

'Cymbidium Chatter'



Cym Mary Green 'Kim'
Photograph: Geoff Bailey

Edition 24 September 28 2020

Welcome to this edition of Cymbidium Chatter, as indicated in last week's edition, I do plan to step back from most of my orchid growing commitments, I will however continue to produce CC, although it will eventually become a monthly newsletter. This week's edition will be the last of the weekly issues, I will then move to fortnightly editions and eventually revert to the monthly production. There is a possibility that someone else may choose to produce CC into the future but they have indicated that they would only be able to manage a monthly issue. Not matter what happens or who produces CC, it is imperative that Cymbidium growers support the publication, without this support, the supply of photographs and articles, it is very difficult to put together a publication. I have personally received support from a handful of people, their contributions have been gratefully received and their time and effort really appreciated!

As we come close to the end of the flowering season I am enjoying some late flowers. My plant of Cym Mary Green 'Kim' (pictured above) is just now coming into full bloom and a large plant of Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade' has one flower open, on its ten spikes. It had two more very large spikes, until wild winds sent the basket crashing to the ground last weekend. These are two of the plants that will remain in my collection, it is doubtful that either would now win their respective classes but they both make wonderful specimen plants. Cym Mary Green 'Kim' was given to me by a fellow COSV member and it, along with several other plants that I have been given, will be part of a much smaller orchid collection - I have come to the realisation that you can't play bowls, fish and holiday on a regular basis, if you have a large orchid collection to look after.

Now although we are close to the end of the season, I know there are many growers who normally would have been preparing their plants for the COSV Summer Show. In the main, these would be smaller flowered Cymbidiums, many with an Australian species in the background. Species Cymbidiums, *lowianum*, *devonianum*, *suave*, *eburneum* are all coming into flower, so please send in some photographs. I don't care how many I receive. While we can't enjoy seeing them in real life this year, there is no reason why we can't all enjoy the fruits of your growing expertise over the past 12 months.

Now that we are well into Spring it is important to keep an eye out for aphids and scale on your plants. A tell tale sign that these pests are around, maybe a trail of ants making their way to and from your plants. There a number of products available that will combat both of these pests, so you will need to check the shelves at your local Bunnings store or nursery. As with any sprays, please check the labels for any safety advice - you can't be too careful!

The 3 Amigos

I'm not sure how much longer the 3 Amigos will be posting photographs, as the season must be drawing to a close in Adelaide, Australia. The guys have certainly flowered and photographed some outstanding exhibition style flowers this season. Their postings on Facebook have drawn comments from some of the best growers of Cymbidiums in Australia. Comments such as:

“Do you guys ever flower a bad one?”

“There must be something in the water!”

I'm not entirely sure what water, rain or tap, the 3 Amigos use but anyone who lives in Australia knows that Adelaide has the worst drinking/tap water! I would like to thank the three gents for allowing me to use their photographs and I certainly hope they keep up the great work!



Cym (Albryant x Mem. Patsy Bauman) x Purely Dreaming - first flowering seedling



More from the 3 Amigos

Photographs: 3 Amigos

Text: Geoff Bailey

One of the first petal peloric Cymbidiums, Cym Butterfly 'Dillabirra'.

This flower is still keenly sought by growers, the contrasting colors are striking. As with any 'old' Cymbidium it is vitally important that you check the foliage thoroughly for any signs of virus. If in doubt get the leaves tested, any reputable grower should certify that their plants are virus free. If you don't want to go to the expense of having the plant checked, it is always wise to quarantine your plant until such time that you are happy that it is a healthy plant.!

Even the older peloric Cymbidiums still demand that you part with big money!



Olympic Flame 'Ai Tee' HCC/AOC



Wains Orchids

Photographs & Text: David Wain

This year we flowered an interesting coloured cymbidium seedling. It came from the cross of Roselars Gold 'Sunrise' x Harbour City 'Joy' made by one our good friend, Phil Grech. The flower count was not great, 10 blooms, but a most attractive flower.

Today, I delivered a load of flowers to the florist and asked them which they liked the most. Surprisingly they picked the spikes from this plant.





From TeePee

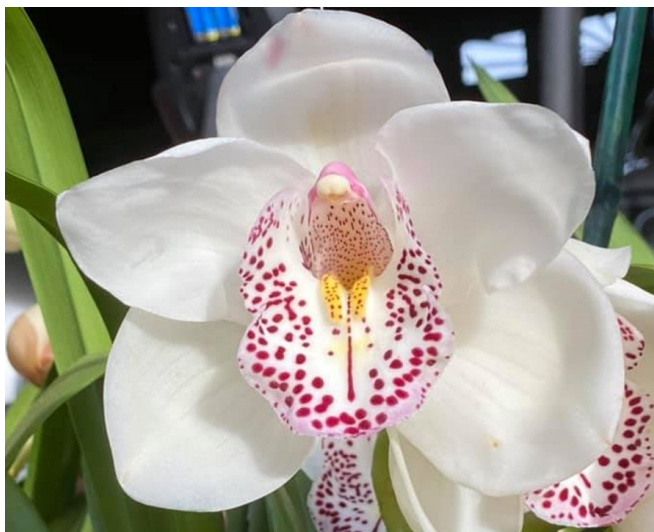
Photograph: Terry Poulton

Text: Geoff Bailey

Left: Cym Lemon Butter x [Hazel Fay x Christmas Joy] 'Gold Butter'

Right: Kimberley Valley x Mc Clure's Quest

Sometimes a Cymbidium flower really captures your attention. I must confess to being a lover of white flowers whether it's a Cymbidium or some other genus and this flower really made me look twice. I am fairly familiar with a lot of TeePee's flowers but this one I hadn't seen before, the lip is not easily forgotten! For me this certainly has the wow factor! This flower would perform well in its class and I'm sure it would be in great demand with florists.



Surf Coast Orchids

Photographs: Jim Frame

Text: Geoff Bailey



Jim sent me in the following photographs of Cym Kellys Winter 'Patricia' x Hypno Beauty 'Gorgeous'.

The three photographs (left) are of the same flower over a period of three flowering seasons. The top flower was taken in 2017 when the plant produced its first spike, four flowers on an upright spike. The plant was brought indoors where the flowers bud developed.

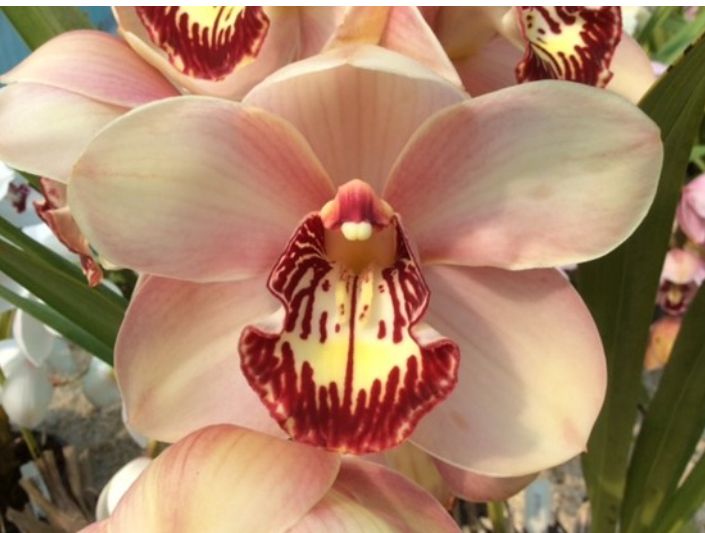
The middle photograph is of the same flower in August 2019. This flower developed under shade cloth. The plant produced an arching spike with eleven flowers.

The bottom flower was produced in September 2020, 14 flowers on an arching spike. The plant was grown and developed its spike and flowers in the same location in the shadehouse as the flower in the middle photograph.

Lighting, the percentage of shade provided, will have a significant effect on the color of a flower. Perhaps the most interesting thing in these three photographs is the lip shape, it is quite different in the middle photograph, why this would occur I am not sure. At first glance I would have said that it was a different flower.

Color preference is a very personal thing and you really do need to experiment with light levels to get what you consider to be the best result!

- more from Surf Coast Orchids, next page



More from Surf Coast Orchids:

Jim also sent in the following photographs of one of the last seedlings to flower for the season. Jim bought a Greg Bryant flask in 2015, this flower is the third to flower from the cross of: Gal-lant x Pastel (M.Joan Bryant x Flaming Vulcan X Spring Surf x Sylvan Star x M.Joan Bryant) NB: I think Jim will need to check the label to determine where brackets are required in this cross. This aside, this is an attractive flower that will appeal to many growers, it produced seven flowers in September 2020. Pastel flowers aren't all that common, the white lip with a pink blush is very attractive. It will be interesting to see how many flowers can be produced on a mature plant.



Cymbidium Mary Green

Cymbidium [Cym.] Mary Green

Names Genus Report Back

Cross with Label

Cym. Sarah Jean Cym. floribundum Cym. Sleeping Beauty Cym. Sussex Dawn Cym. Durham Castle Cym. devonianum

Offspring: 10 Offspring (First Gen.), 10 Total Progeny

Awards: 17 Awards, Flowers per Spike: 23.2, Natural Spread: 4.5 cm.

My Data: Plant, List, Entry, Awd., Photo

Photographs: 36 Images in OrchidWiz, 11 Published Images

Cym. Mary Green

Cym. floribundum, Cym. insigne, Cym. lowianum, Other, Cym. devonianum

devonianum, floribundum, insigne, lowianum

378822

Ref: OrchidWiz X5.0

The grex Mary Green was created and registered by J & H Larsen, Oratia, Auckland, New Zealand in 1991. It has been remade numerous times, with Paradisia Nurseries, here in Australia, enjoying an incredible volume of sales from its various remakes. The grex is not without major deficiencies, lack of color, being the main flaw. It also inherited the under-turning lip from its Cym Sarah Jean parent. These problems aside, the grex has proven to be enormously popular and there are few Cymbidiums that can match the overall display, of a well grown specimen plant. One of its strongest attributes is that each individual flower, on a spike of 25+ flowers, can be seen quite clearly. The plants have the happy knack of displaying all flowers to their best advantage, without any interference from the grower.

Many cultivars have been awarded, with OrchidWiz identifying 17 of them, in the years 2001 - 2017. Awards ranged from cultural awards to quality awards, with two different cultivars gaining an Award of Merit. To be honest, I personally don't believe that any of the Cym Mary Green cultivars are worthy of an AM but it is extremely difficult not to be wowed by a well grown specimen plant. However, I think the question that must be asked is - "Is it a quality flower?"

For those of you looking for a plant that grows quickly and strongly and puts on an incredible display of flowers, it is hard to go past Cym Mary Green. It is ideally suited to growing in hanging baskets. I am not entirely sure how many different varieties there are, many have been cloned and are readily available in nurseries and on the sales tables at shows. Unflowered seedlings are also still available but please don't expect to flower a highly colored one!

On this and the following page I have included award extracts from OrchidWiz X5.0 for two of the most recent awards (2017) and the extract for a plant awarded an AM in 2001. The flowers awarded most recently came from a remake of the cross by Paradisia Nurseries, while the flower awarded in 2001 in New Zealand, came from the original cross. Once again I would like to point out that although the plants were very well grown, neither flower that gained an AM, was in my opinion, a flower worthy of gaining a quality award.

Of the 17 flowers awarded, clearly the most colorful one was Cym Mary Green 'Spring Wind' which gained a Cultural Certificate from the Cymbidium Society of America, in 2007. Unfortunately the photographic entry in OrchidWiz, is not allowed to be copied.

Color is a determining factor in the popularity of any Cymbidium flower and one has to wonder what could be achieved if different varieties of Cym Sarah Jean were used to remake the Cym Mary Green cross. From my understanding Cym Sarah Jean 'Ice Cascade' was the variety most used. There are some bright yellow Cym Sarah Jean cultivars, these paired with different varieties of Cym *devonianum*, may result in more colorful offspring. However, the grex Cym Mary Green is now considered an old orchid and I can't see the sense in remaking it. Color aside, it is also hard to get away from that under turned lip.

Quality miniature Cymbidiums are hard to come by but the advances made in breeding over the last two decades, have seen many new varieties deliver color and beautiful lips. They may not measure up in productivity (some do) but there comes a time when most growers will update their collection. That said, I have little doubt that judges will be seeing specimen-sized plants of Cym Mary Green for many years to come!

(see more photographs next page)

ALL AOS Organization: FQ Award Type: Photos Award (scroll) Back

Found 17 Awards Averaging 23.2 Flowers and Buds Per Inflorescence; 4.5 cm. Median Natural Spread

Org.	Award	Points	Genus	Name	Cultivar	Flwrs	Buds	Infl.	Avg.	P	Year
OSCOV	CC		Cym	Mary Green	Devon						2017
AOC	ACM	83	Cym	Mary Green	Showgirl	377		13	29.0		2017
AOC	AM	82	Cym	Mary Green	Showgirl	377		13	29.0		2017
OSCOV	HCC	78.5	Cym	Mary Green	Kim	168		8	21.0		2015
AOC	ACC	79	Cym	Mary Green	Pam	425		17	25.0		2014
OSCOV	CC		Cym	Mary Green	Showgirl						2014
OCNZ	CCC	80	Cym	Mary Green	Nifty Guy	131	3	7	19.1		2011
NSW	HCC	77	Cym	Mary Green	Fruitful	71	100	9	19.0		2011
AOC	HCC	77	Cym	Mary Green	Fruitful	71	100	9	19.0		2011
OCNZ	HCC	78.16	Cym	Mary Green	Nifty Guy						2010
CSA	Cult	81	Cym	Mary Green	Spring Wind	283	8				2007
AOS	HCC	77	Cym	Mary Green	H.J.F.'s Dream Come True	73	36	4	27.3		2007
CSA	BM	77	Cym	Mary Green	Gloria	13	1	1	14.0		2004
AOS	CCM	82	Cym	Mary Green	Iced Margarita	364	45	16	25.6		2003
OSCOV	CC	78	Cym	Mary Green	Houston Street						2002


Cym. Mary Green 'Devon' CC/OSCOV Points, 2017 October 21 Entry: 1725

Measurements	Wide	Long
Natural Spread:	4.9	4.0
Dorsal Sepal:	1.4	2.2
Petal:	2.0	3.2
Lat/Synsepal:	1.6	3.0
Lip/Pouch:	1.8	2.0

Month Metrics Sizes Stats All Selected My List My Plant Label

Exhibitor: C. & K. Gillespie
 Venue: Victoria, Australia
 Date: 2017 October 21

149939 Photography by O.S.C.O.V.





Cym Mary Green 'Showgirl'
AM/AOC - 82 points 2017
Warringal Spring Show
Exhibitors: F & J Spiteri
Photograph: AOC



Cym Mary Green 'Devon'
CC/OSCOV 2017
Bayside Spring Show
Exhibitors: C & K Gillespie
Photograph: OSCOV



Cym Mary Green 'Houston Street'
HCC/OSCOV - 78.5 points 2002
Exhibitors: J & S Day
This was the first Mary Green to
be awarded in Australia

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OCNZ	HCC	78.16	Cym	Mary Green	Nifty Guy						2010
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AOS	CCM	82	Cym	Mary Green	Iced Margarita	364	45	16	25.6		2003
OSCOV	CC	78	Cym	Mary Green	Houston Street						2002

Cym. Mary Green 'Showgirl' ACM/AOC 83 Points, 2017 October 6

Entry: 05696

13 inflorescences of 450mm with 377 flowers (29 relevant); petals and sepals Greyed Yellow 161D overlaid with greyed Red 178 B; labellum WhiteGroup 155C Banded Greyed Purple 187 B.

Measurements	Wide	Long
Natural Spread:	4.5	4.4
Dorsal Sepal:	1.8	2.6
Petal:	2.2	2.9
Lat/Synsepal:	2.0	2.9
Lip/Pouch:	2.0	2.0



149631 Photography by A.O.C.

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Label

Exhibitor: Spiteri F. & J
 Venue: Warrigal Spring Show, Australia
 Date: 2017 October 6

Found 17 Awards Averaging 23.2 Flowers and Buds Per Inflorescence; 4.5 cm. Median Natural Spread

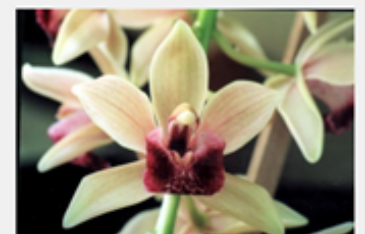
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AOC	AM	82	Cym	Mary Green	Showgirl	377		13	29.0		2017
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AOC	ACC	79	Cym	Mary Green	Pam	425		17	25.0		2014
OSCOV	CC		Cym	Mary Green	Showgirl						2014
OCNZ	CCC	80	Cym	Mary Green	Nifty Guy	131	3	7	19.1		2011
NSW	HCC	77	Cym	Mary Green	Fruitful	71	100	9	19.0		2011
AOC	HCC	77	Cym	Mary Green	Fruitful	71	100	9	19.0		2011
OCNZ	HCC	78.16	Cym	Mary Green	Nifty Guy						2010
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AOS	CCM	82	Cym	Mary Green	Iced Margarita	364	45	16	25.6		2003
OSCOV	CC	78	Cym	Mary Green	Houston Street						2002
OSCOV	HCC	78.5	Cym	Mary Green	Houston Street						2002
OCNZ	AM	80	Cym	Mary Green	Takiari	207	40	9	27.4		2001

Cym. Mary Green 'Takiari' AM/OCNZ 80 Points, 2001 September 30

Entry: 2001-041

A very well grown plant with no back bulbs. The arching inflorescences, against the clean green foliage, made a very attractive plant. Grown in a 150mm pot. Flowers lime green with a red blush and light red stripes more pronounced on dorsal and sepals. Contrasting lip white with red blush, upper half deep mahogany. Column cream blushed pink with vertical red stripes at base and red spotting at tip. Pollen cap cream.

Measurements	Wide	Long
Natural Spread:	5.4	5.6
Dorsal Sepal:	1.7	3.1
Petal:	1.5	3.0
Lat/Synsepal:	1.9	3.0
Lip/Pouch:	1.9	2.2



59016 Photography by T. Gillbanks

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Label

Exhibitor: Eklon & Ngair Ormsby, New Zealand
 Venue: Manawatu, New Zealand
 Date: 2001 September 30