

**NEWSLETTER  
SEPTEMBER 2000**



## From the Editor

Hi there all,

Now we're roaring. The last issue was a bit on the light side but with the Hamilton show having just been I reckon I have enough base data to fill this issue and the next nicely. But please, don't let that stop you contributing articles, etc.

On the subject of the Hamilton show, does anyone have any photos of the Odontoglossum Alliance display and any of the Odonts. in the show? Ross accidentally wiped all of my photos off the digital camera. I guess that's one of the down sides to this new technology - images are easily deleted and can't be recaptured. If you do have some I could use, please either email them to me or post them and I will get them back to you straight away.

I have received a lot of compliments and support towards the newsletter. Thank you. It keeps me encouraged. I would also like to apologise for the tardiness in getting the newsletters out each quarter. My excuses are numerous and I won't bore you with them.

You may have noticed, Paul Cable has been forwarding a couple of photos for each issue of the species in his collection. He tells me he has quite a reasonable collection. I for one find it really interesting seeing where we get the basis for all these hybrids we see today.

I recently had an idea for increasing Odontoglossum awareness and enjoyment. That is, hold a show just for Odontoglossum Alliance plants over a long weekend. Have an informal, less structured judging system (nothing like we have in NZ already) and combine it with a relaxed BBQ and silent auction in the evening. This, of course, requires support in order

to be successful, so I would like to take the Taranaki Show in January as an opportunity to discuss it further.

'Til next time,

Susan Tucker

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## **Expo 2000**

### **The Show**

The show was extremely well attended with around forty bus-loads arriving over the duration of the show. Probably what brought the people in was the variety. They came to see daffodils, orchids, camellias, cake decorating and lots more. There were talks given on lots of different subject all throughout the day. They could buy books, plants, handcrafts, furniture, popcorn or chocolates, to name a few.

For those hardened orchid enthusiasts, there were a number of activities ranging from a boat cruise on board the Waipa Delta and various lectures from international guest speakers, to Alliance breakfasts and a buffet dinner. They also had a wide variety of vendors to choose from.

The best news is - the show ran a profit! Not a huge one, mind you, but hey, it's better than what a lot of show do!

## **The Alliance Display**

This was wonderfully put together by yours truly with artistic direction from Ewen Perrott et al. We started off with some very ugly backdrops of the neighbouring displays' screens. You know how it is, you're only really concerned about how your display looks and not the reverse side of the background - that never gets any attention. Well, that's what we had to start off with. Ross supplied an artificial grass mat, two wooden stands and various other paraphernalia.

We had plants from Ewen and Sylvia Perrott, Alan Locke, Ron Maunder, Alf Day and a couple from myself. With the taller plants up high and in the back, and the smaller plants lower down and towards the front, just about every plant had a perfect vantage point. We made use of the white backside of the neighbouring display as well as the black cloth used to hide all those ugly bits and displayed the plants in groupings of colour with the black and white backgrounds making the most of the colours.

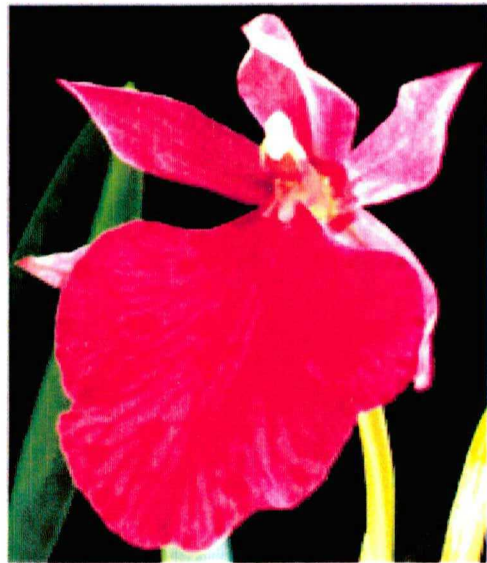
To top it all off, our display was placed second in its class. We were only beaten by the Masdevallia Alliance and for those who were down at Hamilton, you'd know why. They put on a fantastic display. I think we did exceptionally well considering we're only a group of growers with the only ties being this sporadic newsletter and a couple of get togethers a year, if that.

## **The Breakfast**

This was well attended by about 40 people. We listened to Howard Liebman, one of the guest speakers, talk about some of the awarded Odonts. in America. He was trying very hard not to pre-empt his talk the next day. Milton Carpenter, the president of the American Orchid Society, was also in attendance. Between











*Miltonia clowesii* 'Joanna'

Grown by Mike Davison

(full plant shot and single flower shot)

Given a cultural award (86.4 points) by the Orchid Council of New Zealand at the recent Capital City Orchid Society show it has 148 flowers and 92 buds over 41 spikes in a 30cm pot. The sepals and petals are a light brown splotched with mahogany. The lower part of the lip a light mauve with white edging turning to deep mauve adjacent to the column.

*Lemboglossum majale* syn. *platycheilum*

Grown by Paul Cable

Formerly known as *Odm. majale*, this species is to be found in the moist cloud forests of Guatemala in elevations up to 2600m. It is considered to be quite rare in its natural habitat. The attractive flowers are usually rose coloured and occasionally purple with a lip that is blotched with slightly darker markings, they are borne on inflorescences of 10cm to 15cm long which have two to four flowers. As with most of the *Lemboglossum* they appear to flourish in cool conditions with a rest period during the winter months.

*Lemboglossum maculatum*

Grown by Paul Cable

Another species from the Mexico and Guatemala area which is similar in many ways to *Lemb. cordatum*, it has erect inflorescences of about 15cm with many flowers usually with chestnut coloured sepals and straw yellow petals and lip which are spotted basally with chestnut brown, This species has been

somewhat neglected as a parent but is receiving more attention with the appearance of the very good cross Odm. Anne Claire (Lemb. maculatum x Odm. Geysler Goldmine).

## **WebOrchids**

American Orchid Society  
<http://www.orchidweb.org/>

A very fascinating site, indeed. Here we have extensive cultural notes (including Odontoglossums), a market place where you can reach vendors by country and state and even a puzzle page where there's some really neat special effects. The photo gallery is well worth looking at, there's some fantastic award photos. I've even found a page dedicated to newsletter editors. I'd better pay careful attention to this page. And for all those people interested in what's coming through in hybridizing, the RHS have a file for the latest hybrid registrations. You will need Acrobat Reader to view it, though. You can even find out when the next show is. If your looking for that something special as a gift, check out the emporium. There's a wide range of goods available from t-shirts and umbrellas to jewellery and Swarovski crystal orchids. And for all those bookworms (like me), there's a fully indexed list of books you can purchase. So, have fun, but remember that you do have orchids that need your loving care and attention.

## **Buy, Sell, Exchange**

**Watch this space!**

**We will be able to offer some interesting  
flasks and plants very soon.**

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