beryl's car garage. Thank you both for your hospitality. A special thank you goes out to Steve Yeoman for his presentation on the differences in some of the *Bulbophyllum* that we see most often in the *Halalosema* section. There has been some confusion in recent times as to the correct names of some of these and they have now been clarified by Kew.

Plants benched are listed below. Names checked and correct as per Kew WCSP list.

* indicates a change to your listed name.

Bulbophyllum burfordiense, *Bulbophyllum clandestinum**, *Bulbophyllum cominsii*,
Bulbophyllum grandiflorum, *Bulbophyllum tricorne*, *Cattleya aelandiae*, *Cattleya bowringiana*,
Cattleya intermedia *Cattleya loddigesii*, *Cattleya violacea*, *Den.bigibbum*, *Den.dickasonii*,
Den.bigibbum var. *compactum* *alba*, *Dendrobium bigibbum* var. *superbum*, *Dendrochilum filiforme*,
Dendrochilum magnum, *Dendrochilum uncatum*, *Denndrochilum latifolium*,
Guarianthe bowringiana x 3, *Habenaria medusa*, *Micropera pallida*, *Miltonia moreliana* x 3,
Miltonia regnellii, *Paphiopedilum dayanum*, *Phalaenopsis bellina*, *Phalaenopsis javanica*,
Phalaenopsis pulcherrima, *Phalaenopsis violacea*, *Pholidota imbricata*, *Pinalia spicata**,
Prosthechea cochleata, *Vanda denisoniana*

February 2019 Popular vote & Judges choice

Class & Judges Choice	1st	2nd	3rd
Cattleya.. C. Caudabec Candy. Marty & Anita.	<i>Rlc.</i> Arom Gold. Michael & Betty.	<i>C.</i> Chocolate Drop. Patrick & Heather. #	<i>C.</i> Caudabec Candy, Marty & Anita <i>C.</i> Calummata. June & Graeme. #
Oncidium. Gomesa Alosuka 'Claire'. Julie.	<i>Milt.</i> Sandy Cove. Judy.	<i>Gom</i> Alosuka 'Claire'. Julie.	<i>Oncostele</i> Everglades Elegance. Col & Marilyn. #
Vanda/Phal. V. Sumon Spot x V. Guo Chia Long. Rod & Jan.	<i>V.</i> Banjong Sky Blue x <i>V.</i> Dr. Anek. Luda.#	<i>Vdnps.</i> Irene Dobkin. Judy.	<i>V.</i> Sumon Spot x <i>V.</i> Guo Chia Long. Rod & Jan.
Dendrobium. Den. unknown. Luda.	<i>Den.</i> Purple Spiral x gouldii. Cliff.	<i>Den.</i> unknown. Luda.	<i>Den.</i> Heart of Gold. Marty & Anita.
Any Other. Bulb. Tsiku Pouter. Gabrielle.	<i>Phaius</i> <i>Maculato Grandifolius</i> Luda. #	<i>Ctsm.</i> Orchidglade. Michael & Betty.	<i>Bulb.</i> Tsiku Pouter. Gabrielle.
Paph/Phrag..	No entries.		
Species Americas. C. labiata. Rod & Jan.	<i>Brassavola nodosa.</i> Judy.	<i>Milt. regnelli.</i> Col & Marilyn.	<i>Erycina pusilla.</i> Gabrielle.
Species Asian. Grammatophyllum scriptum. Rod & Jan.	<i>Gram.scriptum.</i> Rod & Jan.	<i>Phal.bellina.</i> Judy.	<i>Bulb.odoratissimum.</i> Wayne & Jean.
Aust. Native Hybrid.	No entries.		
Aust. Native Species. Den.antennatum. Cliff.	<i>Den.wassellii.</i> Gina & Charlie.	<i>Den.antennatum.</i> Cliff.	No entry.
Novice. Phal. fasciata. Glenda	<i>Phal. fasciata</i> Glenda	No entry.	No entry.
Foliage. Begonia. Pat.	<i>Caladium.</i> Gabrielle.	<i>Fittonia.</i> Marty & Anita.	<i>Alocasia.</i> Gabrielle.

Judges Choice overall: Gomesa Alosuka 'Claire'. Julie.

Novice Plant of Month: Phalaenopsis fasciata. Glenda

A crosshatch # beside the name of an orchid on this sheet indicates a correction or the new name of your plant.

Nambour Orchid Society Show Calendar 2019

Set up is the day before Show date unless otherwise noted.

(NOS commitment in blue)

March		
Sat/Sun 30/31	Boyne Tannum Orchid Show	St Francis Primary School, Tannum Sands
April		
Fri/Sat 12/13	Sunshine Coast OS Show	Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Ulm & Queen St. Caloundra
Sat. 20th	South Burnett Orchid Show	RSL Hall, Wondai
Fri/Sat 19/20	Bribie Island Orchid Show	Orchid House, 156A First Ave. Bongaree
Sat/Sun 27/28	Gympie OS Show	Pavillion, Gympie Showground
May		
Fri/Sat 10/11	Noosa OS (closed show)	CWA Hall Cooroy
June		
Thurs./Fri. 6/7 June	Sunshine Coast OS. (closed show)	Pelican Waters Shopping Centre
July		
Fri/Sat/Sun 12/13/14	Nambour Garden Expo.	Nambour Showgrounds, Coronation Ave. Nambour
Fri/Sat/Sun 26/27/28	Caboolture 50th Anniversary Show	Morayfield Community Centre (Behind Bunnings)
August		
Fri/Sat 2/3	Maroochydore OS show	Milwell Road Community Centre, Maroochydore
Sat/Sun 10/11	Agnes Water OS show	Agnes Water Community Centre, 71 Springs Road,
Fri/Sat/Sun 23/24/25	ANOS Conference Hosted by KABI	Strathpine Community Centre, Strathpine
Fri/Sat 23/24	Noosa Orchid Show	RSL Hall, Cooroy
September		
Fri/Sat 6/7	Nambour OS Spring Show	Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour
Sat/Sun 14/15	STOCQ Rocky Roundup	Korte's Resort, Rockhampton
Thurs/Fri/Sat 19/20/21	Maryborough OS Show	St Paul's Memorial Hall, Maryborough
Thurs/Fri 19/20	Sunshine Coast OS (closed show)	Pelican Waters Shopping Centre
Fri/Sat 27/28	Glasshouse Country OS show	Beerwah Community Hall, Peachester Road.
Fri/Sat/Sun 27/28/29	Hervey Bay OS show	Xavier Catholic College, 1 Wide Bay Drive, Eli Waters
October		
Fri/Sat 11/12	Bribie Island OS Show	The Orchid House, 156A First Ave. Bongaree
November		
Fri/Sat 1/2	Nambour OS Species Show	Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave, Nambour
Sat. 16th	STOCQ & OQI meetings	Orchid House, 156A First Ave. Bongaree
2019 AOC Conference		
Australian Native Orchid Society	Hosted by KABI Native OS	Strathpine Community Centre, Strathpine
Sat/Sun 14th & 15th Sept	STOCQ Rocky Roundup	Korte's Resort, Rockhampton



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Nambour Orchid Society Information and Contacts

Business meeting

Is held on the 4th Saturday of each month at 12.45pm prior to the cultural meeting . All members are welcome to attend.

Cultural meeting

Is held on the 4th Saturday of the month at the Nambour Uniting Church Hall, Coronation Ave., Nambour at 2pm.

All members and visitors are welcome. **Plants are to be tabled by 1.30pm for judging.**

The Species Appreciation Group get together is held monthly from February to November at member's homes. Contact the Secretary for details.

All STOCQ members welcome. Bring your flowering species plants, a chair, a cup and a plate to share for afternoon tea

Patron	Rob Wright		
President	Gina McMonagle	07 5439 6353	
Vice President	G Robertson	07 5442 1288	
Secretary	Alison Parkes	07 5441 7201	nambourorchids@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jean Harris	07 5445 3307	
Editor	Richard Hand	07 5442 2879	rhand39@gmail.com

A reminder for all winners of Judges Choice, cultural awards etc. at both our meetings, please send a few lines on how you grow your plants, growing conditions and anything relevant, for inclusion in the Newsletter to - rhand39@gmail.com. Information is required two weeks prior to the monthly meeting

Our new shirts are available to Order. If you would like one, please Email or see Alison at the meeting. Cost to members is \$25 for the shirt with logo + \$5.50 if you require a pocket. Name badges are also available to order. Cost is \$5.00 new members or \$10.95 if you require a replacement.

FOR SALE

Nambour Orchid Society members may use space in the Newsletter free of charge, if you have any Orchid related items for sale, please send your ad to rhand39@gmail.com no later than 2 weeks prior to the monthly meeting

Members can sell Orchids or foliage plants at our meetings. Only plants that we would use in show displays are permitted. **Please remember to add your gold coin donation to the honesty box.**

PO Box 140, Nambour QLD 4560 nambourorchids@gmail.com www.nambourorchidsociety.com



Supporters of Cittamani Hospice Services

Cittamani Hospice Services are in Palmwoods and provide end of life palliative care for people in need in their own homes. They also provide essential equipment free of charge for patients use in their own home.



Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.
Est. 1955



Sub Tropical Orchid Council Qld. Inc.

Rocky Round Up Orchidfest 2019

Conference and Show

Saturday 14th Sept 9am to 4pm

Sunday 15th Sept 9am to 3pm

Admission \$5 Children free

Hosted by The Rockhampton Orchid Society Inc.



The conference will be an open show exhibiting club displays & tabled plants



Orchid Nurseries for plant sales
Orchid Sales



Capricorn Region Bonsai Society
Display & Sales

Orchid potting supplies



The Rockhampton Cake Decorators

Guest Speakers

Free Door Prize

Refreshments will be available.

Visit our website for Updates, Registration Form & show Schedule

www.rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au

Email: rosi@rockhamptonorchidsociety.com.au

President Jeff Bloxsom Ph: 0407 995 122 Show Marshal Jeff Glover Ph: 0409 633 469



Venue

KORTES
RESORT

984 Yaamba Rd. Parkhurst QLD. 4701

