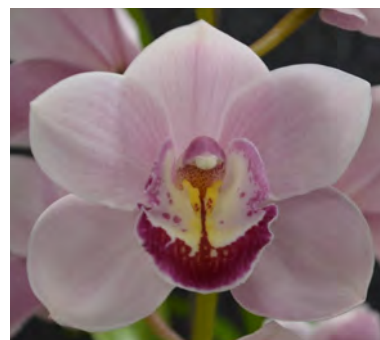
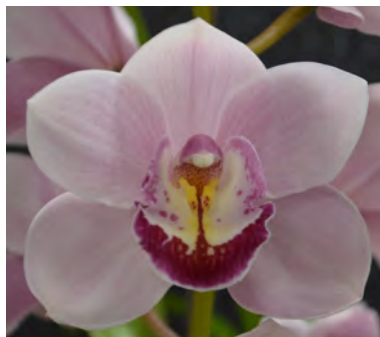
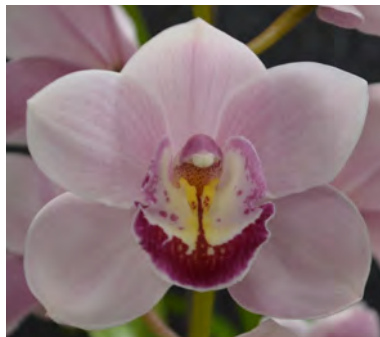


CYMBIDIUM NEWS

Published by the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.

<http://www.cymorchidssa.com.au> also see us on Facebook

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Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Flower of the Year 2023
Amigos Vision '20/20'
Grown by Chee Ng



February 2024 meeting
Best species, Best in Second Division
dayanum Grown by Sylvia Jackson



Cymbidium News Volume 26 No. 2 March 2024

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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Ben Knobben #	Brian & Shirley Brand,	Barry Bailey,	Peter Aigner Muehler

indicates Deceased

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Our club Bank Details are as follows

Bank of South Australia BSB 105 108 Account number 022900640

Our Treasurer Christine Robertson Phone 08 8536 3948 or 0438 363 940



**President
Graham Fear**

Presidents Message

Welcome to our March issue,

There were a few plants benched at the February meeting. The winner of Open Division was *ensifolium x erythraeum* grown by Pauline and Mark Hockey. It was also flower of the night.

There were no plants exhibited by First Division growers. Winner of Second Division was *dayanum* grown by Sylvia Jackson. This was also the best Species plant of the night.

Well done to all the winners.

Congratulations to Chee Ng for winning **Flower of The Year** with *Amigos Vision '20/20'* (see page 1) and John Moon for winning Seedling of The Year with (*Khanebono x Prized*) '*Peach Puff*' (see page 20).

Well done to both of you. A framed photos of them will be presented at this month's meeting.

We will also be presenting the prizes for last year winners in the aggregate points, per class and division.

Again, I would like to apologize for the problems associated with the "Jeanne Hall" plants given out at last month's meeting, only to find out there was a virus problem with them on the night. It is embarrassing to all concerned and I tracked down the next day, how it happened.

For those that missed the email, here is what happened. Through no fault of anybody in particular, the plants have continued to look healthy from a distance right up until they arrived at the hall last month, and even then until they were handed out, nobody noticed the markings on the some leaves.

In 2020 Graham Morris was given a plant from a Sydney grower which they had named "Jeanne Hall" for us. It was decided to clone the plant and give each of the members a plant, in memory of Jeanne. A growth was taken from the very healthy looking plant and there was no thought it could be virused. Pauline and Kevin McLean kindly offered to clone the plant, and the growth was passed on to them, and the plant went through the cloning process. In August 2021 we received flasks from Pauline of the clones. I deflasked them and they were put into compots which were passed on to Moss Bray to grow on, as we normally do. I kept three plants in a mini compot in case they were needed at a later date. Moss transferred the plants into single pots in 2022 and they were growing strongly with no sign of virus right up until last meeting. We tested two plants at the meeting after numerous sightings of marked leaves and the test proved to be positive. How and why they became virused was then a mystery to all, to be solved.

Because the three plants I had had been nowhere near the others since being deflasked, I located them up the next morning, and low and behold they all

had marked leaves which I hadn't notice either, and they tested positive. This information has now solved the mystery, that the original plant from Sydney was virused, even though there were no signs on a perfectly heathy looking plant, and all plants from the cloning would be virused, apart from a low percentage chance that may be clear.

As suggested last month, I would be disposing of them, so there is no spread into your collection. It is also a warning to all of us. Any new plants you get, no matter who from, and how healthy they look, isolate them for a reasonable period before putting them in your shade house. Everybody at this month's meeting will receive another plant unfortunately not a Jeanne Hall one, as a makegood for last month's problem.

Thanks for everybody that has put their hand up to help in positions this year, at last month's meeting. We still need help with supper, Show Marshal and Assistant Show Marshal. If you would like to help, please come forward to me at the next meeting and let me know what you can do to help

Keep the water up to your plants, as the hot weather is showing no signs of abating and as I write this. We have had 46 days without rain.

I look forward to seeing you on the 27th.

Kind Regards. Graham Fear, (President)

Further to the virus problem with the Jeanne Hall plants intended to be given out at the February meeting, the Spotted Madam 'Brydie' plants offered for sale, were found to have suspicious leaf markings, almost certainly indicating a virus infection.

I, (Graham Morris) had won several awards with this plant, and as it was most unusual, had cloned it, and grew it on to flowering size. The mother plant and the clones produced from it did not show signs of virus. It should be noted that some plants, particularly dark coloured varieties (often browns) regularly have unusual leaf markings. Some of the plants taken to the meeting did show suspicious leaf markings. Sorry, I should have checked them more thoroughly, before bringing them to the meeting (very busy and rushed day for me on Wednesday meeting days).

The following day I checked the other plants at home and the mother plant. I did not find any suspicious ones amongst them. At this stage I should tell you that most were previously growing in 15cm pots, and last October I potted on a lot of them into 17cm pots. The only ones showing signs of virus, were the potted on ones. I am certainly not suggesting that the others are clean. They are most likely virused, but not showing signs. I suspect the ones I potted on were somewhat stressed from the potting on, and then showed signs of the virus. I was expecting flower spikes on them, which would also put them under stress.

Anyone who actually got a plant from me at the meeting, can you please return it at the March meeting, and I will give you a refund. Please isolate your plant, and don't bring it into the meeting hall. Leave it in your car.

Please don't get overly worried about plants having virus. Virus has been present in orchid collections forever. We are learning more about it, and the talk last year by Associate Professor Calum Wilson, from the University of Tasmania should help us all. There will be plants in our collections, with virus, but not showing signs of it. We could test all of our plants, but that would be expensive, particularly for those of us with large collections. By using safe growing conditions and being very observant, we can minimise risk from orchid virus.

We live with COVID now. We can manage to live with orchid virus, but must be vigilant.

TRADING TABLE SUPPLIES

250mm Pot		\$1.20	
200mm Pot		80c	
180mm Pot		60c	
140mm Pot		40c	
100mm Pot		30c	
Plastic Trays	\$2.20	(55cm x 35cm x 8cm holds six 180mm pots)	
Stakes Bundles 3ft (25)		\$4.50	
Stake Bundles 4ft (25)		\$6.00	
Twist Ties Bundle (100)		\$2.00	
Calcium Nitrate		\$2.50	
Yo Yo's		\$2.00	
Single Head Fogger Dropper		\$4.50	
Trisodium Phosphate (sterilizer)		\$5.00 (500g)	\$10.00 (1kg)
Virus Kits		\$8.00	
Linuron Hericide (100g)		\$10.00	
Plastic Labels (25)		\$2.00	

For normal orders contact John Howard on 0419 814 981, for stock availability

For larger orders 30 pots or under per size, contact Wayne Baylis, on 0409 801 224

Any orders over 30 pots per size should be sourced by the box configuration from Garden City Plastics,

Available to all club members in bulk,

Contact Natasha at Garden City Plastics on 8168 4100 to order.

February meeting Showbench results				
Monthly Class	Division / Category	Prize	Plant Name	Exhibitor
Judges Choice	Best Species		dayanum	Sylvia Jackson
Judge's Choice	Best Overall		ensifolium X erythraeum	Pauline & Mark Hockey
Judge's Choice	Best in Open Division		ensifolium X erythraeum	Pauline & Mark Hockey
Judge's Choice	Best in Second Division		dayanum	Sylvia Jackson
Judge's Choice	Best Miniature Seedling		ensifolium X erythraeum	Pauline & Mark Hockey
Open Division	Miniature Brown	1st	Harvest Queen 'Golden Harvest'	Pauline & Mark Hockey
Open Division	Miniature Other Colour	1st	ensifolium X erythraeum	Pauline & Mark Hockey
Open Division	Miniature Other Colour	2nd	ensifolium X erythraeum	Pauline & Mark Hockey
Second Division	Intermediate Yellow	1st	Florida Cracker	Sylvia Jackson

Virus test kits (tests for Cymbidium Mosaic and Odontoglossum Ringspot virus, but not Fleck virus) will be available at future meetings. Eight dollars (\$8) per test kit.

**.The next Meetings of the
Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.**

On Wednesday 27th March 2024

**at the Burnside Assembly Hall,
corner of Greenhill and Portrush Roads. Dulwich**

**We will be discussing the major Showbench winning plants from 2023, and
try to analyze the parent plants in their breeding lines.
Photos of many of the most significant ancestors will be shown.**

There will be judging of your plants at this meeting

Poster prints of the major showbench prize winners from 2023 will be presented
to the winning growers

The beginner's group will meet on the stage at the front of the hall, starting
at 7.15pm SHARP (to allow them to view plants and purchase raffle tickets)
Newcomers are very welcome

**At the March meeting we will, amongst other things, discuss the
two major Showbench winning plants from 2023.**

Flower of the year was Amigos Vision '20/20'

Seedling of the year was (Khanebono x Prizes) 'Peach Puff'

**What is not obvious from first sighting of the names of these plants, is that
they share a common parent, that is Khanebono 'Jacinta'**

**At the March meeting we will study the breeding of these plants, and look
back to see what other parent plants were involved in creating these two
special plants. We will use the computer program OrchidWiz. It gives a
huge amount of information about the breeding line of orchid plants, in-
cluding their breeding ancestry, and photos of many of the plants used.**

**Here is a chance to see and hear about some of the most influential breed-
ing plants, going back over 100 years.**

**It hopefully will help you to select plants to purchase, to improve your
cymbidium collection.**

Cymbidium ensifolium is the parent of three of the plants shown in February (ensifolium x erythraeum)(see photos pages 9, 10 and 11), and also was extensively in the background of the Florida Cracker (page 19).

Cymbidium ensifolium has been a huge influence in the breeding of early and ultra early cymbidiums. Going back fifty or so years, there were very few cymbidiums which flowered before early June each year. The ones flowering at that time of year were of very poor quality, and the flower life was very short, particularly when cut. Nowadays we have plenty of plants flowering from February each year. Many of these have ensifolium in their background.

Cymbidium ensifolium is a terrestrial orchid species.

It is also known as the golden-thread orchid, spring orchid, burned-apex orchid and rock orchid. **The plant is medium-sized and evergreen, and prefers to root on rocks.** It grows in misty evergreen forests on mossy limestone at the sea level about 1500 meters. Cymbidium ensifolium has egg-shaped pseudobulbs and 2-4 leaf-bearing stems. The plant produces upright spikes studded with 3 to 9 well-spaced, intensely, and pleasantly fragrant flowers. (From the COSV web site)



I have never seen it shown at any of our meetings.

8

Well done Pauline and Mark for bringing three seedlings from ensifolium to our February meeting



February 2024 meeting

Best overall

Best in Open Division

Best miniature seedling

Miniature other colour First

ensifolium x erythraeum

**Grown by 9
Pauline and Mark Hockey**



February 2024 meeting

Miniature other colour 2nd

ensifolium x erythraeum

Grown by

Pauline and Mark Hockey

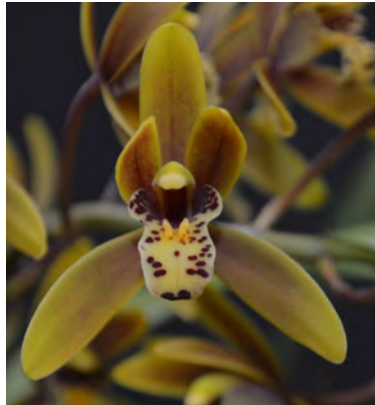
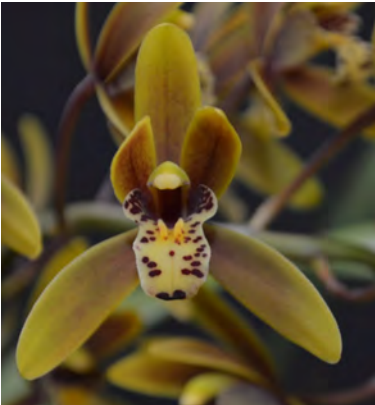


February 2024 meeting

ensifolium x erythraeum

Grown by

Pauline and Mark Hockey



**February 2024
meeting**

Open Division

Miniature Brown

First

**Harvest Queen
'Golden Harvest'**

**Grown by
Pauline and Mark
Hockey**

Did you know There is an excellent cymbidium newsletter, published regularly, which gives a huge amount of great information.

Cymbidium Chatter is an electronic form newsletter, edited by Joshua White, a young member of the Cymbidium Orchid Society of Victoria (COSV)

Joshua can email you each new edition. Back editions can be found on the COSV web site cosv.com.au

The COSV web site is a source of a huge amount of useful information for all

cosv.com.au

Our club web site also has a huge amount of information and past Cymbidium News editions and a huge number of photographs.

cymorchidssa.com.au

Check into it. A huge thank you to Sue Hollands for managing it.

There is also a link on it to our Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Facebook site

Below are the two most famous progeny from ensifolium. They are responsible for bringing forward the flowering season by many months. (in colour on the web site)



This is Peter Pan 'Greensleeves'

Breeding ensifolium v Miretta

ensifolium is a small ultra early flowering species cymbidium. See page 8

Miretta is a big standard green usually flowering later in the season

The first plants of Peter Pan to flower were diploid form. Only when it was converted to tetraploid form were there quality progeny produced

Breeding with Peter Pan (4N) brought forward the flowering season greens, whites and pastel colours greatly.



This is Golden Elf

Breeding is ensifolium x Enid Haupt

ensifolium is a small ultra early flowering species cymbidium. See page 8

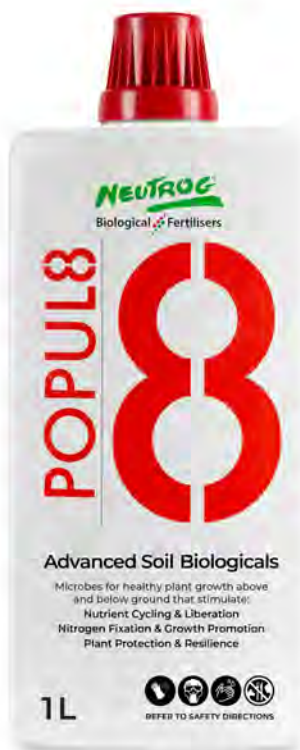
Enid Haupt is a standard sized yellow

The first plants of Golden Elf to flower were diploid form. Only when it was converted to tetraploid form were there quality progeny produced

Breeding with Golden Elf (4N)

Golden Elf (4N) produced vibrant bright yellow, early flowering progeny.

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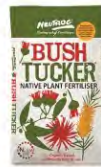
SEAMUNGUS

Seamungus is used for revitalising all plants throughout the year (including natives) and is ideal for establishing new plants, particularly bare-rooted roses.



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1st April 2024 to 30th April 2024

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Prices last time on special . (May have increased a little now)

16" wand set - \$37.49 - 20% = \$29.99 + gst = \$32.99

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9 position revolver sprayer- \$23.19 -20% =\$18.55+ gst =\$20.41

Neutrog are great supporters of our Club.

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The Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia, was actively involved in developing and testing Strike Back for Orchids and endorses it's use.

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2nd August

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Available at the Trading table at the back of the hall, on meeting nights.

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This new product is getting good reviews from growers everywhere who have been using it for some time. Rodents cause lots of damage if not controlled. Be prepared. Have some on hand.

The other parent of the three seedling plants shown at the February meeting was erythraeum.

Cymbidium erythraeum is probably best known as one of the parents of Death Wish, a plant which many growers dislike strongly (they say it is good only for goat food). However other growers, and many general public growers, love it, and are prepared to pay high prices to get a plant like Death Wish. *Cymbidium erythraeum* has been used extensively in breeding (a lot by Royale Orchids). Other in demand plants by erythraeum are Ken Siew, Toni Benton, Feng Shui, Veronica Clowes and many more.

Below is information about it, also a photo of it.

Cymbidium erythraeum has similarities to *Cym. tracyanum*, though it produces smaller flowers at around 80mm across. This species is particularly attractive in its own right, and can make a fine specimen plant capable of carrying many spikes and flowers. The flower pattern is similar to *Cym. tracyanum*; flowers are predominantly green with degrees of red/brown on the petals and sepals. The labellum is white with a red midline and a few scattered red spots at the edges, making a highlight against the darker petals and sepals. The foliage is finer than that of either *tracyanum* or *iridioides*. There are two varieties of this species – the Indian variety (*Cym. erythraeum* var. *erythraeum*) and the Chinese variety (*Cym. erythraeum* var. *flavum*) – both of which have differences in the spike habits and blooms. The Indian variety features more rectangular blooms with straighter tepals on strongly arching to pendulous spikes; the Chinese variety has more curved tepals on more upright (high arch) spikes. Both varieties also have their own alba (pure colour) forms which are pastel green. (From the COSV web site)



It is another plant which many growers consider only good as goat food, but is another which others are prepared to pay premium prices for plants propagated from it.



**February 2024
meeting**

Second Division

**Intermediate yellow
First**

Florida Cracker

**Grown by
Sylvia Jackson**

