

# 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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**In flower now**

**Jeanne Hall  
'Jeanne'**

**Grown by  
Graham Morris**

**Named to honour a  
previous Secretary  
of our Club, who is  
also a Life Member**



**The colour of this  
flower is a bright  
orange, with a nice  
contrasting lip  
It also has lots  
more flowers than  
on this flowering**

**It is being cloned  
and future mem-  
bers will be offered  
a clone from this  
plant in a year or  
two**

**Below is a fabulous article written by an up and coming orchid grower from Melbourne. It is well researched and well written. It is in all our interests to read it thoroughly, and implement the advice that Joshua offers**

# Orchid Viruses

**By Joshua White**

## **Part 1: How to Prevent the Spread of Viruses**

In my opinion, viruses are one of the worst problems that an orchid enthusiast can face in the hobby. Unlike pests or other diseases, which can often be treated, viruses are incurable – the only option is to destroy the infected plant to prevent further spread. The viruses themselves often cause unsightly markings on the leaves (and sometimes blooms), loss of vigour and reduce (or even prevent) flowering. Commercial growers also need to ensure they control viruses, as an infected mother plant can result in the loss of an entire clonal run or damage to the business' reputation.

Prevention is the best approach – the risk from viruses can be drastically reduced with some straightforward hygiene practices. Even if you don't think you have any virus-infected plants, it is still worth implementing these measures, as infected plants can be asymptomatic (i.e. they have no leaf or bloom markings to suggest a viral infection). Most growers will have encountered infected plants during their time in the hobby and a significant percentage will have virus-infected plants present in their collection, whether backyard or nursery.

There are some simple measures that everyone, from the backyard enthusiast to the commercial grower, can implement to help reduce the spread of viruses in their collections. (Continued on page 5)



# Cymbidium News Volume 22 No. 6 July 2020

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Show Marshalls (WL)	Wayne Baylis and helpers.		

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Graham Morris,	Dean Roesler #,	Jeanne Hall #,	Wayne Baylis,
Ben Knobben	Brian & Shirley Brand,		

# indicates Deceased

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## Presidents Message July 2020

Welcome to our July issue

Good news at last. Hopefully we have seen the last of the pandemic in SA and with everybody being sensible in our state, we can start seeing life getting back to some form of normality, unlike our friends in Victoria who are suffering a very large outbreak in a second wave, which is worse than the first one.

You all should have received an email last weekend with our calendar over the next two months. If you are not on the email listing, it is in the magazine. Most of our scheduled events will now take place in one form or another, with a new one added. There will be restrictions and new rules and regulations which we will all have to abide by, but let us be thankful that these events can go ahead.

The display and trading table at Munno Para for three days is confirmed, with put in on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 5.30pm and take out Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 5.00pm.



**President  
Graham Fear**

Our July meeting and limited Winter Show is confirmed at Burnside on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July, put in will be at 6.30pm, with hopefully judging commencing soon after. The format will be on a separate cover with this months issue. There will be restrictions on things you can and cannot do, which will be spelled out in this separate cover. These are not available at the time of me writing this report.

There will be a new display and trading table event at the new Port Plaza (Port Adelaide) shopping centre, with a display and Trading Table the same as Munno Para. Put in with be 5.30pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August and take out will be 5.00pm Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August. If all goes well this will expand to 7 day event next year. There will be restrictions and we will let you know the format at our July monthly meeting.

West Lakes is now confirmed but in a slightly different format. Put in will be Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August at 5.00pm and take out will be Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 5.00pm. There will be limitations on our displays and people manning the Trading Table, and restrictions on what we can and cannot do. Judging to start at 6.00pm or sooner, and hopefully over and done with by 8.00.

We are only allowed two 4 x 3 mitre displays in one area, with a 1.5 metre corridor between each display. We will have more info on this later in August with the final details at the August meeting which is before West Lakes starts. A decision on whether we have plants at the August meeting will be made by the committee at the next committee meeting.

Unfortunately, it's now a different world we live in, and this year I think we should be just thankful that we can go ahead with meetings, shows, displays and trading tables, as there are a lot of clubs around the nation still under severe restrictions, or not meeting at all.

I look forward to speaking to you all again in next month's magazine and catch with those of you who come to Munno Para or at the July meeting.

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Kind regards and stay safe and well.

Graham Fear      President

They are summarised as follows:

- Always clean your tools between plants.
- Do not reuse pots without thoroughly cleaning them first. If you suspect a plant is infected or it tests positive, discard the pot.
- Do not reuse stakes and clips for different plants (especially bamboo or timber ones, as these cannot be adequately disinfected).
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap or change your gloves between plants.
- Don't splash water between plants or let water drip from one plant onto another.
- Never reuse media for other Orchids.
- Maintain good pest control – the false spider mite (*Brevipalpus californicus*) and Australian cockroach (*Periplaneta australasiae*) have been shown to transfer viruses.

There are three main viruses that a Cymbidium enthusiast will usually encounter: Cymbidium Mosaic Virus (CymMV), Odontoglossum Ringspot Virus (ORSV) and Orchid Fleck Virus (OFV). Each of these will be covered in more detail in later parts of this series.

## **Stopping Viruses Getting Into Your Collection Source Plants from Reputable Sellers**

Ideally, you want to avoid introducing infected plants into your collection to start with. Try to source plants from orchid nurseries with good reputations; since their main focus is growing orchids, they will be more aware of the various diseases and viruses that can be present. I recommend avoiding unnamed or unlabelled plants (sometimes called NOIDs for “No Identification”) from Gumtree, eBay or local markets, as unfortunately these have a higher risk of being virused.

If you decide to source a plant from a market or online trading site such as Gumtree or eBay, check their feedback (if possible) to see what the comments are like from previous sales. Never bid on or buy a plant on eBay/Gumtree sight unseen; check the photos or ask for some if none are available. Look closely at the foliage for any signs of pests, pest damage or viral symptoms (examples of these will be covered later in this series). If there are any questionable markings, be aware of the possibility that it is virused. You will need to weigh up the cost of having it tested against how much you want that particular plant (personally, I have occasionally taken this risk when I was keen to get a particular plant; sometimes they were virused, sometimes not).

## **Quarantine New Acquisitions**

When acquiring new plants, it is good practice to keep them separate from your existing collection for a while. Having designated areas to keep batches of plants quarantined is helpful; if you regularly order from multiple suppliers, it is a good idea to keep the different suppliers' plants separated until you are satisfied with their health.

Any new acquisition should be checked and treated for pests, especially since these can spread viruses (if present) to the rest of your collection. My own approach depends on the source of the plants; if I know (or suspect) that the supplier has had a particular virus in their collection, I keep those plants isolated for the incubation period of that virus and then test them. Otherwise, I test plants from each new supplier soon after I obtain them to gain an idea of how well they control viruses in their collection. I recommend testing historical plants (i.e. those from old collections) regardless of the source, as the risk of a plant being infected goes up with the age of the plant.

### **Stopping Viruses Spreading in Your Collection Keep Plants in Groups**

I'm sure most people understand the problem of having more plants than available space. Ideally every orchid would be spaced far enough apart that they weren't touching; in reality this is often impossible to achieve or, for commercial growers, not a cost-effective use of space. I suggest an alternative approach: keeping plants in groups. When I introduce plants into my main collection, I tend to group them by supplier and/or order. That means if a virused plant is later identified from a particular order, I only have to be concerned about that particular tray of plants; I haven't increased the risk of widespread infection by scattering all the plants from that order throughout my collection. It also helps not to rearrange or move plants around too often; if you keep them in the same place, then only those in the immediate vicinity are likely to be affected by it. If you do move plants around, though, remember to disinfect the bench where it was sitting as a precautionary measure. As an aside, benches should be metal mesh (preferably in removable segments) that can be easily disinfected. Timber and other porous materials are unsuitable for benches, as not only can they trap virus particles in the material itself, but they are hard to suitably disinfect without damaging them.

## Disinfect Tools and Pots

The most reliable way to sterilise tools between plants is to wipe them with a disposable rag or paper towel soaked in isopropyl alcohol, then flame them until the tool starts to heat up (both the AOS and OSCOV recommend this approach). You need to remove the debris and sap from the tool and get the surface above 130°C to ensure inactivation of any virus (a small butane torch, such as the one pictured and available from hardware stores, is ideal for this task). The unfortunate trade-off is that this can affect the heat treatment of blades and dull them over time.



Beyond the above, there are a variety of approaches and recipes online for disinfecting tools and pots. One approach suggested by the AOS is to soak tools in a saturated solution of trisodium phosphate (TSP, available in Australia as Tricleanium) for at least 5 minutes (personally I allow at least 15 minutes). Hu (1994) notes that a 1% solution of NaOH (sodium hydroxide) is also effective, but unfortunately does not state the timeframe required.

Ceramic pots, due to their porous nature, need to be baked in an oven for at least an hour at 130°C. Often it is necessary to soak and wash them first in order to remove any traces of media or roots that may have gotten stuck to the sides. Care must be taken to allow them to dry out before baking lest the pot crack in the process. Plastic pots are more straightforward to clean; wash them in warm, soapy water (I recommend having a set of gloves and brush specifically set aside for this purpose) to ensure all debris is removed from the pot. The AOS then recommends soaking in a bleach solution (approx. 1 litre of household bleach to 16 litres of water) for at least 30 minutes; other sources, such as Critter Creek Lab, recommend stronger mixes (1 litre of household bleach to 10 litres of water) for an hour. One grower I know even soaks their pots overnight, using a lid over their trough to prevent the chlorine evaporating out of the bleach solution. Always rinse the pot thoroughly afterwards.

## Dispose of Old Media

Never reuse media for other Orchids. Apart from the fact that it usually breaks down with time, it will be thoroughly contaminated if the plant is virused. Depending on the media, you may be able to use it as a compost dressing in your garden. If you do reuse it in this way, any orchidaceous material should be removed and the media left to sit for a day or so to ensure any OFV present is no longer viable, as other plants can be a host for OFV as well (more on this later in the series).

## In the Next Part...

In Part 2 of this series to be published in the August Cymbidium News, I will cover virus testing options and provide some suggestions on what to do if you suspect you have a virused plant in your collection.

Parts 3 and 4 will follow in later Cymbidium News editions

## References

Freitas-Astúa, J. *Virus*. Originally published in the September 2003 issue of Orchids – The Bulletin of the American Orchid Society. Available at: <https://www.aos.org/orchids/orchid-pests-diseases/virus.aspx>

Hu, I.S., 1994. *Transmission, Movement, and Inactivation of Cymbidium Mosaic and Odontoglossum Ringspot Viruses*. Plant Disease, 78(6), p.633. Available at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1094/pd-78-0633>

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### Plants wanted by members

Allumination x Trinity Hall x Tracey Reddaway,      Dutchman's Delight x Pink Champagne

Dean Roesler "Gold Sunset",      Night Passage "Cabernet"

The plants above were pictured in old club magazines  
John Knott    08 8261 5255

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Luana "Pink Champagne"

Pauline McLean

Phone 08 8386 0430





**Thank you Graham Blascheck for these 2 flowers**  
**Above Pharaoh's Dream 'Dural'**  
**Below Paradise Surprise**





**In flower now  
At left  
Coraki Gold x Twilight in Gold**

**Below  
Flaming Pepper x Foxfire Amber**

**Bottom  
Pau Robeson x Tiger Country**

**Grown by Graham Fear**

**All are first flowering seedlings**





**In flower now**   **Above**   **Dural Dream x Pepper Blaze**   **FF seedling**  
**Below**   **Spicy Khan x Yowie Rose**  
**Grown by Graham Fear**





**In flower now**   **Above**   **Valley Freestyle 'Heaven Scent' (highly perfumed)**  
**Below**   **Henri Chu 'Craigburn'**  
**Grown by**   **Graham Morris**



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TISSUE CULTURE

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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	\$4.50
Twist Ties Bundle 100	\$2.00
Labels Bundle 25	\$3.00
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)

# 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.

# The best summer recipe for your plants



**Whoflungdung Super Mulch.** A biologically activated, nutrient rich, weed free, absorbent super mulch that introduces a wide diversity of beneficial bacteria to the soil.

**GOGO Juice** is teeming with beneficial microbiology and is essentially a pro-biotic for your soil and plants.



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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.

**NEUTROG**  
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# The next Meeting of the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Inc.

**Will be on Wednesday 22nd July, starting at 8pm, in the Burnside Assembly Hall, corner of Portrush and Greenhill Roads, Tusmore**

Details of the meeting are still being planned. COVID-19 restrictions have only recently allowed us to have a meeting. There will be lots of information regarding shows and displays, and a good surprise for everyone attending.

Beginners Group will meet from 7.15pm on the stage at the front of the hall

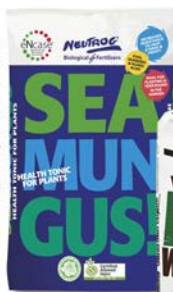
Newcomers and Visitors are most welcome

Covid-19 spacing conditions will be in place

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

30" wand set - \$43.48 - 20% = \$34.78+ gst = \$38.26

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



## **Interstate Cymbidium Clubs**

### **Cymbidium Club of Australia (NSW)**

**Secretary** Mrs Judith Brooks Ph 02 9773 9197 email jahamilton.17@btinternet.com **Web-site** ccansw.com.au **Facebook** cymbidiumclubofaustralia

Meetings are on the second Thursday, 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](http://cymorchidssa.com.au)

\*\*\*\*\*  
**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).

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Refer also to our Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia Website**  
**[cymorchidssa.com.au](http://cymorchidssa.com.au)**

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. **Contact Graham Morris if you need some now.**

There will be some First Strike roedenticide bait available from the trading table when meetings commence, or collect from Graham Morris 0419 823 724

Packs of 10 baits \$5.00, Packs of 25 \$10.00

This new product is getting good reviews from growers interstate who have been using it for some time.

\*\*\*\*\*

There will be an auction of a Jumbo flask of seedlings at the July meeting

The flask contains about 100 large quality seedlings

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Kulnurra Snow x Kimberley Splash ‘TeePee’ Top quality whites and pinks

Thank you Moss and Rosemary Bray. Moss always produces great flasks

Prices effective from January, 2018

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An organically based fertiliser, developed for the specialised needs of Australian native plants - even the most phosphorous sensitive. **20kg bag \$30**



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**Sudden Impact for Roses**  
Ideal for all flowering and fruiting plants - not just roses. **20kg bag \$30**  
**1L Bottle \$10**



**Strike Back for Orchids**  
Ideal for the all potted flowering and fruiting plants - not just orchids. **20kg bag \$30**

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**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 \$30**



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## ORGANIC FERTILISERS



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**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 \$15**



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**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 \$13**



**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 \$7**



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## 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 \$20**



**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 \$10**



**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 \$22**



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Biologically activated, nutrient rich, weed free, absorbant super mulch **20kg bale \$14**



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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.



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**2L Ready to Use \$10**



## BOOKS

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From the Ground Up SA currently out of stock



## From the Ground Up

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- 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



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**In flower now**

**Grown by Greg Wallace**

**Valley Olympic  
'Pink Perfection'**



**In flower now,  
Above Arachnid 'LongLegs'  
Grown by Nico Jong  
First flowering seedling  
2 flower spikes 115cm tall  
Each has 19 flowers**

**At right In flower now  
Gypsy Rose 'Princes'  
Grown by Graham Morris**

