



COFFS ORCHID NEWS FEB 2026 PUBLICATION OF THE COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY

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EDITORIAL:

Happy New Year To All!

Many of us are getting older and often finding it difficult to achieve the basic tasks that up until now, we have handled without any issues. There are many organisations available to help us survive our daily lives and they provide us with cleaning service, cooking of meals, help with the shopping or assistance with regular social outings. Many Government and Church agencies are set up to help the elderly population continue to live happily in their own homes.

However, many of our older members have issues of not being able to cope with the commitments and discipline of looking after an orchid collection. Regular watering is probably a daily task that most will enjoy and can carry out without too much difficulty. When it comes to more difficult tasks such as fertilizing, disease and pest control repotting and repairs of equipment, etc, then things start to get out of control and chaos reigns supreme. The answer is often to battle on and ignore the issues but eventually lack of attention leads to a decline in the quality of plants in these members collections.

In many cases a little bit of help every few weeks or even once a month for a few hours would make a lot of difference between keeping your pride and joy in a good state or thinking that you will need to get rid of plants in the near future because you can no longer cope.

Have you noticed that some members no longer attend meetings or they may attend a meeting but no longer bring along plants for the show bench. Have they stopped taking part in Society activities? Perhaps they are no longer involved in each show. You need to ask the question "R U OK?". Then ask "How are your orchids going?" Would you like me to come and help you repot in Spring time? Perhaps you could organise a few friends to go around and help with plant care once a month. Make a party of the event and help a fellow member get back on top.

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This newsletter edition contains the full results from the monthly plant competition. Congratulations to Rhonda Smith for her outstanding efforts as the 2025 winner. The 2026 monthly competition starts at the February meeting and it is hoped that many members will become involved from day one.

The newsletter also contains the annual calendar for the Society. It is packed with a range of activities and includes a number of new speakers as well as some practical member programs, shows and the usual plant auction. We encourage all members to become as involved as you can in the yearly program.

Any suggestions of future activities would be most welcome.

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Do you have time on your hands? Can you help the CHOS achieve their goals for the year? Volunteers are always welcome to help at meeting nights, or providing ideas or article or photos for the newsletter.

If you can help with organising the CHOS then please let us know ASAP. And Thanks!

CHOS COMMITTEE 2026

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Hans and Sue run a small nursery west of Bowraville. They specialise in rare, unusual and hard to find species of many orchids particularly Bulbophyllums, Stanhopeas, Coelogynes and lots of other genera.

Check out the website.

www.darkstarorchids.com.au

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ROSELLA ORCHIDS

Spring and Autumn Show Sponsor: Located in South Grafton and can supply a wide range of orchids but specialises in Cattleya and Vanda genera. They also stock a large range of hardware and accessories for orchid growers. Nursery is closed to the general public except by appointment.

www.rosellaorchids.com.au

CALENDAR, 2026

27 Jan—Committee Meeting

5 Feb—NEUTROG as Guest
Speaker
Members Plant Sales

5 Mar Australian Native
Orchids—Tony Blewitt
Orchid Grow Comp Draw

2 Apr Bulbophyllums
- Rhonda Smith

25-26 Apr CHOS Autumn Show

7 May— Tips and Tricks

4 June— Growing Vandaceous
Orchids—Bruce Hall
Members Plant Sales

2 July— Growing Orchids My
Way

6 Aug—Flask Production—
Paul Smith

Note: The Committee meets on Tuesday following the Monthly Meeting.

**CHOS BANK DETAILS**

BSB No: 533-000

ACCOUNT No: 32817199



Popular Vote at the CHOS Annual Awards Luncheon was awarded to

Rhonda Smith
for her fabulous
Ctsm. Francisco
Berrios Gines
Congratulations!



ORCHIDS BENCHED AT THE CHOS 2025 AWARDS PRESENTATION



***Cattleya purpurata* 'Harlequin' X
C. purpurata 'Johnny V Good'
 benched by Paige Sinclair**



A nice large *Cattleya* on show at the Annual Awards Luncheon



A member of the *Oncidium Alliance* benched for the popular vote section

Photographs by Gordon Griffiths



Helen Seiver recently flowered this *Dendrobium Fantasy Land* 'Princess' X *Dendrobium Two Tone Splash* from a CHOS deflasking workshop held in September 2024. Well done, Helen.

The next deflasking workshop will be conducted at the monthly meeting in September this year

WINNERS AT THE CHOS 2025 AWARDS PRESENTATION



President Paige Sinclair presents Rhonda Smith with the Glad Fleming Trophy as the winner of the 2025 Monthly Benching Competition. Well done, Rhonda!



Paige presents Peter Gough with his prizes from the 2025 Monthly Competition



Paige presents Dick Cooper with his prizes from the 2025 Monthly Competition



Paige presents Helen Seiver with her prize for the highest points score in the Exhibition Cattleya section

Paige presents Bruce Hall with his prizes for the 2025 Benching Competition



Matt Connell is presented with his prize for the best AOV Dendrobium

Paige presents Neil McDonald with his ten year service certificate



Photographs by Gordon Griffiths

CHOS MONTHLY MEETING COMPETITION RESULTS FOR 2025

- CLASS 1: Cymbidium Standard over 90mm – NIL (Need a minimum score of 6 points)**
- CLASS 2: Cymbidium Standard 60mm to 90mm – NIL (insufficient points)**
- CLASS 3: Cymbidium Standard Under 60mm – NIL (insufficient points)**
- CLASS 4: Cymbidium Species – NIL (insufficient points)**
- CLASS 5: Laeliinae Exhibition over 100mm – PETER GOUGH (14 points)**
- CLASS 6: Laeliinae Exhibition 60 to 100mm – HELEN SEIVER (16 points)**
- CLASS 7: Laeliinae Exhibition Under 60mm – DICK COOPER (15 points)**
- CLASS 8: Laeliinae Cluster (5 fully open flowers) – RHONDA SMITH (14 p)**
- CLASS 9: Laeliinae Non-Exhibition – BRUCE HALL (11 points)**
- CLASS 10: Laeliinae Species – PAIGE SINCLAIR (8 points)**
- CLASS 11: Paph Exhibition – PETER GOUGH (17 points)**
- CLASS 12: Paph Non-Exhibition – PETER GOUGH (28 points)**
- CLASS 13: Paph Alliance Species – PETER GOUGH (17 points)**
- CLASS 14: Oncidium Over 65mm – RHONDA SMITH (10 points)**
- CLASS 15: Oncidium 25 to 65mm – RHONDA SMITH (10 points)**
- CLASS 16: Oncidium Under 25mm - RHONDA SMITH (11 points)**
- CLASS 17: Oncidium Alliance Species – NIL (insufficient points)**
- CLASS 18: Vandaceous Over 60mm – PETER GOUGH (19 points)**
- CLASS 19: Vandaceous 60 and Under – RHONDA SMITH (14 points)**
- CLASS 20: Vandaceous Species – RHONDA SMITH (15 points)**
- CLASS 21: Phalaenopsis Over 75mm – MOYA TUCKER (6 points)**
- CLASS 22: Phalaenopsis 50 to 75mm – RHONDA SMITH (6 points)**
- CLASS 23: Phalaenopsis Under 50mm – RHONDA SMITH (6 points)**
- CLASS 24: Phalaenopsis Species – NIL (insufficient points)**
- CLASS 25: Dendrobium Soft Canes – NIL (insufficient points)**
- CLASS 26: Dendrobium Phalaenanthe Non-Native – DICK COOPER (24 points)**
- CLASS 27: Dendrobium Spatulata Non-Native – RHONDA SMITH (14 points)**
- CLASS 28: Dendrobium Intermediate Non-Native – RHONDA SMITH (6 points)**
- CLASS 29: Dendrobium Any Other Species Non-Native – MATT CONNELL (6 points)**
- CLASS 30: Australian Native Hybrids including Dendrobiums – DICK COOPER (20 points)**
- CLASS 31: Australian Native Species including Dendrobiums – DICK COOPER (12 points)**
- CLASS 32: Australian Native Monopodial Hybrids (incl. Sarcos) – NIL (insufficient points)**
- CLASS 33: : Australian Native Monopodial Species (incl. Sarcos) – NIL (insufficient points)**
- CLASS 34: AOV Hybrid Over 50mm – RHONDA SMITH (12 points)**
- CLASS 35: AOV Hybrid 50 and under – RHONDA SMITH (9 points)**

CLASS 36: AOV Species Over 50mm – NIL (insufficient points)

CLASS 37: AOV Species 50mm and under – BRUCE HALL (10 points)

CHAMPIONS FOR 2025:

1ST PLACE: RHONDA SMITH – 201 points

- WINNER OF THE GLAD FLEMING TROPHY FOR 2025

2ND PLACE: PETER GOUGH – 128 points

3RD PLACE: DICK COOPER – 100 points

4TH PLACE: BRUCE HALL – 78 points

5TH PLACE: HELEN SEIVER – 76 points



QUEENSLAND INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FAIR
ORCHID SALES EVENT
FRI 20TH & SAT 21ST FEB 2026
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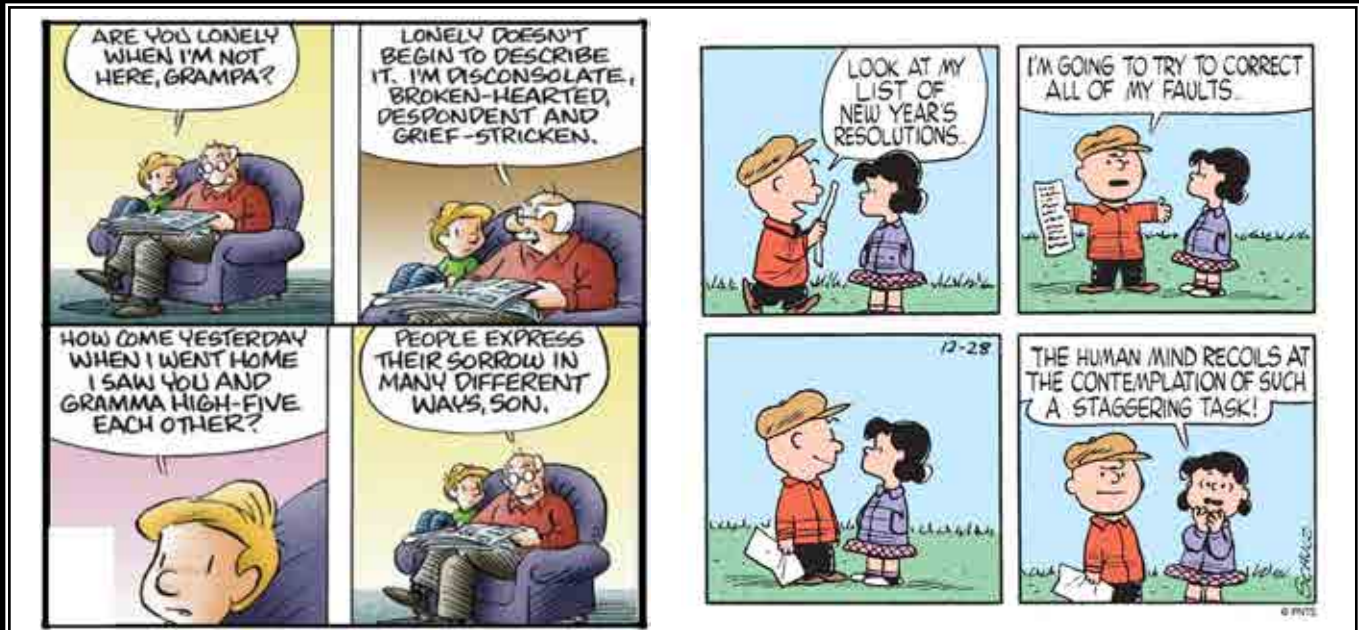
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ARE YOU LONELY WHEN I'M NOT HERE, GRAMPA?

LONELY DOESN'T BEGIN TO DESCRIBE IT. I'M DISCONSOLATE, BROKEN-HEARTED, DESPONDENT AND GRIEF-STRIKEN.

HOW COME YESTERDAY WHEN I WENT HOME I SAW YOU AND GRAMMA HIGH-FIVE EACH OTHER?

PEOPLE EXPRESS THEIR SORROW IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS, SON.

LOOK AT MY LIST OF NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS.

I'M GOING TO TRY TO CORRECT ALL OF MY FAULTS.

12-28

THE HUMAN MIND RECOILS AT THE CONTEMPLATION OF SUCH A STAGGERING TASK!

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Coffs Harbour Orchid Society 2026 Calendar

MONTH	DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
JANU- ARY	27/01/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
FEBRU- ARY	5/02/2026	Monthly Meeting – NCRBG NEUTROG (Biological Fertilizer Manufacturer) Member Plant Sales	Brian Klepzig, Neutrog Customer Relation- ship Manager- WA/QLD
	10/02/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
MARCH	5/03/2026	Monthly Meeting – NCRBG Australian Native Orchids Growing Plant Competition Draw	Tony Blewitt (Plus plant sales)
	10/03/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
APRIL	2/04/2026	Monthly Meeting – NCRBG Growing Bulbophyllums	Rhonda Smith
	7/04/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
	24-26/4/2026	Autumn Orchid Show – NCRBG	Set-up on 24/4/26 –1pm
MAY	7/05/2026	Monthly Meeting - NCRBG Tricks and Tips	Paige Sinclair/ Malcolm Ide
	12/05/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
JUNE	4/06/2026	Monthly Meeting – NCRBG Growing Vandaceous Orchids Member Plant Sales	Bruce Hall
	6-7/06/2026	WDOS/CHOS Combined Winter Orchid Show	Wiigulga Sports Complex TBC
	9/06/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
JULY	2/07/2026	Monthly Meeting – NCRBG "Growing Orchids My Way" Plant Sales - Dark Star Orchids	Moya Tucker/Phil Payne/ Silesa King - 10-15 mins each
	7/07/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
AUGUST	6/08/2026	Monthly Meeting – NCRBG Flask Production	Paul Smith
	11/08/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
SEPT	3/09/2026	Monthly Meeting – NCRBG Workshop/Demonstration - Deflasking (Member participation)	Peter Gough/Paige Sinclair
	8/09/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
	11-13/09/26	Spring Orchid Show – NCRBG	Set up on 11/09/2026
OCTO- BER	15/10/2026	Monthly Meeting – NCRBG Plant Auction	Bruce Hall - Auctioneer
	20/10/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
	29/10/2026	Rosella Orchid Nursery, South Grafton	Day Trip/Car Pool
NOVEM- BER	5/11/2026	AGM/Monthly Meeting - NCRBG Repotting an Australian Native Orchid	AGM/Committee Elections. Grahame Beatton
	10/11/2026	Committee Meeting	10.30am. Venue - 4 Jean Street
DECEM- BER	5/12/2026	Annual Awards and Prize Presentation Lunch Coffs Harbour Surf Club (TBC)	12 noon to 2.30pm. Awards Presentation

BITS AND PIECES

- Kiwi Potting Bark is available from Paige Sinclair at \$50 per 50L bag.
New supplies have now been received. Are you still potting?
Contact Paige to secure your requirements.



- CHOS **Monthly Meeting** will be held on Thursday **5th Feb** starting at 7.00pm.
Guest Speaker will be Brian Klepzig from Neutrog Fertilizer Company.
Plus there will be Members Plant Sales

Bring your Tolumnia Hybrid for it's next judging in this years Growing Competition.
It would be greatly appreciated if you would bring a contribution for members supper.

Judges for this meeting: DICK COOPER and WALTER KRAINIK

Assistance from members to clean up after the meeting would be greatly appreciate

- Dates to put on your calendar:

Queensland International Orchid Fair—Belmont. Qld. 20th—21st Feb 2026

24th World Orchid Conference. 26 to 29 March 2026 at Dresden, Germany



- **2025-2026 Membership fees for the CHOS are due on the 1st November and should be paid within three months of that date.**
Fees have been set at \$15 per member and \$20 per couple plus \$5 for each additional family member. Junior members (under 18 years old) are \$5 per person.
- CHOS offers three orchid shows during 2026. The Autumn Show is to be held at the North Coast Regional Botanic Gardens from 25th to 26th April. Set up and initial benching will occur on Friday 24th April. Full details in future editions of this newsletter. You should now start to prepare your orchids for this upcoming show. The annual Spring Show will be held on 12th to 13th September with set up on Friday 11th September. This year an additional show will be held over the winter period in an effort to showcase some different classes of orchids. This show will be combined with WDOS and held at the Sports Centre at Woolgoolga over the long weekend in June. Full details of this Winter Show will be available in the near future.
- The Growing Competition plant for 2026 will be a Phalaenopsis Hybrid. Orders are now being taken from members and the cost will be \$15 each. Plants will be allocated at the March Meeting. Place your orders and payment at the February meeting or direct deposit \$15 in the CHOS Bank Account with Growing Comp as the reference (see page 2 of this newsletter for banking details). More details will be published once available. Numbers are limited so get in early.
- Have some plants to sell? Then why not bring some along to the February meeting—attach the price and the sellers name to the plant. No commission will be charged by CHOS for these sales.
- The Autumn Show always has a massive sales table and many excited buyers looking for that bargain or unusual plant. You should start preparing your plants now for the sales table which will be held over the ANZAC weekend in April. Plants should be labelled and a photo of the flower always helps to seal the deal. Each plant needs to have a sales tag attached (see Paige or David) so growers receive the correct money after the show. The Society will charge 15% commission for these show sales.

FEATURE ARTICLE:

Paph. Saint Swithin 'Dora's Delight' - Part One

By Jim Brydie (Recently benched at a KOS monthly meeting)

These multi flowered types are rather slow growers but when any grower finally produces wonderful flowers like these it is a huge thrill when they finally open.

The hybrid Saint Swithin was registered in 1901, which is 124 years ago, and it has been a star performer and sought after ever since. It is a primary hybrid cross between *rothschildianum* and *philippinense* and although it



can vary substantially in form and colour, it usually takes much from the *rothschildianum* parent and is pretty much always elegant and attractive. Paph. Saint Swithin and its two species parents always draw a crowd when they are benched. *Rothschildianum* can vary a bit in shape and colour but not so much as the other parent *philippinense*.

Rothschildianum just about always has a crimson/white or crimson/green striped dorsal and a matching synsepal which is mostly hidden by the huge pouch of the lip. The pouch is generally greenish white or a little yellow around the rim but the long narrow bulk is red to red/brown

The moustache petals are mostly 10-15 degrees below the horizontal but can be anywhere from full horizontal to 40 degrees or more below level.

The other parent – *philippinense*, is quite a different kettle of fish. It is what I would call a very variable species. So variable in fact, that it has had many split offs to become either different species or named varieties within *philippinense* and these bits and pieces confuse what I should show you as a 'typical' *philippinense*.

As a personal opinion, I would say that the aspects of *Paph philippinense* that most attract growers would be a tall spike of 4 or 5 large flowers with long, pendent, twisty, red petals and the generally yellow and red overall flower

tones. However, describing the species as being like that would be only correct for some types.

One of those described desirables, the sharply spiraled twist in it's the narrow and dangling, red petals and that feature has nearly always been looked for in creating Saint Swithin. It is not overly noticeable in Dora's Saint Swithin but it is there. However, in some *philippinense*, the spiral twist can be absent or just barely noticeable, so the twist is not a feature you can use to define the species. As an example, the pictures in the set below are all species Paphs that have been at one time or another called *Paphiopedilum philippinense*.

Can you put *philippinense* on some and rule out others?



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)



(f)



(g)



(h)



(i)



(k)

Could you readily tell which is which? (I think the correct species names are (a) glanduliferum, (b) philippinense var laevigatum, (c) philippinense, (d) philippinense 'Gordon' and probably var roebliinii, (e) adductum, (f) JB's philippinense, (g) was labelled striatum so = glanduliferum, (h) just labelled philippinense but probably should also be var laevigatum, (j) awarded as philippinense 'Stephen' HCC AOC, (k) labelled praestans so = glanduliferum

When I first began to grow individuals of this group, I had quite fixed ideas about what *philippinense* should look like but I was far less experienced and strongly influenced by the various pictures I had seen in books and magazines, and the few I had seen in shows. As my experience increased, I had more and more access to the internet and to a wider source of materials, and I began to be amazed at the variations that existed. I had always known that each species varied within a range. Some regarded as superior, some not so, but the more I understood about *Paph philippinense* the more I began to wonder about the mechanisms for defining one species from another. There is more to the problem than the old argument between 'splitters' and 'lumpers'. For the purposes of this discussion, I am going to invent a non-technical term I will call "**the philippinense family**", because over the last 100-150 years there are about 10 species names that have been allocated to Paphs that all look a lot like *Paph philippinense* and if they weren't *philippinense*, they had to be at least cousins. Some of the variations that didn't quite fit were given new species names, some became varieties within a species, and the status of many switched back and forth between multiple names. It clearly was anything but clear.

At present I think there are 3 or maybe 4 recognised species within what I am calling the "*philippinense* family". In more modern times the *Paph* plants we see on the sales table are generally man-made seedlings, cloned cultivars, or divisions of named cultivars but this was not the case when I first began growing multiflowered *Paph* species. Back in those days divisions of plants were being imported directly from overseas sources. They were not illegal imports. Plants were coming in with the correct paperwork and going through Australia's strict plant quarantine requirements, BUT many were wild collected plants, or developed from same, and the labelling was unreliable.

When you bought a nursery grown plant labelled *Paph philippinense*, all you might be told was the country of origin (eg the Philippines) which wasn't very enlightening. The people collecting these plants might never have even seen the orchid's flowers so each bunch of that kind of leaves, from the right places, got called *philippinense*, and as you might imagine, when they did flower it was up to the grower to work out with experts just what it was. Sometimes they might turn out to be a different species altogether, in other cases there were '*philippinense*' in all its variations.

These are 10 species or variety names that you will regularly encounter in books and databases. - ***anitum***, ***philippinense***, ***adductum***, ***gardineri***, ***glanduliferum***, ***laevigatum***, ***praestans***, ***roebliinii***, ***striatum***, and ***willhelminiae***.

The status of each of those names (as I understand it) are as follows (accepted species names are in red bold print) –

roebliinii and *laevigatum* are regarded as varieties of ***philippinense*** or as synonyms for *philippinense*.
anitum is a synonym for ***adductum*** (which is acknowledged as a separate species to *philippinense*)
gardineri, *praestans* and *striatum* are now synonyms for ***glanduliferum*** (a separate species to *philippinense*)
willhelminiae is recognised as a separate species by some but others regard it as a synonym of *glanduliferum*.
So let's look at each more closely. The origin/habitat info is mostly from Charles and Margaret Baker's info on Orchidwiz. This may not be the most recent info but it is consistent across all for that period.

Paph philippinense – (is separated into 4 varieties - *philippinense*, *roebelenii*, *laevigatum*, *compactum*)

ORIGIN/HABITAT (for the whole species): The Philippine Islands. Plants are widespread throughout the islands from Luzon in the north to northern Mindanao and west to Palawan. *Paphiopedilum philippinense* usually grows in leafy debris on limestone cliffs and boulders, often in fairly open and exposed situations, from sea level to 1650 ft. (0-500 m). Plants are also found on a small island between southern Palawan Island and northern Borneo.

The broad description tells us that leaf length is quite variable and can be between 20cm long to 50cm long and the inflorescence length and flower size is similarly variable. It can have from 2 to 5 flowers. The petals are described as ribbon like, from 12 to 15cm long, and tapering to a pointed tip.

The variety called *roebelenii* seems to be endemic to Luzon island. It also is found on limestone cliffs around 500 m elevation. The inflorescence is at the taller end of the range around 50 cm with 4 or 5 flowers. The petals are longer, more twisted and dangle down almost parallel to the lip on either side. Petal colour is usually deep red.

The variety called *laevigatum* – is regarded as having shorter petals with only a small twist. It sometimes also has fewer flowers (2 or 3?). I can find little geographic information on where it can be found and where not which leaves me wondering if it is merely one end of the range of variation within *philippinense*, but the Taiwan OS does recognise it as a distinct variety.

Variety *compactum* – is found only on the island of Palawan and was originally known as variety *palawanense* but it was later discovered that the name *palawanense* had already been used for a registered hybrid name so the variety name was changed to '*compactum*'. As the name suggests, plants are very compact, about half the size of other forms. I don't know the variety personally, but all the pictures below are represented as "var. *compactum*".

Variety *philippinense*? – my understanding is that this is what comprises all that aren't one of the other varieties.



The pictures above are all given to be *philippinense* var *compactum*. They clearly vary substantially but are all shorter

Alba forms - are essentially albino forms that lack the gene for producing red pigments. There are albino cultivars within each of the flower form 'variety' definitions, so alba can't be a separable 'variety'.

Paph adductum (including all sub definitions of what were previously described as *Paph anitum*)
(The name *adductum* refers to the shape of the staminode, the shield above the column, and means bent backwards)

The Bakers give the same broad ORIGIN/HABITAT for both *adductum* and *anitum* and specifically uses the name *anitum*: **The Philippine Islands. *Paphiopedilum anitum* is found on eastern Mindanao Island, somewhat south of Surigao at 700-3300 ft. (220-1000 m). The holotype was collected at 1950 ft. (600 m). Plants grow in deep shade where the rainforest canopy is 40-60 ft. (12-18 m) above the ground. Much of the forest floor is exposed bedrock covered with a deep layer of leaves, bark, twigs, and other vegetable mulch.**

(It seems *Paph anitum* was only officially discovered in 1998 and proposed as a new species.)



The Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia offers the following for *adductum*: Found in the Philippines in leaf litter around elevations of 1250 to 1350 meters as a small sized, cool growing, epiphytic species with 6, oblong-ligulate to slightly lanceolate, dark green leaves with a hyaline margin (JB – hyaline means thin or see-through) that blooms in the early winter on an erect to arching, terminal, to 11 3/4" [29 cm] long, 2 to several flowered, pubescent inflorescence with green veined maroon floral bracts and all the glabrous flowers opening simultaneously. In horticultural terms, growers regard *anitum* and *adductum* as separate if only on the basis of colour. *Paph anitum* is known as the black orchid on the basis of its amazingly dark coloured dorsal and petal markings. The more taxonomic view makes them just variations of one species which makes *anitum* (at best) a variety of *adductum*.

As a useful illustration of the debate about them being one or two species I present you parts of a blog report from a Dr Tanaka in Japan in 1998.

(<http://www.orchid.or.jp/orchid/people/tanaka/orchid/org/newpaph6.html>)

"I have received this new information about a *Paph.* new species from a friend of mine in Germany, Mr. Olaf Gruss in Oct. 1998."

"This new species *Paph. anitum* has been discovered from the stream, south of Sungao, Mindanao Island, Philippines. The 'type' specimen was discovered about 800 m from the sea level. This species is very similar to *Paph. adductum*, don't you think so? The people around the mountains know this species as **Black Orchids**. In truth, this species distributes from 220 m to 1000m elevation. And the plants are not so rare ...

Jim Brydie will present Part Two of this Feature Article in the March Edition of this newsletter

ORCHID CULTURAL CALENDAR FOR FEB-MAR FOR COFFS HARBOUR

	WATER REQUIREMENTS	FERTILIZER REQUIREMENTS	DISEASE AND PEST CONTROL	OTHER COMMENTS
AUSTRALIAN NATIVES	Extra shading may be needed during hot weather. Keep moist. Water every second day. Evening mist on hot days. Avoid water in axils of new growths.	Fertilize weekly using low Nitrogen fertilizer at half strength.	Monitor pests and diseases. Regular spraying may be required. Especially check for Dendrobium Beetles and Boisduval Scale.	Seedlings may need more frequent waterings.
BULBOPHYLLUMS	Water every two to three days. Keep evenly moist	Fertilize every two weeks using low nitrogen fertilizer	Spray with a fungicide such as Mancozeb every four weeks	Watch out for snail attacks. Keep plants well watered when extreme heat expected
CATASETUMS	Water at least once a day. Twice on very hot days	These plants are heavy feeders so fertilize every watering. Or add slow release Plantacote Top K 8M to each pot	Watch for mites and scale. Bug Killa will control scale insects. Mites will need to be regularly treated with a spray	Good air flow is desirable
CYMBIDIUMS	Water every second day. Keep pots evenly moist	Fertilize with low nitrogen fertilizer every week	Watch out for mites, snails and slugs	Keep an eye out for flower spikes. Stake as needed. Keep in cool area to initiate spikes
HARD CANES	Water every two days during Feb then reduce to 1-2 times per week. (depending on rainfall—keep plants moist)	Fertilize every five (5) days using low Nitrogen fertilizer at half strength. As spikes appear reduce fertilizing to once every 7—10 days	Monitor pests and diseases. Regular spraying may be required. Especially check for Dendrobium Beetles and Boisduval Scale.	New growths should be progressing well. Stake flower spikes as required
ONCIDIUM ALLIANCE	Water at least once per week depending on rainfall and temperature. Let mix almost dry out before next watering	Fertilize weekly using low Nitrogen fertilizer at half strength.	Check for pests and diseases. Spray monthly with Mancozeb fungicide.	Top up using slow release High K/8 Months.
PAPHIOPEDILUMS	Water twice weekly	Fertilize weekly using low Nitrogen fertilizer at half strength. Use slow release High K/8 M	Check for pests and diseases. Spray monthly with Mancozeb fungicide.	Seedlings may need more frequent waterings.
PHALAENOPSIS	Water once or twice weekly as required	Fertilize weekly using low Nitrogen fertilizer at half strength.	Make regular checks for pests and disease. Spray as required	Repot those plants with spent flowers. Add slow release High K/8 Months.
VANDACEOUS	Water every second day	Weekly with high PK fert. @ ½ strength.	Check for chewing insects and other pests. Check for fungus and rots and treat as required.	Maintain high humidity and provide good air circulation.