

Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc.

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Newsletter

P.O. Box 1173,

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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

- 1. ANNUAL MEETING – 20th October 2016. membership is due prior to this meeting. Single - \$6.00, Family - \$10.00
Non-Local (outside postcode 4670) Single - \$10.00, Family - \$15.00.**
- 2. Hervey Bay Show – October 7-9. Plant name to Barry Barnes by 2/10/16
Plants for transport to Show at Bob Shield by Friday 11.30am 7/10/16.**
- 3. New and Interested Growers Meeting – Sunday 2nd October at Bob and Deborah Shield, 37 Hutchins Street, Branyan. Topics relating to Phalaenopsis culture. Bring Chair and hat at least.**
- 4. BOS Orchid Display at North Bundaberg Progress Hall Sunday 16/10/16
Set-up:- Saturday 15/10/16 from 3pm. Members displaying at the hall may have one sales table each on Sunday. This is a display for the Public, so please support by bringing your flowering orchids.**

DATE CLAIMERS

5. Our Christmas Function will be held on Saturday 19th November 2016 at the RSL, Quay Street. Reservations are required by the end of October. A sheet will be available at the September and October meetings to record your booking. This is an excellent social evening open to all members.

Meeting Duty Roster:

September: C Group
November: B Group

October: A Group

August:

Raffle winners: 1st Prize: Chris Trudgian

2nd Prize: Judy Dalton

Lucky Door: Ron Stillman

Exhibitors Prize: Col Dawson

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.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

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

Please phone Bev on 41593291 to arrange a suitable time for you to collect any merchandise you require for your Orchid Potting. Bev also brings a range of items to the monthly meetings for purchase.

Bulk Booklet Orders and/or Enquires: Jean Williamson, Phone# 0448879969

Email: jw.484@bigpond.com

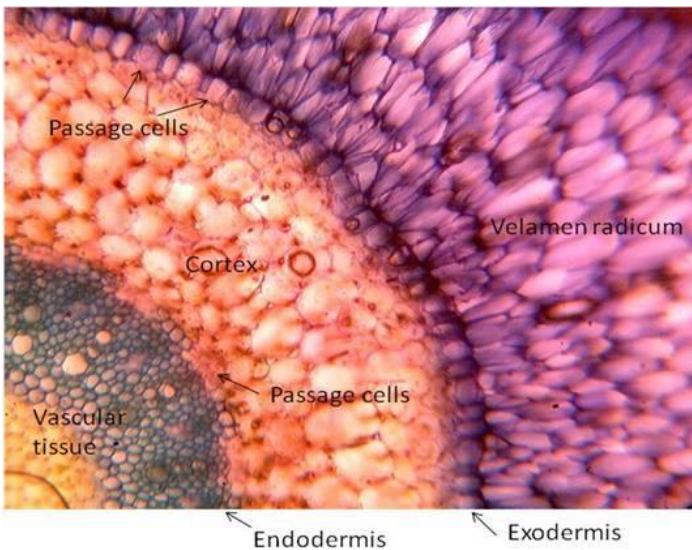
Water first then fertilize or just fertilize and water at the same time?

PART 1:

Ever since enthusiasts began cultivating orchids growers have pondered on the subject of watering and fertilizing. At first, cultivators thought that orchids needed a hot and continually wet environment, so they tried to imitate the hot wet tropical climate within "hot Houses". As a result, many plants were lost through root rot and other fungal problems. As growers became more proficient in their methods, plant loss was reduced to more acceptable levels.

Orchid roots are uniquely different from other roots in the plant kingdom. It has adapted itself to store water and nutrients within the (**Velamen radicum**) just underneath the external cell layer of the root. The nutrients are passed through passage cells into the Cortex and then into the Vascular tissue for transportation throughout the plant. See [diagram A](#)

Diagram A



Velamen radicum

"The velamen radicum in Orchidaceae, a spongy, multiple epidermis of roots with dead cells at maturity, is a textbook example of an "adaptation" to the epiphytic life style. There are numerous allusions

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POPULAR VOTE RESULTS

Cattleya



Pot.Love CallxLc.Gold Digger

R & G Coster

Dendrobium



Den. Red River x *speciosum*

J. Maughan

Judges Choice



Rhy. Silvia

B & D Barnes

Novice



Alcra Tahoma

C. Tholstrup

Species



B.glauca

R & G Coster

BUNDY MULCH & CHIP

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Jamieson Webb
0422184240
Terry Webb 412946603

Servicing Bundaberg & Surrounds

Vanda



Rhy. Silvia

B & D Barnes

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to its function in the literature since the original description in the 19th century, but at close inspection solid information is extremely limited. We have already evaluated a hypothesis put forward by Went (Ann Jard Bot Buitenzorg, 1940), who had suggested that the primary function of the velamen is the capture and immobilization of the first solutions arriving at the onset of a rainstorm, which are the most heavily charged with nutrients. We found that all necessary prerequisites for this notion were given, i.e. rapid uptake of solutions into the velamen, retention of charged particles within the velamen and fast uptake into living tissue.” (Zotz and Winkler 2013).

Unlike most other terrestrial plants which enjoy having their root system continually within a moist soil environment, the epiphytic orchid root system is designed to meet its environmental situation of wet and then complete dryness. Lithophyte orchids are similar to epiphytic. Both epiphytic and lithophyte gather their nutrients mainly from animal droppings on their supporting tree or rock that are washed down when it rains. This would be when the water is saturated with these animal droppings. I cannot elaborate upon the roots systems of Australian native terrestrial orchids as I have not had experience in growing these genus. Other terrestrial orchids such as Paphiopedilum and allied species have few roots but the roots do have hairs and it is my understanding this is to allow the take up additional moisture quickly. Of course Phragmipedium enjoy having their root system continually in a very moist environment and would be exception and not the rule.

(To be continued)



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October	WATER REQUIREMENTS	FERTILISER	PEST CONTROL	OTHER
CATTLEYA ALLIANCE	Watering may now increase to every three days. Check to see that roots have dried out.	Application of fertiliser may now increase to weekly quarter strength with a well balanced fertiliser.	Use a fungicide every three weeks. Look for evidence of scale and other insect pests	Repotting of plants should now be completed. Watch for new roots on multi-leafed Cats and repot in need.
Dendrobium. Hard-canes	Irrigation of plants should be increased to every three days.	Fertilise at quarter strength on a weekly basis.	Dendrobium beetles will now be active inspect plants on a very regular basis. See also Cattleya.	New growths will be appearing and should be about two to three inches high. Give a treatment of Epsom salts.
Dendrobiums Soft-canes	As for Dendrobium hard canes	Fertilise at quarter strength on a weekly basis.	As above	As above
Phalaenopsis	Twice per week early morning	Heavy feeders and need half strength well balanced fertiliser	As above but also Watch for evidence of crown rot. Spray with 1ml to the Ltr	Flowers should be opening along the inflorescence an need to be protected.

			of Algenox to stop Botrytis.	
Paphiopedilum	Water directly into pots, not over the plant weekly on larger pots every 3 days smaller pots	Weekly using a use a well balanced fertiliser at quarter strength	Use a fungicide every three weeks. Crown rot is your worst enemy	Mix should be kept moist but not wet. Mix should not completely dry out.
Vanda	Water three times weekly. Misting of the exposed root system will help.	Heavy feeders and require fertiliser at every watering at half strength	As with Cattleya. Check leaf axis for Dendrobium beetle pupa.	

General. Temperature have now increased and your orchids should be showing signs of active growth in the formation of new roots and leads. Application of Seasol will help protect your plants from heat stress. Under bench watering or regular misting to increase humidity will greatly assist the lowering of high temperatures during the hotter days. Leave the repotting of your hard cane Dendrobiums until November when there should be signs of new root growth on the new canes, produced during September. Epsom salts may be used monthly on all multi flowering plants to increase the development of additional flowers for the next flowering season.

Again keep your eye on the weather through:-

<http://www.bom.gov.au/qld/forecasts/map7day.shtm> click on Bundaberg on the map.

