### **Bundaberg Orchid Society Inc.**

Newsletter

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#### **Orchid News for Meetings**

The next **New and Interested Growers Group (NIGG) Meeting** will be held on 4 August at Alwyn and Bev Heidke's Place. Their address will be sent by separate email. Members can bring plants for sale and a plate along to supplement the biscuits that are supplied for morning tea, if you feel like contributing to the day with some of your wonderful home cooking. Remember to also to **bring a chair** and a hat and of course your sense of humour. There will be a BBQ at this meeting. Do not forget to let Carolyn Nielson know that you are attending the BBQ. Alwyn suggested that new members only bring one or two plants with their potting material; that need repotting to the 4 August NIGG Meeting and they will be shown how to repot their orchids.

### GENERAL MEETING 18 JULY 2024

Our **General Meeting** in July was attended by 30 members. The Popular Vote Competition was held at this meeting. We are looking at doing away with drinks and food after our Monthly Meetings as only a few people remain to take part. It was suggested that we have our food and tea/coffee mid-way through the meeting to encourage some interaction amongst members. Alwyn said that we could try this and see how it works in our meeting in September.

### **GENERAL MEETING 18 JULY 2024 (continued)**

Members were reminded that the Childers Show is on 30 and 31 August and that they will be advised by email when to submit names.

Bev asked members to look at hosting 2025 NIGG Meeting and let her know as she is compiling the 2025 Calander. One possibility is to split the meeting into three smaller groups to rotate around three smaller growers places.

Bev gave an interesting talk on Oncidium Twinkle Orchids.

Rod McKenzie gave an informative talk on Tolumnia orchids.

Alwyn gave a talk on the various types of pots to use for orchids.

Chris Trudgian spoke about tonights judging of the orchids on show

#### NEW AND INTERESTED GROWERS GROUP MEETING 8 JULY 2024

The NIGG meeting on 8 July at John and Bethel Hughes's place was well attended and John gave a very comprehensive talk on the various types of Dendrobiums.

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

Please phone Bev on **0427 667 706** or Email <u>aheidke@bigpond.com</u> to arrange a suitable time for you to collect any merchandise you require for your Orchid Potting. If you want to collect Items from Bev at the monthly meetings please let her know a few days prior of what you need. Please do not ask for more than what you have ordered when collecting your items as this places our magnificent merchandising lady in an awkward position.

Bulk Booklet Orders and/or Enquires: John Hughes

Phone# 0418 782 937 Email: jbhughes4@bigpond.com

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.

#### **SNOW MOLD**

What is snow mold?

What causes it?

Is it harmful to my plants?

How do I get rid of it?

#### ANSWER:-

Snow mold is caused by one or more Ptogaster mold species. It grows on dead or decaying material and the visible manifestation is the formation of white spots, sheets or hairlike growths throughout the potting medium. The fungus does not directly attack the plants as it is feeding on decaying material in the potting medium but the growth of the fungus is hydrophobic so eventually the mold prevents water from reaching the roots of the plant. In this respect, snow molds are not Rhizoctonia that infects the plant's roots directly, rotting the roots and eventually causing the death of the plant.

The spores of snow mold are very common in the environment and simply waiting for the right conditions to germinate- wet and dead organic matter. This is the reason that some growers drench recently reported plants with fungicide or even hat the potting medium to sterilize it before use.

If snow mold has taken hold in fresh potting material, the questions to answer are how old is the mix and has it been overwatered? I have actually seen snow mold growing in some potting mix when the bag was first opened because the bag was actually quite old.

What leads to the death of the plant is that the fungal hyphas literally shed water. As the mold grows through the potting mix and onto the plant's roots the growth prevents water uptake. Your potting medium cannot physically hold more water and what is there cannot reach the roots. In effect, the plant dies of dehydration. Because the outward symptoms are that of dehydration, the grower waters more

often, in actual effect overwatering, speeding up the decomposition of the medium which in turn just feed the fungus, creating a vicious cycle!

Once started, this is a hard fungus to eradicate. Unlike pathogenic fungi that attack the plant directly, fungicides taken up by the plant do not effectively reach the fungus. Few fungicides work very well at treating active snow mold, but Physan drenches do appear to be somewhat helpful. First, remove the plant and thoroughly clean the roots, removing as much of the medium and fungal growth from the plant as possible. Next, treat the roots with Physan, repot in new potting mix, and drench the new mix with Physan biweekly until the plant seems to be reestablished in the new mix.

Physan is not available in Australia anymore.

## NEW AND INTERESTED GROWER GROUP MEETING 8 JULY 2024



Our gracious Hosts John and Bethel Hughes





A wonderful variety of Orchids

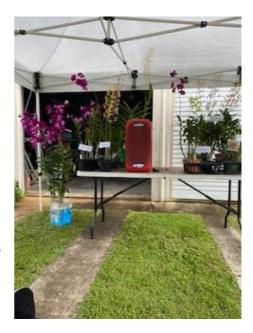




A dodgy looking Attendee

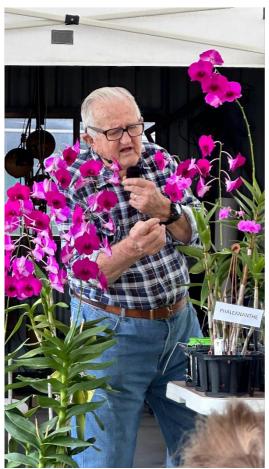


An impressive display of Dendrobiums that john spoke about











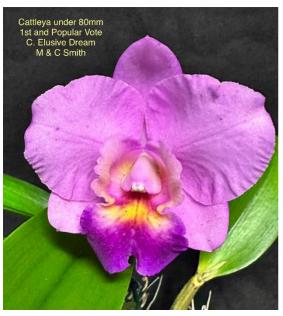
An Impessive array of Orchids

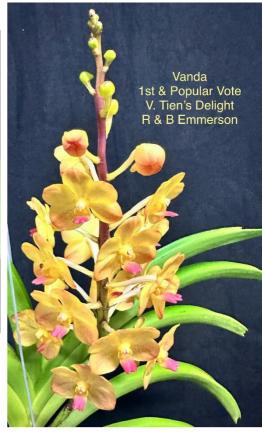
John giving his talk on Dendrobiums

## POPULAR VOTE COMPETITION 18 JULY 2024

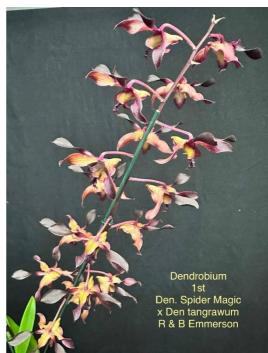




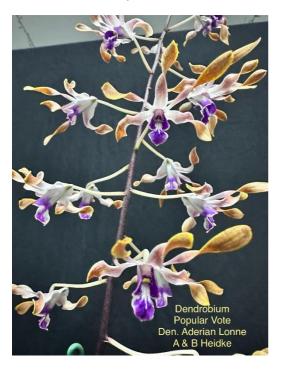






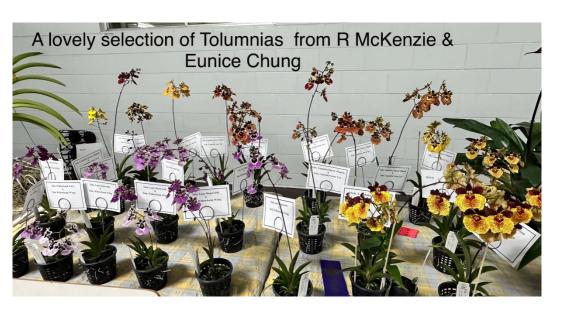


**Also Champion Orchid** 





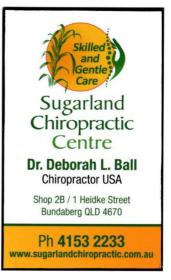




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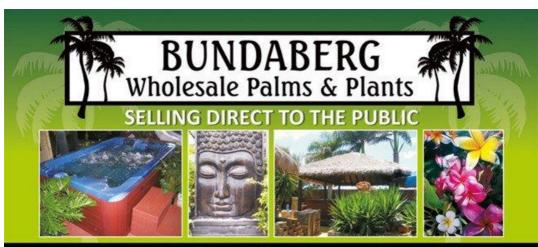


BUNDABERG COACHES









26 KLEINS ROAD - TURN AT WOONGARRA SCHOOL - BACK 500M















2018: Celebrating 30 Years for Jabiru