

Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc.

Email:

Club & Editor:

bundabergorchidsociety@gmail.com

Newsletter

P.O. Box 1173,

Bundaberg, 4670

Web Site:

www.Bundabergorchidsociety.com.au

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Ed. Graham Price

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

NIGG: (New & interested Growers Group) June 2nd will be held at the residence of Jean Williamson at Whites Road.

Howard Workshop: Saturday June 22nd with Childers being host Club.

Bus Trip: July 20th Glasshouse Mountain Orchid Bus Trip

NIGG: August meeting will be held at Heidke's residence with a demonstration of the art of dividing of orchid plants, this is an important meeting to attend as there are lots to learn about dividing your orchids so as to start your new collection for the spring weather ahead.

Meeting Duty Roster:

May: D Group

June: A Group

July: B Group

August: C Group

Please support your group at our meetings when necessary as there is often only a few doing all of the work.

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 can bring a small amount of merchandise to the monthly meeting, however, if you know there is something you would like to buy at the meeting could you PLEASE phone Bev with your requirements. This will enable Bev to not have to hire a pantechnicon to bring in merchandise.

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.

**Bulk Booklet Orders and/or Enquires: Jean Williamson and Tony McGarry,
Phone# 0448879969 Email: jw.484@bigpond.com**

April Winners:

Raffle: 1st Prize: Christine Tholstrup 2nd Prize: Carolyn Nielson

Lucky Door: Yvonne Lloyd-Jones **Exhibitors Prize:** Diana Ephram



Members are reminded of the Bus trip to the Glasshouse Mountains Orchid Clubs' trip on July 20th. Arrangements are now in their final stages where all members planning to go are required to make payment for this trip by Sunday 16th June. Cost for the trip is \$139- per couple. Singles ½ prices each, enquire about shared arrangements. Saturday night dinner at an RSL will be a cost met by individual members. Morning Teas and lunches will be provided, but bring your own light breakfast for Sunday morning. The bus company is yet to be confirmed, but, will be leaving early. Members will be required to be at the Bus depot by 5:30 for departure at 6:00 sharp. Further emails and notifications will be forwarded onto members as it becomes available.

Popular Vote Results



V. Crown Fox Magic 'Korat'
Judges Choice
R & B Emmerson



Den. Unknown
Novice winner
Sue Brown



Den. Unknown
Dendrobium
Yvonne Lloyd-Jones



HWRA. Chian Tzy Lovely
x
Ct. Golden Chocolate
Any Other
Gerry Reimer



C. Royal Beau
Cattleya
R & G Coster



Phal. bellina x bellina var. blue
Species
R & B Emmerson

Orchids



Orchis tridentata

Orchis is a genus in the orchid family ([Orchidaceae](#)). This genus gets its name from the Ancient Greek ὄρχις *orchis*, meaning "testicle", from the appearance of the paired subterranean [tuberoïds](#).

The word "Orchis" was first used by Theophrastus (371–287B.C.) in his book "*De Historia Plan Tarun*" (The natural history of plants) is considered the father of botany and ecology.

The great majority of orchids are to be found in the tropics, most Asia, South America and Central America.

All Orchid species are protected under CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) as many are potentially threatened or endangered in their natural habitat. Hundreds of new species are added each year.

The basic orchid flower is composed of three sepals in the outer whorl and three petals in the inner whorl. However one of the petals, the medial petal is different from the others and is called labellum or lip.

Most advanced Orchids have five basic features

1. **The presence of a column.**

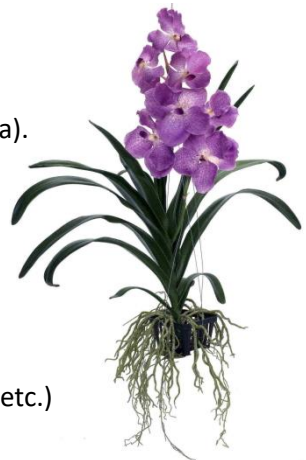
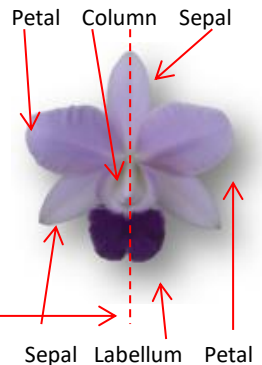
The coalesced stamens and pistils united into one body known as the column or gynostemium.

2. The **flower is zygomorphic** or bilaterally symmetrical

3. The **pollen are glued together into the pollinia**, a mass of waxy pollen grains or spores of the plant which are coherent and are shed as a unit.

4. The **seeds are microscopically small** (exception Disa & Vanilla).

5. The seeds can, under natural circumstances, **only germinate in symbiosis** with specialized fungi.



Orchid can be divided into two basic growth types:

Monopodial (one footed) have a main stem which continues to grow year after year (Eg. Phalaenopsis, Renanthera, Vanda, etc.)

Sympodial (many footed) The orchid produces a series of adjacent shoots which grow to maturity, bloom, then stop growing to be replaced by the next growth (Eg. Cattleya, Cymbidium, Dendrobiums).

Orchids can be divided into four types according to growing condition.

1. Epiphytes - Air Plants, which grow on trees.
2. Lithophytes - The rock growers cling to the surfaces of rocks.
3. Saprophytes- Those that grow in mulch, often on the forest floor.
4. Terrestrials - Growing in soil or sand.



As most Orchids are epiphytes, they can be potted in sphagnum moss, bark, charcoal, pebbles, perlite, coconut chips or a combination of the above or on wooden or cork slabs.

In nature, Orchids obtain their supply of inorganic nutrients like calcium, magnesium, iron, potassium, nitrogen and traces of manganese, boron, copper, zinc etc. from the tree on which they are growing, from atmosphere, decaying vegetables and dropping of birds and other animals.

Under orchid house conditions you have to supply these major and minor nutrients in the form of solid and liquid fertilizer. Slow release fertilizers, lasting for 6-9 months, are ideal for most orchids but liquid fertilizers are much more quickly absorbed and can be applied more frequently at lower concentrations.

Usage of fertilizer depends on stage of growth. During the warmer summer growth period, more of nitrogen is required while during winter and prior to flowering, nitrogen should be reduced and amount of phosphate increased.

NPK 20:20:20 or 18:18:18 is good during vegetative growth.
NPK 10:20:30 or 7:12:40 is good during flowering stage.

In general, pH of the nutrient solution should be slightly acidic or neutral but not alkaline.

Fertilizer on sunny days during early morning for better absorption.

The above is basic information for new growers

Vandaceous Orchids

The name Vanda comes from Sanskrit, an ancient Indian language, and is today used for one of the genera in the orchid family. Vanda orchids hail from northern Australia and eastern Asia, and you can for instance find them in India, Himalaya, southern China and the Philippines. Vanda orchids are found in various habitats and you can learn a lot about your flower by looking at its leaves.

If the leaves are cylindrical and fleshy, your Vanda comes from a region where it had to survive dry seasons. Vanda orchids from regions where dry periods do not occur are instead equipped with flat ovoid leaves. If you provide your plant with proper Vanda orchid care the spike can sometimes bloom for over eight weeks. Well cared for plants can also bloom more than once a year.



Vandas are warm growing very colourful orchid from South East Asia with large showy bright orange, purple and reds exotic flowers. Vandas do best when grown at temperatures 15°C - 32°C in bright light. V. coerulea & its hybrids prefer slightly lower temperatures. Periods as short as a few hours below 10°C will result in the plant becoming semi-dormant. This will require an extended time at elevated temperatures to reverse. Temperatures that are too high produce less intense flower colours particularly blue and reds. The ideal humidity is 80% if possible with good air movement.

Watering: Vandas require copious quantities of water in the growing season but also need a drier period after active growth in the cooler months. The root colour suggests when watering is required White – watering required, Green – sufficient water has been absorbed. Do not allow plants to be wet at the coldest part of the day i.e. overnight



The importance of attending the Orchid Meetings is it allows you as a new grower to observe the running of the Club as in Orchid Shows and outings to visit another's Orchid House and witness their style of growing.

Always allow yourself to monitor the learning process of growing Orchids. There is lots of interesting things to do as you choose your first Orchid, learning when to water, when to fertilize and the atmospheric conditioning it is best suited to.

Dividing your older Orchid is a technique that should be fully understood so as to select the best new plant for your future collection. Bringing along a plant will allow you to get advice from many angles of knowledge.

Different growers have chosen species on a vast scale where the advice is always available to new members ..



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Robert Ephraims
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0419661655
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Sugarland
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Dr. Deborah L. Ball
Chiropractor USA

P.O. BOX 5383
Shop 3/10 Heide St.
Bundaberg Qld 4670

Ph/Fax 4153 2233

www.sugarlandchiropractic



P.O. BOX 499, 20-24 BOURBONG STREET, BUNDABERG, QLD. 4670
PHONE: (07) 4152 6611 FAX: (07) 4153 1803
EMAIL: jrmccracken@bundaberg.com.au

