CYMBIDIUM NEWS

Published by the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.
http://www.cymorchidssa.com.au **also** see us on **Facebook**
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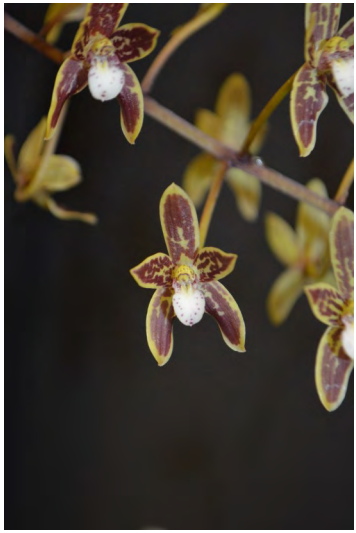
Flower of the Year 2016
Mariyn Thomas 'WB' Grown by John Moon

Volume 19 Number 2 March 2017

Left & middle left
February meeting
Flower of the Night
Canaliculatum
'Red– Brown &
Yellow'
Grown by Chee Ng



Left and above right
February Meeting
Best in Open
Division
aoifolium
Grown by
Les Nesbitt

Cymbidium News, Volume 19 No. 2 March 2017

The New Cymbidium News is published monthly, February to November inclusive and is the Official Newsletter of the **Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc**

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We are now on Facebook. Lots of up to date information and photos. Over 1000 views on many postings. Follow this link https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cymbidium-Orchid-Club-of-South-Australia/149369758460045?hc

Presidents Message March 2017

Welcome to our March issue. Another Annual General Meeting has come and gone, and I would like to congratulate Alex Priadko on become a committeeman for the first time, replacing Peter Rawlins. A big thank you to the rest of the committee for the support in re standing for 2017.

The first meeting of the year is always a bit slow, with the annual general meeting, and the voting for the Flower of the Year which takes up a large proportion of the time. Unfortunately, there is no easy way to do it, and I would like to thank you all for your patience during the voting.

Congratulations to John Moon for winning both the Flower of the Year and Seedling of the Year, a great performance from John, which tops off a great 2016 for him, after winning both shows last year. John and his two amigos (Chee and Shane) are doing a great job in growing their orchids, and with results like this will continue to be at the top for years to come.

John, Chee and Shane do some things a little bit different to what the purists may do, but their results speak for themselves, so if you want some help, just ask them what they do, and they will only be too happy to point you in the right direction. I know I changed one thing which they suggested, and its made a huge difference to my plants, especially the compots and young plants.

Good to see so many of you at the February meeting but we still have problem in getting help with some regular duties. We were looking to fill six spots for people to help prepare supper. We only got one volunteer, which was Glen and Daphne Stearnes in addition to Geoff and Lucy Spears, so we need 5 more spots filled. Please give us a hand and fill them at the March meeting, for the ongoing meetings.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 22nd

Kind Regards
Graham Fear - President

Please note. Year 2017 Membership Subscriptions ($40) are due now.

If you have not already done so, please pay Christine, our Treasurer, at the next meeting, or contact her as soon as possible if you have any issues in paying.

It is a great help if all payments are received promptly.

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Special Flask Aution

An Auction of a very special flask of seedlings
Foxfire Amber 'Dural' x (Atlantic Crossing x Eight Carot)
The flask contains more than 100 sturdy seedlings
Expect high percentages of top Showbench and Commercial type bright Yellow and Orange Standards, flowering mid to late season

The flask will be Auctioned at the March Meeting
Consider bidding on this special flask, perhaps with a group of friends
You won't be disappointed when they flower
Produced and generously donated by Moss and Rosemary Bray

See the February magazine for photos of both the parent plants

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Free Shadehouse offer.

Chee Ng is giving away his old shadehouse.
It measures 2.6m x 5.4m, tubular frame work. It comes with benches and some shade cloth, but can do with new shade cloth. It is free, and just needs to dismantled and taken away.
Phone Chee on 0411 776507 (Woodville Gardens).

March meeting details

This meeting will be a special quiz night. Special teams will be selected to compete for some really special prizes.
If you are prepared to join in the spirit of the night, you could win some nice prizes, but in doing so will meet and get to know other members of our club. You should also learn some interesting facts and information about our club, and cymbidium growing in general.
This will be a fun night where you should learn a lot.

Hint to help prevent mite damage Spray twice yearly with lime sulphur

NOTICE
IN FUTURE ONLY PREORDERED ITEMS WILL BE BROUGHT TO MEETINGS

For enquires regarding Pots, Stakes, Foggers, Labels, Calcium Nitrate, etc.;
Please contact Wayne Baylis
Home 8235 0340 Mobile 0417 887 431

PLANTS WANTED

2 x Tethys 'Black Magic'
Zumma Boyd 'Magnificent, Appleby 'Carolina'
D Bettcher 0451 035 045

Cuddles 'Orange ' Peter Aiger-Muehler 0422483567
Flaming Pepper 'Black Magic' Alex Priadko 0418897465

NEUTROG PRODUCTS

• *Strike Back for Orchids*	*20 Kg bag*	*$30*
• *Strike Back for Orchids Liquid*	*1Lt*	*$10*
• *Rocket Fuel*	*15Kg bag*	*$15*
• *Sudden Impact for Roses*	*20 Kg bag*	*$30*
• *Seamungus Liquid*	*1lt.*	*$10*
• *Seamungus*	*20 Kg bag*	*$22*
• *Sudden Impact for Lawns*	*20 Kg bag*	*$32*
• *GoGo Juice*	*2.lt*	*$15*
• Rapid Raiser	20 Kg bag	$15
• TriSodium Phosphate (Virus Sterilizer)		$10. per Kg

PLEASE NOTE NEW PRICES

Please place your orders with Ron Hannaford on (08) 8284 8253 or email ronhannaford@bigpond.com and payment to Treasurer Christine Robertson—(cheques to be made out to COCSA)
NB: Product to be picked up from Ron Hannaford or can be arranged to be collected at the Monthly Club Meeting.

Bags of TriSodium Phosphate are now available from the trading table (for sterilizing cutting tools etc). One Kilogram bag $10, 500 grams $5.00. Larger bags are available on request.
Note, these prices are much cheaper than you can get privately.

PAULINE'S LABORATORY SERVICE

FOR ALL ASPECT OF CYMBIDIUM
TISSUE CULTURE

CONTACT PAULINE OR KEV McLEAN

PHONE…(08) 8386 0430

POSTAL ADDRESS…13 WENTWORTH ST.
MOANA
S.A. 5169

EMAIL….kevin.mclean3@bigpond.com

TRADING TABLE SUPPLIES

250mm Pot	$1.30
200mm Pot	.80c
180mm Pot	.60c
140mm Pot	.50c
Stakes Bundle 25	$3.50
Twist Ties Bundle 100	$2.00
Labels Bundle 25	$2.00
Calcium Nitrate	$2.50
4 Head Dropper	$9.00
Single Head Dropper	$4.50

Trisodium Phosphate $5.00 per 500g, $10 per Kg

Larger bags available but pre ordering is required.

Please phone Wayne Baylis to order

Home 08 8235 0340, Mobile 0417 887 431

(Best time to call is early evening on home number)

E need to be continually vigilant to prevent the spread of Virus in our collections COCSA are continually proactive in seeking information about viruses. Below is a very informative article which should assist us all

Mites on Cultivated Orchids

Paul J. Johnson, Ph.D.
Insect Research Collection
Box 2207A, South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD 57007
Last update: 22 November 2008

Yellow speckles or browning of leaves on your orchids? Webbing of silk on various plant parts and no spiders to be seen? Consider mites as possible culprits. Mites are tiny creatures related to spiders and ticks, and are not insects. Plant-feeding mites can be thought of as plant parasites and are often amongst the most serious pests of cultivated orchids. Common orchid cultural conditions in homes and hobby greenhouses can favor mites, and the use of pesticides removes natural predators and allows development of resistant populations.

Sources and Identification

Mite species that are pests on cultivated orchids generally fall into two main categories, spider mites, and flat mites. The latter are also called false spider mites, but the name flat mite is preferred as it is accurately descriptive and avoids confusion with spider mites. There are other pest species of mites, but they are generally of less importance.

The most common spider mite recognized as a persistent pest of orchids is the common two-spotted spider mite (Tetranychus urticae), but the carmine spider mite (Tetranychus cinnabarinus) may be an unrecognized pest species in North America. The spider mites are a yellowish-green and usually with two large dark areas on either side of the body at about midlength. They are active species that is easily seen wandering the plants. Spider mites received their name because of the silk webbing that they produce, not because they may appear like small spiders. The two-spotted is also known by other common names, including the “red spider mite” because of an orange-red over-wintering form. However, it is possible that in some cases the red form of the two-spotted may actually be the carmine spider mite. Both species are global, feed on many kinds of plants (polyphagous), and are easily transported on many kinds of plants.

Flat mites recognized as pests on orchids are the orchid mite (Tenuipalpus orchidarum), the phalaenopsis mite (Tenuipalpus pacificus) and the oncidium mite (Brevipalpus oncidii). Tenuipalpus orchidofilo was described recently and was reported as a pest of Arundina graminifolia in Brazil, but there are apparently no reports of this species elsewhere. Three other species are recorded from orchids, Brevipalpus phoenicis (red and black mite), B. californicus (omnivorous mite), and B. russulus, but these reports are not verified and may represent misidentifications. Flat mites are native to tropical and subtropical habitats and hosts, and are moved globally by the plant trade. There are probably more species on orchids, but the taxonomy of tenuipalpid mites is poor as is accurate information about their occurrence on orchids. Flat mites are smaller than two-spotted spider mites, difficult to see without magnification, and move very slowly.

Other mites frequently found associated with orchid culture include predatory mites that feed upon pest mites. There are many innocuous mite species that feed on fungi, bacteria, and decaying organic materials. There are also a number of beneficial mites that are predators on plant-feeding mites, insect pests, and other critters. Oribatid mites that look like tiny round, dark-colored beetles feed on fungi on plant parts and decaying organic materials. A large diversity of yellowish to light brown mites are frequent in potting media and may occasionally be found on plants. These are usually large, >1.0 mm in length and easily seen.

The two-spotted spider mite is probably the most important mite pest of cultivated orchids in all areas, but flat mites are very common and are often not diagnosed properly. Both two-spotted and flat mites can become problems in greenhouses and homes. Because of the small size of these mites, and great similarity among related species, their accurate identification is difficult and often requires the help of an experienced entomologist with a high quality microscope. In general, two-spotted's and flat's are small sized, with two-spotted's reaching a grand 0.5 mm in length and flat's reaching a mere 0.3 mm in length. All of these mites are pale yellowish-green to orange-red color and often with two or more black areas visible through their integument. All bear conspicuous pale hairs. Two-spotted spider mites spin networks of silk webbing that protects their colonies from predators and helps maintain high humidity near the leaf surface. This webbing is also protective against pesticide sprays. Flat mites do not spin this webbing.

Typically, mites are always present in low numbers. This makes managing cultural conditions important for mite control. Mites will readily move between plants, float on air currents, be introduced on new plants or those brought indoors from the garden, and the eggs or resting stages may be in potting media. Colonization of your plants by mites can be done at any time, but severe problems may not show themselves until favorable environmental conditions are present. In the home and hobby greenhouse spider mites will readily move to orchids from other plants.

Damage

All of these mites may be found on a wide variety of orchids. In addition, the two-spotted spider mite is known to feed on hundreds of different plant species. The larvae, nymphs, and the adults all feed by puncturing cell walls and sucking cell contents, particularly chloroplasts. The killing of individual cells or groups of cells produces the transparent, yellow, or tan patchwork of damage that indicates mite infestation. Feeding may be done on many plant tissues, but mostly on leaves and buds and can cause these to drop prematurely. Heavy feeding produces a patchy chlorotic appearance to leaves, and portions of or the entire leaf may turn dry and brown. This damage generally reduces the vigor of plants and may kill plants. Mites may also transmit certain viruses.

Flat mites often feed on the upper surfaces of leaves and this will create a pock-marked appearance from empty and collapsed leaf cells. This type of damage is particularly easy to see on infested Phalaenopsis leaves. Flat mite feeding on thin leaves, especially the underside, is similar to the stippling caused by spider mites, but there is no webbing. Mite damage is permanent, so it is best to manage mites at low populations than to experience heavy infestations. Thin or soft-leaved orchids are more susceptible to mite damage than those with thicker leaves, but no species or variety is immune.

Life Cycle

Both two-spotted spider mites and flat mites have five life stages: egg, larva, protonymph and deutonymph (or nymphs), and adult. The larva has only six legs, but the nymphs and adults have eight legs. Eggs are laid by females on the surface of plant structures and are often hidden in crevices. Eggs and larvae are very tiny and are nearly impossible to discern without magnification. A good handlens is useful for seeing even the adults.

Developmental rates of mites are dependent upon temperature. In general, the higher the temperature the shorter the life cycle. The egg may take upwards of three weeks to hatch for flat mites, but only 1-2 days for two-spotted spider mites, at standard indoor temperatures. While larval and nymphal stages usually take 5-6 weeks to reach adulthood for flat mites, it may take only 1-3 weeks for two-spotted spider mites. Optimum temperatures for development are 30-32°C (86-90°F). Both kinds of mites will have many generations per year under favorable conditions. While flat mites may take 6-9 weeks to complete a generation, the two-spotted spider mite can complete a generation in as little as 5 days in optimum conditions. Like other orchid pests the overlapping of generations creates a significant mite management problem.

Management and Control

Pesty mites tend to increase in numbers during “rain-less” periods due to the lack of rain, fog -drip or other sources of free water on plants. It is the physical presence and force of impact of water that help keep plant-feeding mite populations low. Spider and flat mites require high relative humidity and occupy a thin static air layer next to plant integument. Under `normal' conditions the mites are widely dispersed on and among plants. In dry conditions, the mites concentrate in the most protected areas in the static air layer next to the plant and between hairs. Further, the silk spun by spider mites acts as a tent to deflect air flow and hold humidity close to the plant. Low humidity and lack of free moisture is also bad for predatory mites and insects, important natural control factors for spider and flate mites. Indoors and in greenhouses, spider and flat mites become serious problems during the winter under the combination of reduced overhead watering and absence of predators, and use of insecticides. In the home, typical gentle misting methods simply are not effective on mites when dry air is circulating from furnaces and heaters. Overall, it is a rather delicate balance between high relative humidity, free moisture, a dry air source, breeziness, temperature, and the presence of predators that keeps mites well managed.

Two-spotted spider mites and flat mites are small and relatively delicate creatures. The easiest method for keeping mites under control is to regularly spray, or syringe, the plants with water. In the home placing your plants in a shower or using a sink sprayer is very effective. Mites are readily washed from the plants or are damaged by a heavy spray. In a greenhouse regular spraying and misting is effective.

Biological control of mites is feasible even in small hobby greenhouses. Numerous predatory insects attack mites, including lacewings, ladybeetles, and wasps. The use of predatory mites is particularly successful in greenhouses. Most of the predator mites that are sold by suppliers are from several genera. Phytoseiulus persimilis is a commonly used and readily available species. Of course, the use of insecticides and miticides when biological control agents are active is self-defeating, and mite problems can be exacerbated by use of general insecticides.

Rubbing Alcohol

Light infestations restricted to one or a few plants can usually be treated with household products. When possible, immediately isolate infested plants from others to prevent the mites from moving amongst them. Probably the most popular home remedy is to spray plants with a mixture of isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and liquid mild dish detergent, such as Ivory. Do not use other alcohols, such as ethanol or methanol, as these will penetrate the plant tissues and cause considerable damage! The concentration of the isopropyl seems to make little difference, the common 70% concentration available in stores is satisfactory. Alcohol treatment is effective against all the life stages of mites, except eggs.

A potential problem with alcohol treatment is the rapid evaporation of alcohol causing cooling of plant tissues. Especially with air movement that increases evaporative cooling, this chilling may over-cool tissues and create zones of dead cells that can become necrotic with bacterial or fungal infection. On warm days or in a breeze consider blotting residual alcohol with a tissue instead of permitting it to evaporate off the plant. Alcohol and detergent solutions can also damage delicate buds and blooms, so caution is urged for prized plants.

Repotting is not very effective against mites. However, with an extreme infestation it may be worth repotting a plant as eggs and resting adults may be in the growing media.

Horticultural oil, neem oil, mineral oil, and insecticidal soaps are readily available, inexpensive, and effective against mites. Oil solutions smother the mites so a complete coverage of all sprayed plants is essential. These oils are mixed with water and usually a plant-safe detergent or commercial spreader-sticker should be used for enhancing the effectiveness of the oil. The main caution with these oil solutions is that they should never be applied to plants on hot days (>85ºF/29ºC) or in direct sunlight, as to prevent burning of tissues. Leave the plant in shade until the application has dried. Some plants or parts, such as buds and blooms, are sensitive to oils so due care and consideration is urged.

Insecticidal soaps are usually solutions of a synthetic pyrethrin and potassium salts of fatty acids, otherwise known as soaps. Pyrethrins are synthetic analogs of pyrethrum, the natural extract from certain Asteraceae, particularly certain species of Chrysanthemum. Caution is urged with so-called “safe” insecticidal soaps as some plants are sensitive, particularly tender new tissues. Piperonyl butoxide is a common enhancer of pyrethrins but can cause allergies in some people and may affect plants, too. Some non-orchid ornamentals will drop leaves and abort flowers when sprayed with insecticidal soaps, so again caution is urged with prized orchids.

Because the life cycle of mites is so short and there are overlapping of generations, to bring a serious problem under control you may need to do treatments every 1-3 weeks. The time period between control efforts will depend upon the growing conditions, especially temperature: greater frequency in a warm greenhouse, less inside a house. As with any pest, persistence is a key to success and correlating the control method to the mite species is important for effective management. Cultural conditions are a key to managing mite populations.

Insecticides and Acaricides

Persistent populations of mite or infestation in many plants usually demand the need for synthetic pesticides. Mites are unrelated to insects and most common insecticides are not effective against mites. Pesticides designed for mite control are called miticides or acaricides. There are few miticides specifically registered for use on orchids, but there are many miticides for ornamental plants in general and several are available as inexpensive home-and-garden solutions. Miticide formulations not labeled for ornamental plants are often mixed with solvents that aide in the application of the active ingredient for specific purposes. These solvents, not necessarily the miticide itself, often produce phytotoxicity and may seriously damage or kill plants. Thus, never use any chemical that is not specifically labeled for ornamental plants. (Continued page 14)

.The next Meeting of the

Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.

will be held on

Wednesday 22nd March 2017
at the

Burnside Community Centre, 401 Greenhill Road, Tusmore, SA

Meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month, February to November

Program - March 2017 Meeting

7.00 pm Auditorium opens

7.15 pm Beginners Class (All welcome)

8.00 pm February Meeting commences.

8.10pm Michael and Oui will tell you and show you how they grow their Cymbidiums. They are achieving great success. Don't miss this.

8.30pm Commencement of Quiz

9.00pm Judges discuss flowers presented for Judging

9.15pm Flask Auction

9.30pm Meeting closes
Please remain for light supper and friendly discussions

Common insecticides are not effective against mites, though some do have some weak suppressive action, but will kill mite predators. Acephate (Orthene), malathion, and disulfoton (Di-syston) are labeled for mites but are not very effective. Resistance by mites to pesticides is a serious problem and is in part due to the excessive use and weak action from common insecticides. Dimethoate, diazinon, and chlorpyrifos were recently removed from the market in the U.S. for non-commercial applications due to excessive and careless use causing some serious health and environmental problems.

There are many miticides available for ornamental plants, but some are not tested on orchids, and others are generally too expensive or otherwise not readily available for the small-collection grower. Effective miticides for ornamental use include avermectin (Avid), bifenthrin (Talstar), dienochlor (Pentac), fenbutatin-oxide (Vendex), and fluvalinate (Mavrik). Fenbutatin-oxide is mixed with acephate and sold in home-and-garden formulations. Avermectin is probably the least toxic of these chemicals to people and pets.

Of course, always follow label directions and never exceed the minimum recommended concentration given in mixing directions! Recommended solutions are based on extensive testing for selected pests and plants. Orchids are sensitive to many chemicals, particularly under direct sunlight or high heat, and while certain species may not react to a given formulation others may, so your own testing on plants before general application is recommended.

Home orchid keepers that need to apply miticides during inclement weather need special care for applications. If you cannot spray out of doors, place your plant(s) inside a large plastic bag (remove the bag after the spray has settled!) and let the plant ventilate where the fumes will not be wafted around the house or work area.

Final Considerations

Heavy infestations of mites, especially on many plants may require extensive control methods. Since the damage done by mites is permanent, constant management of the population more effective than control of a major infestation. On the extreme side if you have a plant showing signs of severe change or general decline from mites you may have to seriously consider destroying that plant, as the likelihood of rejuvenating that plant may not justify the expense and effort of continued treatments. Too, destruction of a sick plant can be used to justify the purchase of a new and healthier plant!

If you are battling mites for long periods of time (e.g., >2 months) and have been using the same miticide then you likely developed a resistant population of mites. Remember the short generation times of mites. The best resolution to this is to change methods and chemicals frequently; that is do not use the same chemical mix more than 3-4 times sequentially. After isolating infested plants give them a thorough application of something different from what you have been using. Resistance is not a problem with alcohol, oils, and soaps as these suffocate or dessicate the mites.

Generally, never use a miticide not labeled for ornamental plants. Be thorough. Prophylactic use of miticides is tempting but does little good as it is a waste of chemical and money, and allows resistant mites to develop.

Orchid growers with an entomological penchant and desiring detailed information are referred to the excellent book Mites of Greenhouses: identification, biology and control, by Zhi-Qiang Zhang (2003), CABI Publishing, Oxon (UK) and Cambridge (USA), ISBN 0 85199 590 X.

Image Credits: False spider mite and spider mite images are from the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service and USDA-ARS, respectively. Other images are those of the author.

From the Editor

There was one more photograph which would not fit here. It will be included next month

Single Flower Competition (May to October only)

At each meeting this year, we will be promoting a single flower competition. We love you to bring your whole plant in flower to exhibit, but there are many reasons why this may not be possible. If this is the case, take this opportunity to show off your single flowers. Please ensure the plant name is on a card, and if possible add a short description of the plant. For example indicate how many flowers per spike, plant size and how many flower spikes, or any other points of interest. Flowers exhibited should be collected after the meeting by the exhibitor. If not possible, please arrange an alternative arrangement with the judges when presenting your flowers for judging. Flowers not collected will be destroyed.

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Interstate Cymbidium Clubs

Cymbidium Club of Australia (NSW)
Secretary Mrs Judith Brooks Ph 02 9773 9197 email jahamilton.17@btinternet.com
Website ccansw.com.au **Facebook** cymbidiumclubofaustralia
Meetings are on the second Tuesday, March to November

Cymbidium Orchid Society of Victoria
Secretary Julie Forrest Ph 0417 339026
email efo28308@bigpond.net.au.
Website cosv.com.au Meetings Second Tuesday February to December

Cymbidium Orchid Club of Western Australia
Secretary Helen Stretch Ph 08 9362 4120 email hstretch2007@bigpond.com
Website cymbidiumorchidclubwa.com.au Meetings third Monday Feb. to Nov.

For details of other South Australian Orchid Clubs, refer to our Web Site cymorchidssa.com.au

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Our "Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia" Facebook site is receiving well over 1000 views per posting, from growers all around the world. Plants shown at our meetings are posted, and we try to add some interesting articles, which often cannot be published in this magazine. Try to look in on us and support the site (please).

Stop Press **We recently received well over 5000 views in 24 hours for the posting of Spotted Madam 'Brydie' We regularly get over 1000 views in the first 24 hours, sometimes 2000+ views, but never before well over 5000**

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Refer also to our Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Website cymorchidssa.com.au

Endorsement membership product information

NEUTROG™ The Experts' Choice

Prices effective from January, 2016

ORGANIC BASED SPECIALIST FERTILISERS

Gyganic
Perfect for fruit and citrus, Gyganic has been specifically developed to enhance fruit size, quality and taste.
20kg bag

Kahoona
Ideal for all acid loving plants such as Camellias, Gardenias, Azaleas and Rhododendrons.
20kg bag

Sudden Impact for Roses
Ideal for all flowering and fruiting plants – not just roses.
20kg bag

Strike Back for Orchids
Ideal for the all potted flowering and fruiting plants – not just orchids.
20kg bag

Strike Back for Orchids Liquid
Ideal for all potted flowering and fruiting plants – not just orchids.
1L bottle

Sudden Impact for Lawns
Ideal for new and established lawns, along with other non-flowering plants such as palms, ferns and conifers, as well as leafy vegetables and herbs.
20kg bag

Upsurge
Ideal for turf to improve soil structure and increase earthworm activity, root growth and resistance to pests and disease.
7.5kg

ORGANIC FERTILISERS

Bounce Back
A high quality, general purpose fertiliser, specifically formulated for the most effective and safe feeding of all your garden plants. Ideal for winter and summer application.
100% organic and ACO registered.
20kg bag

Rapid Raiser
A high quality, boosted general purpose fertiliser. The increased phosphorus level makes it ideal for planting and promotes faster, healthier and sustained growth for all plants. Particularly suitable for heavy feeding plants such as roses and citrus.
100% organic and ACO registered.
20kg bag

Blade Runner
A high quality, general purpose lawn fertiliser. Ideal for all use on all lawns, particularly new lawns and summer application of established lawns where the slow release properties help to prevent thatch build up.
100% organic and ACO registered. **15kg bag**

Rocket Fuel
Specifically developed for growing healthy, organic fruit and vegetables. A portion of all retail sales go to supporting the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation.
100% organic and ACO registered.
15kg bag

Cock'n'Bull
A mix of cow and chicken manure, Cock'n'Bull is ideal for conditioning the soil whilst adding nutrients. A perfect additive to any garden or vegie bed.
100% organic and ACO registered.
30L bag

Meatworks Blood'n'Bone
An all-purpose organic fertiliser manufactured from meat and bone meal.
25kg bag

ORGANIC FERTILISERS

Seamungus Pellets
Ideally suited for establishing new plants (particularly bare-rooted roses) and for use on natives. Seamungus can also be used as a plant tonic to revitalise all your plants throughout the year. 100% organic and ACO registered.
20kg bag

Seamungus Liquid
Ideally suited for establishing new plants (particularly bare-rooted roses) and for use on natives. Seamungus can also be used as a plant tonic to revitalise all your plants throughout the year.
1L bottle

Seamungus Green
The smaller crumble form makes Seamungus Green ideal for lawns and in dry conditions where more immediate breakdown is required. It can also be used as a plant tonic to revitalise all your plants throughout the year.
100% organic and ACO registered..
20kg bag

GOGO Juice
A pro-biotic for your soil and plants, GOGO Juice provides all the benefits of applying liquid kelp, seaweed and humic acid, whilst adding beneficial bacteria to assist in breaking down the organic matter, maximising the nutrients available to your plants.

1L Concentrate
2L Concentrate
2L Ready to Use

- Prices include GST
- Free delivery to agreed delivery points for minimum 1 tonne / pallet orders
- These prices are strictly for members only and are not to be knowingly disclosed to the general public

BOOKS

SA


VIC


NSW

From the Ground Up
From the Ground Up is a complete and comprehensive, state-based garden guide for gardeners. The books utilise the recommendations of many plant experts, coupled with the fantastic knowledge and experience from our authors - Sophie Thomson (SA edition), Jane Edmanson (VIC edition) and Linda, Sandra and Graham Ross (NSW edition).

Year round fertilising for year round health

Like humans and animals, plants require regular feeding throughout the year – at least once in each season.

Happy, healthy, well nourished plants are more resistant to pests, diseases, heat stress and frost.

The programs have been specifically developed by experts who rely upon optimum plant growth to earn their living.

To find the Neutrog feeding program that is right for you, log onto our website **www.neutrog.com.au**

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288 Mine Road, Kanmantoo
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W neutrog.com.au

V50-03.16

Garden City Plastics

10-12 Hakkinen Road, Wingfield, SA 5013
Phone: (08) 8168 4100, Fax: (08) 8168 4199
Email: sa@gardencityplastics.com

New Product

Squat Waterwise Hanging Basket Pot
180mm Diameter, 130mm high
This pot would suit decorative type cymbidiums like
Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade' or Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit'
It has a turnup in the bottom of the pot, which acts as a saucer, but has the advantage, that the saucer is not pushed off by an aggressive root system
Cost is 31c each approx., in cartons of 186. Cat No. P180SQWW00
Hangers to suit in bundles of 44 @ 33c each approx. Cat No. H35OCK00

Also available in 200mm and 270mm diameter sizes. Various colours.

There will be some displayed at the March meeting

Neutrog are great supporters of our Club.

Please support them wherever possible and tell others about them
The Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia, was actively involved in developing and testing Strike Back for Orchids and endorses it's use.

Warning Rats are active at the moment and will damage your plants if not controlled.
The plant at left shows a flower spike eaten in an attack. Shane Moeller has kindly shared his recent experience, and offers some advice

I recently noticed something eating my Orchid flower spikes. Due to the damage it could not have been snails or slugs in 1 night. I was thinking that it could be Rats or Possums. About 8 plants spikes were eaten in 1 night. All the orchids that had advanced spikes were moved out to a safer location. I bought a pack or rat bait and put it out that night along the back fence. It was gone the next day. The next night I bought another pack and put it out on the fence. I then went out after dark with a torch and could see the Rats eating the bait. The next morning the bait was all gone again. Another trip to the hardware store and this time I bought the big bucket of bait and deployed the whole bucket over 4 nights until the baits were not being eaten.

The rat bait that I used is called the Big Cheese with the active constituent being Difenacoum as my dog would have to eat 1kg of it to be fatal. There are quite a few brands on the market that can be fatal to a dog if eaten even in small quantities.

The plant at left was awarded a Highly Commended Certificate (HCC) at our July meeting
It was exhibited as
Alexandra's Flame x Red Khan
It as grown by Chee Ng

It has now been registered as Pink Bubbles

Anyone with a seedling of the same breeding can now rename it as Pink Bubbles, and give it their own varietal name if they wish.

Seedling of the Year 2016
Vibrant Bliss x Amber Wall 'Spongebob'
Grown by John Moon