

'Cymbidium Chatter'

Edition 3b April 2020

Welcome to this week's 'CC', it would appear that adhering to the strict isolation rules is succeeding, however, it could still be sometime before we can resume our 'normal' routines!

Take care everyone, stay safe and well!



Some more great photos and growing tips from Pierre Pujol, USA.

Cym. Piñata 'Woodside', a sib-cross ('Jungle Cat' x 'Sanbar Black Hole'). A seedling from a cross made by Casa de la Orquideas. It is hard to find a Cym. Piñata that is both a good grower and has an open lip. Enjoy!



The Importance of Shading!

Leopard attack! Cym. (Speckles x Splatters) 'Woodside', out of a flask/hybrid made by Casa de la Orquideas. Note the dispersion/aggregation of spots based on low light (left) versus high light (right) exposure of the flowers (2 divisions of the same plant at different locations in my backyard). Shading improves the jaguar/leopard pattern. Based on identical observations this year on several of my other spotted plants, I will shade more these types of flowers in the future to highlight the markings.

More on shading - shade your greens!



The three photos above are of the same orchid. The photo on the left is one I took at the Santa Barbara Orchid Show in 2017, Cym Devon Jade 'Kathleen', it was Grand Champion Cymbidium. It was interesting to hear the comments of the general public and also more knowledgeable Cymbidium growers. Many felt that the flower was 'dirty', certainly the brown overlay gave it that appearance. I probably would have argued that the flower was a polychrome (zoom-in to get a better look at the flower).

On the 12 April, Daniel Stocks, USA, posted the two photos (centre & right) on the Facebook, Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers site, of a division of Cym Devon Jade 'Kathleen'. It is obvious that Daniel has given this plant a reasonable amount of shade and has brought out the clean green color - a terrific effort Daniel! Whether this flowering would have achieved the same result as in 2017, is anyone's guess! Even though I like polychrome flowers, a green and red combination is hard to beat!

Another interesting flower from Pierre Pujol, USA



Just starting to open, Cym (Pepperpuss' Irving Groves' X Last Tango 'Royale' 4n) 'Woodside', hybridized by Thu Ba. Pepperpuss' offsprings exhibit surprising color patterns.

Purchasing online in South Australia

South Australia has always been a good source for buying orchids of many genera. I can still recall visiting Adelaide Orchids many years ago, Jan was expecting our second son, so that would be thirty eight years ago. I can't remember everything I bought, but I do know I purchased a plant of Cymbidium Peppermint and I wish that I still had this plant in my collection today, it succumbed to rot many years ago. It was a Cym sinense hybrid. Mrs H Ireland made the cross sinense x Rosalita, and registered it in 1964. I only flowered the plant once but it produced tall upright spikes of highly fragrant brownish, striped flowers. It is still on my wanted list!

While there are still a number of orchid nurseries in SA not all of them cater for online sales. When we think Cymbidiums, probably the main nursery is Guest Orchids, along with the much smaller Sundaani Orchids, and of course there are some reputable eBay sellers. Graham and Barrie Morris, formerly Valley Orchids, regularly have offerings on eBay. For those growers chasing orchid flasks, Pauline's Laboratories has a wonderful selection of Greg Bryant's latest crosses. Seedlings - tomorrow's champions!

Guest Orchids, carry a wide selection of plants, some from their own hybridising program and many from New Horizon Orchids, Andy Easton. They have an active Facebook presence, with many photographs of some highly colored pot-plant-type, miniatures and intermediates. It would also be unwise to ignore the possibility that there would be some exhibition types among them. The development of miniatures and intermediates has largely been ignored in Australia (except for Kevin Butler, Nado Lenkic and David Wain) and we are crying out for something new, Guest Orchids, may have what you are looking for. Graham Guest puts out a list of available plants once or twice per year but you will need to contact the nursery to have it emailed to you.



Phar Lap x Devon Cherry



Yai x Devon Cherry



(Brenda x Yellow River) - a quality parent



Dots Downunder 'NH' 4n

Photographs on this page taken by Andy Easton and Graham Guest. Graham is an agent for New Horizon Orchids and they share photos with each other. More featured on the next page.



A New Century seedling



Game of Love

Another handful from Guest Orchids and New Horizon Orchids. Guest Orchids carry an extensive range of seedlings and a smaller offering of clones. Remember it's the seedlings that will deliver our new champions!

The genus Cymbidium will continue to evolve if we grow seedlings! In Australia we are spoilt for choices but as we all know our orchid nurseries are becoming fewer - they all need your support!



Raymond Burr 'Ironsides'



Noni Poland



(Placido Domingo x Hoosailum) #1



Ace of Spies 'Invaluable'

Sundaani Orchids - is a smaller nursery in Noarlunga, South Australia. Pauline Hockey is the proprietor of the business. She sells her plants on eBay but also travels to many of the shows in SA and around Australia. I saw her plants at the OSCOV Show last year, they were very healthy and fairly priced! Pauline has done quite a bit of hybridising, she has a particular interest in peloric Cymbidiums but also has a range of other flower types. You can contact Pauline via a message on Facebook (Pauline Hockey). In these rather strange times it is good to support the nurseries and I'm sure we can all find a little space somewhere for one more orchid!



Sundaani Autumn 'Ty'



Nelly's Fiesta 'Nellie'



Sundaani Frost 'Ruby'



Sundaani's Jester



Sundaani's Kiwi 'Dali'



Beautiful Dream 'Opal'