



Cryptopus elatus

Orchid Society Of Mauritius

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Issue No 2

Mother's Day celebrations with orchids

This is your invitation

Dear Member of the Orchid Society of Mauritius,

We are pleased to invite you to our 'Mother's Day' celebration around a Special Mini-Show on Friday 1st June at 18H00, at Bonâme House, Reduit.

We hope to see many 'Mothers' around and also a very nice display of orchids in bloom that evening.

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The Orchid Society of
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in August 1980

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March & April's Meetings at a glance

A new trend has been set at the first two members monthly meetings by having a guest speaker to talk on a subject or present products of interest to orchid growers.

On March 30th, Mr Ronald Adaken of Vaneron Nursery presented a new range of potting media and pots for orchids. Members present were able to see samples of sphagnum moss, coco peat and a ready-for-use potting mix comprising ground charcoal, pine bark and pumice stones.



Several magnificent orchid plants were displayed that evening and the two plants which received the largest number of votes were :

- Cym. Vanguard 'Gold' grown by Anil Buckoreelall.
- Onc. John Louis Shirah, grown by Gerard Leung For Sang.

April's Monthly Meeting

On the 27th April Mr Jean Felix of Microlab Ltd gave an interesting presentation on his company's tissue culture activity and also on the services offered in terms of seed sowing and hardening of plantlets under controlled conditions. Orchid plantlets raised at Microlab Ltd. were displayed and those present were able to watch a de-flasking demonstration. Six varieties of orchid plantlets were available for sale that evening. There was an interesting exchange of views and experiences during the presentation.

Some beautiful specimens of orchids in bloom were displayed at the mini show. Two outstanding exhibits scored the same number of points and the owners received a prize offered by Microlab Ltd. The two plants were :

- D. Anusha 'Flare', grown by Gerard Leung For Sang.
- D. Liberty White , grown by Christian & Madeline Bellouard.



Notice Board

Two upcoming events :

1. The 19th AOC (Australian Orchid Council) Conference & Show will be held in Perth, Western Australia between the 11th and 16th September 2012. The conference takes place every three years and will be returning to Perth for the first time since 1991.
2. APOC 11—the 11th Asia Pacific Conference in Okinawa & Okinawa International Orchid Show will be held between the 2nd and 11 th February 2013 at the Tropical Dream Center in the Okinawa Commemorative National Government Park.

Spotlight on Orchid Species

Brief outlook on the genus *Jumellea*

Jumellea is an orchid genus which is very close to *Angraecums*, some 60 species exist to date and they are found mainly growing in Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius, Reunion and a few on Eastern African Countries.

When we talk of *Jumellea*, the one which comes immediately in our mind is the famous *Jumellea Fragrans*.

Jumellea Fragrans is well-known for its perfumed leaves used as tea or adding savour to Rhum and Whiskies.

Mauritius counts six species of *Jumelleas*. These are: *Jumellea recta*, *Jumellea recurva*, *Jumellea Fragrans*, *Jumellea exilis*, *Jumellea rossii* (considered extinct) and *Jumellea triquetra* (considered extinct in Mauritius).

The species of this genus are mainly epiphytes and lithophytes. Most beautiful plants of this genus are found in shady and moist areas with good air circulation around. However plants are often seen in full sun too.

In cultivation, plants can be potted in a mixture of 1 part of charcoal, 1 part of pin bark and 1 part of sphagnum moss or coco peat. Plants can do very well mounted with some moisture retaining materials around its roots. 50-70% shade is enough to obtain beautiful plants and light will be enough to make them bloom.

