



NEWSLETTER

vol. 5 no.6

JUNE 2020

www.paphsocnsw.org

Meetings held at the Ermington Community Hall, 6 River Road, Ermington, NSW 2115 on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month. No Meeting for Dec. All Visitors Welcomed
Editor : See Ting Ho email :stho@optusnet.com.au

All future meeting has been postponed until further notice.

Time Flies and it has been about 4 months since we had a meeting and a chat about Paphs. Hope everyone is safe and healthy and giving that extra attention to your plants!! It is still not certain when we can get back to our meeting again. By this time AGM would have been conducted however extension of time to hold this has been applied for. All the committee members will carry on their respective position until an AGM can be conducted. No doubt perhaps that will be the first thing on the agenda when we get back to meet again. Rod is growing on the competition plants that those of you have ordered, so when you get it, they will be bigger! I suppose it is still not too late to order you plant. The Auction night of course has not eventuated, so those members who submitted their plants for listing will have to grow it on for a little while longer.

I am sure most members has missed the Sales Bench. On that front, Seong has a new website call Sydney Orchid Centre which is currently under construction. You can view this on <http://sydneyorchidcentre.com/> Here Seong is listing some of his Paphs for sale and all current members of this society will receive a 10% discount!! If you see a plant you like, email him straight away and with a bit of luck, it is yours. It is on a First Come First Serve Basis ie based on when Seong receives the email. You can arrange to pick it up or pay extra for the postage for delivery to your door. Seong's nursery is in Kenhurst.

The response for pictures, articles and Q & A has been reasonably good. Of course we need more participation. The peak flowering season for Complex Paphs and Mauds are with us, so please do send me your pictures of what is in flower, remembering Editorial date line is the end of each month. Even if you do not meet the dateline, it will be publish in the next issue.

Meanwhile, keep the contribution coming and happy reading.
Editor.

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Jane D'Oliver
Gary Hart*

Patron : Wal Rhodes



WHAT'S HAPPENING??

2019						
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



All Activities are on hold until further notice, due the the Corona Virus restrictions current in place.

Membership Subscription 2020

The Society's Financial year runs from January 1st until December 31st.

Membership renewal fees are due in January 2020.

Single \$20.00 Couple \$30.00

It is preferable that memberships are paid direct into our Westpac bank account by Electronic Funds Transfer.

Acct. name: **Paphiopedilum Society of NSW Inc.**

BSB: **032 090**

Acct number: **828 552**

Please ensure that your family name is included in the transfer details.

Cash renewals will be received at the January and February meeting.

Treasurer.

Members Notice Board

Members contribution will be publish here where the contribution is not in the form of an article.

Q & A

Question from Alex Wunderlin:

We tend to have trouble with roots emerging from new growths but become stunted and never lengthen...maybe pests are nipping the tips??



ANSWERS FROM PREVIOUS MONTH.

Question from Stuart Webb:

What is the best way to prevent Erwinia rot and if it is present in your paphs what is the best way to treat it. What chemical/s are the best to use.

Answer from Rod Nurthen :

Erwinia rot is best avoided rather than treated. Try to keep your humidity between 50% and 60%. On the oppressively humid days of late summer ensure that you have adequate ventilation and air movement. Probably the most important is to not over water and do not allow your compost to break down and become soggy. I have tried many recommended treatments without much success. These days, if any plant becomes infected it is straight into the green bin.

Answer from See Ting: Erwinia rot is caused by Bacterial whose digestive enzymes breakdown plant tissues. In Paphs it attacks the leaves and most often also referred to as Crown Rot. Being a bacterial, it is often treated with fungicide without success. Once infected, it is very difficult to stop or cure. Best control is prevention ie by sanitation. When I get some plants showing signs of infection, I would make up a spray of household bleach about 1/3 to 2/3 water and spray the area of housing (NOT THE PLANT), ie bench, walls and floor. This seems to help minimise the spread. I use to be able to get Hysan which I spray on the plants and also seems very effective in prevention, but I think this product is no longer available. Hysan is Hydrogen Peroxide with Colloidal silver added and both components works on bacterial. I have in the last year tried Ridomil MZ Gold...by making it into a paste and painting over the infected area and also as a spray on to the plant. This product can stop the progress.....but you have to catch it early. The product looks very much like the fungicide Mancozeb, it does have mancozeb in it(MZ), unfortunately it is expensive and only comes in a 5kg pack. Find a few friends to share.

Question from Geoff Fulcher:

Hi See Ting,

You may recall that at the end of the last Paph. Society meeting I asked you about mottling on the leaves of one of my Paphs. This was a seedling of Paph. lowii x gigantifolium which I got as a prize somewhere I think. The other picture is one of Paph. Coulomb and it's symptoms are very different; areas of leaves show collapse of the surface cells of some of the leaves, but as you can see, not death of the tissue, despite these symptoms being evident for some months. The collapse is only discernible on the upper leaf surface, not underneath. In both cases I have not seen these symptoms before and these plants are the only ones in our collection displaying their respective symptoms. While I could make a guess at the problem I would hate to throw out plants without knowing what the cause is. Have you seen anything similar before?

Answer from Rod Nurthen :

I also, have not seen these symptoms before on any Paph. I suspect the first photo may be either virus or an internal fungal infection. I am concerned that it appears in the new leaf. Personally I would bin it immediately. However, if you must keep the plant I would definitely isolate it from the rest of your orchids and treat it with a series of systemic fungicides over a twelve month period. If it does not respond (ie the mottling is still in the next new leaf), bin it.

The second photo offers a bit more encouragement as the effect is not visible in the new leaf. Possibly some damage when the leaves were young caused by a fungus or bacteria or some outside physical agent. Hopefully it will not appear in the new leaves. Once again isolate the plant just in case.

Please be aware I am just guessing in both cases.

***What's flowering currently- From
From Heath Myer :***



Phrag. Sedenii



Paph. insigne var sanderae



Paph. spicerianum



Paph. fairrieanum



Phrag. Hanne Popow



Mexipedium xerophyticum (flowered March)



Phrag. Chinaman 'Grande'

From John McAuley :



Paph. villosum fma album

Editor : I have notice this species that has been labelled as fma album, fma aureum or fma alba may be confusing to some members. The aureum form is suppose to be yellow wherest the album or alba form, green. You will note a lot of these are flowering more green/yellow.....and also depending on the amount of light you give it during the flowering can create confusion. Please see colour variation of the photos posted this month.

From :Rod Nurthen



Paph. villosum fma. aureum
First flowering of a seedling won at a Paph. Soc. Meeting last year

From Gary Hart :



Paph. villosum fma alba

From Marie & John Bartlett :



Paph. insigne "Harefield Hall"



Paph. tonsum



Paph. charlesworthii



Paph. pupuratum



Paph. Hung Sheng Flame x sib



Paph. Maudiae x Conco-bellatum



Paph. Akegoromo



Paph. micranthum var eburneum



Paph. Valarie Tonkin x In-Charm Boulder



Paph. Saeka Mochizuki



Phrag. Lyn Evans – Goldner



Phrag. Pink Panther



Phrag. Brysa

From Seong Tay :



Phrag. Memoria Mariza Rolando



Paph. pupuratum fma album



Paph. pupuratum



Paph. Katrina



Paph. sanderianum

From See Ting :



Paph. Toby Ho 'Ollie'



Paph. Orchilla 'Chilton'



Paph. concolor



Paph. Chui Mae Wong

Growing Tips

Repotting Tip

Most speakers when giving a talk on Paphiopedilum culture usually state never to repot into dry potting media. The reason for this is fairly simple. Most Paph. potting mixes have bark as the main ingredient. When dry the bark becomes very difficult to re-wet and can become fairly hydrophobic. This can cause problems to the plant re-establishing itself.

If you need to see the problem, the next time you are repotting try potting in a dry mix, then thoroughly water the plant. Next tip it out and look at how well watered it is. Most of the bark will still be dry.

If you just add water to your mix before repotting you will find that it sticks together and is difficult to handle. To overcome this problem, I have found that it is best to bag your mix in a suitable plastic bag a couple of days before you repot, add some water, seal the bag and leave it in a warm sunny spot. After a couple of days, you will find your mix is evenly damp and will allow an even distribution of water or liquid nutrient to all the roots when you next water and feed.

Rod Nurthen

“You Be the Judge”

This is a new section where members can present a picture and ask our society judges an opinion. For this purpose please send in 3 pictures, a Closeup Front, a Closeup Back and a Overall picture of plant and flower. If you can, a Closeup Side view will also assist. Judging base on a picture is not so accurate as in the flesh as certain information can be distorted eg colour. So please remember this...this is an attempt to teach members to identify quality of flower for show benching purposes and what to look for in a flower. If you get a negative critic, don't toss it away, if you like it, grow it!!

Judges, please point out Positives and Negatives or what could be better or improvement to look for.

Paph.(Red Shift x Hsinying Macas) x fairrieanum

When assessing the show quality of this plant there are a few important considerations to look at.

- + It is a first flowering
- + It is flowering on a single growth
- + One parent is a species, *Paph. fairrieanum*.

So what do we look at:

FIRST: SHAPE :

When the parentage is considered the shape of this flower is quite good. It has an attractive large round dorsal and when viewed from behind a reasonable sized ventral sepal. The petals are even, follow the species parent being down-swept. The labellum fits nicely in place and size for the flower, making it balanced & have visual impact. The flower is concave.

SECOND: COLOUR:

Is attractive, evenly spread with well defined markings. Appears fresh and glistening.

THIRD:HABIT :

The flower is well displayed above the foliage on a strong straight upright inflorescence.

FOURTH: SIZE;

Hard to tell from the photos but appears to be very good.

There are a few MINOR aspects that SLIGHTLY detract.

- Extra tissue on the ventral sepal left hand side of photo
- Petals are not totally even in the way they furl.
- Labellum could be positioned slightly lower.

Overall a nice flower that on first flowering you would want to flower again.

You might assume on a bigger plant, bigger flower, and often small twists and turns that appear one year may not the next!

Gary Hart

ARTICLES

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OPPOSITE ENDS OF THE SPECTRUM

In my current Covid-19 lockdown repotting frenzy, I have been trying to be more organized than normal and repot by genera, starting first with my paphs of which I have about 400. The weather has been magic and social distancing and isolation doesn't seem bad at all when having unlimited time to spend on my favorite hobby. I was feeling quite pleased with myself and my repotting accomplishments and was almost finished with my paph repotting, having left the mankiest-looking ones until last. Then I picked up this one and had a look at the label.



This was my reaction when I read it.



Oh my god does it really say “Hsinying Malone”?? Not THE Hsinying Malone---recent winner of the **AUSTRALIAN HYBRID ORCHID OF THE YEAR??**

A quick look at my Excel spreadsheet confirmed that I had indeed been given 3 seedlings in February 2011 by Ho of this cross. Just to make sure, I took a photo of the label and sent it to Ho. Yes, he confirmed that the tag was his writing. As he only bought one flask of this paph from Ching Hua in 2009, it makes sense that the seedlings would be ready for a “swap” 18 months or so later. One of my three seedlings was declared dead (according to my spreadsheet) in September 2017. Apparently I had just found one of the two survivors--and it was not looking too crash hot.



In the same five year period, Ho's Paph Hsinying Malone had gone from the seedling stage to winning an AM at Sutherland Shire Orchid Society's monthly meeting in August 2016 while my three were suffering badly—a good example of opposite ends of the growing spectrum.

Three years later, Ho's Paph Hsinying Malone 'Yeowie' had a phenomenal run during the orchid flowering season. It won Grand Champion at the Paph Society's show in Dural and its AM was upgraded to an FCC at that show. Less than two weeks later, it won Grand Champion and Champion Paph Hybrid at the St. Ives Show. An amazing SIX WEEKS later, it won Grand Champion Hybrid and Champion Cypripedoidae at the

Southern Orchid Spectacular, still looking so fresh that there were jokes going around about “that paph” being made of plastic! After winning the trifecta, is it any wonder that Ho's amazing paph was subsequently declared **AUSTRALIAN HYBRID ORCHID OF THE YEAR?!** Well done, Ho, your plant is a prime example of the benefits of both excellent growing techniques and a bit of luck in keeping a really good seedling out of the many plants in a flask. What an amazing achievement on your part.

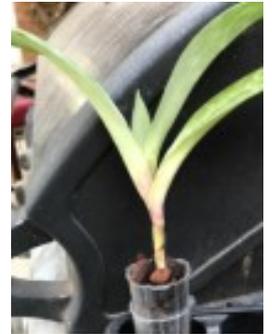
Back to the opposite end of that spectrum: Can my Hsinying Malone be saved? Taking a deep breath, I took it out of the tube. Here is what I found: Neither the bottom leaves or the



roots looked good. The roots were quite rotted, actually. So rotted that they basically fell off when I picked up the plant after taking a photo. Contrast that with Ho's plant!!



Here is what I was left with after removal of all the dead bits—3 leaves on a stick. Pretty depressing, right?? However, upon closer inspection—and I do mean CLOSER—two tiny roots were attempting to form above the rotted base. Maybe there is hope yet!! I have had some success using narrow clear tubes for paphs that have a single long skinny root, so here is my Paph Hsinying Malone now. Yes, I know it looks like it should have been planted much deeper, but trust me, the two new root nubs are well covered. The plant is right inside the door of my glass house now in ICU where I can easily give it a squirt of Auxinone once a week or so and keep a close eye on it. Where the third seedling is I have no idea and I am afraid to look in my “dead plant” bag of tags which are waiting to be



input into my spreadsheet for fear of finding it there.

So there you have it, two seedlings of the same cross out of the same flask on opposite ends of the spectrum, thanks to two growers whose expertise in paphs is also on opposite ends of the spectrum. Ho gave his winning paph the clonal name of ‘Yeowie’ in honor of his spouse. I don't dare call my plant ‘Robbo’ (my hubby's nickname in the business world), as he wouldn't feel very honored, at least not at the moment. Perhaps ‘Sorry’ is a more appropriate name.

Well done, Ho, with your amazing paph. I can only hope the monthly meetings of the Paph Society recommence soon, as goodness only knows how much I need those growing tips!!

Jan Robinson

FREE TO A GOOD HOME



Paph. Hama Chilwin x Thunder Cat.

This is in flower now, a healthy plant, in a 125mm pot, surplus to my needs.

You must be prepared to collect it from Thornleigh.

First person to claim it can have it.

Contact me at rmu78067@bigpond.net.au to arrange a pick up time.

Rod Nurthen.

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Seong Tay

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