

Journal
of the
Native Orchid Society
of
South Australia Inc



Urochilus (Pterostylis) sanguineus

**NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
POST OFFICE BOX 565 UNLEY SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5061**

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia promotes the conservation of orchids through the preservation of natural habitat and through cultivation. Except with the documented official representation of the management committee, no person may represent the Society on any matter. All native orchids are protected in the wild; their collection without written Government permit is illegal.

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**JOURNAL OF THE
NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY
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CONTENTS THIS JOURNAL

Title	Author	Page
Diary Dates		44
May meeting		45
For Your Information – NOSSA News		46
How its done	Reg Shooter	46
Czechs sentenced for attempted smuggling of NZ orchids	Bec Stanley	47
Orchids likely to be found in the South East of South Australia	Bob Bates	48
Orchid Grid – May 04	Les Nesbitt	48
Orchid Adventures in Tasmania, March 2000	Bob Bates	49
George W. Knight, One of Victoria's Earliest Orchid Growers	Greg Campbell, Gerald McCraith AM and Brian Milligan	51
A few <i>Dockrillia</i> species	Noel Oliver	53
Spore Water Workshops	Bev Overton	54

NEXT MEETING 22 JUNE 2004

Tuesday, 22 June, St Matthew's Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington. Meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. Doors to the hall will be open from 7:15 p.m. to allow Members access to the Library. The speaker for the meeting will be Brenden Killen with a video presentation that is not to be missed.

DIARY DATES

27th July	Ray Clements talk- Cultivation, hybridisation & general care of Australian native orchids. Ray will have orchids for sale.
16-19 Sept.	5 th Australasian Native Orchid Conference and Show
18-19 Sept.	Annual Spring Show
5 December	Annual BBQ Picnic
13-19 Sept. 2005	WA Orchid Spectacular

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Wed, 30th June at the home of **Bodo Jensen**. Meeting commences at 7:30 p.m.

MAY MEETING

Plants Benched

Epiphyte species

Bulbophyllum weinthalii; *Liparis reflexa* (2 plants).

Epiphyte hybrids

Dendrobium Avrils Gold; *Dendrobium* Ellen; *Dendrobium* Essie Banks (2 plants);
Dendrobium Hilda Poxon (3 plants); *Dendrobium* Jesmond Dazzler (3 plants);
Dendrobium Jesmond Glitter; *Dendrobium* Regal Affair x Aussie Victory; *Dockrillia*
(*linguiforma* x *racemosum*) x *pugioniforme*.

Terrestrial species

Pterostylis dolichochila; *Pterostylis fischii* (2 plants); *Pterostylis laxa*; *Pterostylis*
ophioglossa (2 plants); *Pterostylis sanguinea*; *Pterostylis stricta*.

Terrestrial hybrids

Pterostylis x *furcilliata*; *Pterostylis* Rogoff; *Pterostylis* Ruckman.

Judging results

Epiphyte species

- 1st *Bulbophyllum weinthalii* grown by Brendan Killen
- 2nd *Liparis reflexa* grown by John & Bev Gay
- 3rd *Liparis reflexa* grown by Geoff & Pauline Edwards

Epiphyte hybrids

- 1st *Dendrobium* Hilda Poxon 'Shorty' grown by John & Bev Gay
- 2nd *Dendrobium* Avrils Gold grown by Brendan Killen
- 3rd *Dendrobium* Regal Affair x Aussie Victory grown by Brendan Killen

Terrestrial Species

- 1st *Pterostylis sanguinea* grown by Malcolm Guy
- 2nd *Pterostylis ophioglossa* grown by Les Nesbitt
- 3rd *Pterostylis fischii* grown by Les Nesbitt

Terrestrial hybrids

- 1st *Pterostylis* Rogoff grown by Les Nesbitt
- 2nd *Pterostylis* Ruckman grown by Les Nesbitt
- 3rd *Pterostylis* x *furcilliata* grown by Malcolm Guy

Plant of the Night

Dendrobium Hilda Poxon 'Shorty' grown by John & Bev Gay

Popular Vote Results.

Terrestrial Species

Pterostylis sanguinea grown by Malcolm Guy

Terrestrial Hybrid

Pterostylis Rogoff & Ptst Ruckman (equal votes) both grown by Les Nesbitt

Epiphyte species

Bulbophyllum weinthalii grown by Brendan Killen

Epiphytic Hybrid

Dendrobium Avrils Gold grown by Brendan Killen

Plant commentary on terrestrials was by Les Nesbitt and on Epiphytes by John Gay.

MAY SPEAKER

Brian Tindall gave us an interesting slide show annotated with, often amusing stories, of the orchids shown and how he found them, invariably under their feet after many hours of searching. The quality of the slides shown was impressive. Many were of species I had never seen and as some are rare or restricted to particular localities, it is probable I may never see them personally.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION - NOSSA NEWS
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If your journal has a red dot on the mailing cover then this will be your last unless you pay your subscription fee.

How it is Done

Reg Shooter

The May meeting saw a nice collection of orchids benched. A beautiful specimen plant of an old favourite, *Dendrobium* Hilda Poxon 'Shorty' was exhibited by John & Bev Gay. The cultivar name of 'Shorty' referred to the short racemes only 10 to 15cms tall but produced in profusion. *Den.* Hilda Poxon is a primary hybrid between *Den. speciosum* & *tetragonum*, both very variable species. It depends upon which of the varieties are used in making the hybrid what the result is. Some have tall pseudobulbs with long racemes of large flowers others short bulbs and a profusion of smaller flowers on short racemes, some have pure yellow flower some yellow with maroon spotting and some are a mixture of both, to summarise, a very desirable *Dendrobium* whichever one you have.

Brendan Killen had a particularly desirable Hilda Poxon for many years. One day he noticed the plant was deteriorating. Like many of us he ignored it at first. By the time he decided to do something about it two years ago much to his horror when he knocked the plant out of the pot it had no live roots and had completely defoliated. He thought the only thing to do with an orchid that had declined to that degree was to put it in the bin. He was loath to do this with such a good plant so he decided to try to rescue it. He cleaned off all the old dead roots, cut away a couple of soft dry pseudobulbs that were obviously dead, doused the whole plant with a fungal powder then potted it tightly in a smallish pot packed tightly with sphagnum moss then left in the open to let nature take its course. In the first year much to Brendan's surprise a small kiki appeared then this year, 18months after repotting, a strong new growth has been made. It is safe to say the orchid has been saved. The moral behind this tale is never give up on a favourite orchid.

editorial from The New Zealand Native Orchid Journal June 2004 no 91
Guest editorial: Czechs sentenced for attempted smuggling of NZ orchids by **Bec Stanley, DOC Auckland Conservancy**

The Wildlife Enforcement Group (WEG) has successfully coordinated the prosecution of two Czech nationals in New Zealand's first documented case of native flora smuggling. WEG is an agency of representatives from Customs, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Department of Conservation whose role is to investigate wildlife smuggling. Smuggling of orchids worldwide is thought to be on the rise.

Jindrich Smitak, an inspector in the Czech Government Environmental Protection Agency, and Cestmir Cihalik, a professor of cardiology from a leading Czech university, each pleaded guilty in February to one charge of trading in specimens of threatened species. They were both convicted and each fined \$7,500 plus costs. Smitak also admitted three charges of removing plants without authority from National Parks and was also convicted on those charges, but discharged without further penalty.

CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. All New Zealand orchids are covered by Appendix II of this legislation. Appendix II species are not necessarily threatened with extinction but are those that may become so unless trade is closely controlled. International trade in specimens of Appendix II species may be authorized by granting an export permit. Permits or certificates would only be granted if the relevant authorities are satisfied that certain conditions are met, e.g. that such export will not be detrimental to the survival of that species i.e. is *not* collected from the wild (as was the case in this particular instance) or that the specimen was not obtained in contravention of the laws of that country, amongst other considerations. See <http://www.cites.org/> for more information.

Smitak and Chihalik were attempting to smuggle out of New Zealand more than 350 dried herbarium specimens of native orchids and other plant species taken from inside National Parks. They had 93 orchid specimens from 22 species (including *Microtis*, common *Pterostylis*, *Winika*, *Earina* species, *lcthyostomum* (*Bulbophyllum*), *Simpliglottis* (*Chiloglottis*), *Gastrodia* and *Orthoceras*) from numerous sites around the country to export back to the Czech Republic. They both also had a number (12) of live epiphytic orchids in their possession that could be propagated and/or sold.

If these or any live New Zealand orchids were successfully smuggled out of the country they would be highly sought after," Colin Hitchcock of WEG says. Despite media reports here and in the Czech Republic none of the orchids collected were on any NZ threatened plant list, the confusion seems to have arisen because all orchids are deemed to be threatened by trade under Appendix II of the CITES legislation.

The effects of this collection and attempted export are the perceived risks of New Zealand's native orchids entering the commercial realm overseas. This would increase interest and may encourage trade possibly increasing chances of collection from the wild to supply this trade.

The Wildlife Enforcement Group can be contacted by email at weg@iconz.co.nz, or by writing to WEG c/ NZ Customs, Box 29, Auckland or by calling 09 3596607.

Orchids likely to be found in the South East of South Australia
(or to have occurred there before settlement)
Number 2 of a series *Gastrodia procera*

Bob Bates

Two *Gastrodia* (potato orchids or cinnamon bells) species have been collected in the South-east ... these are the common *Gastrodia sesamoides*, usually a tall fragrant species, and the rare *G. vescula*, a depauperate species with small, unscented rounded flowers.

Before settlement however there were probably three as the straight potato orchid ***Gastrodia procera***, named only in 1991 has been found in many locations in south west Victoria. I have seen it in the Grampians and in Glenelg River NP near Portland.

G. procera differs from *G. sesamoides* in having the flower spike always erect whereas *G. sesamoides* has the spike curved over in bud. *G. procera* is usually a more robust plant.

For an illustration see *Orchids Victoria* plate 188.

It is even more fragrant than *G. sesamoides*.

It seems to have no real habitat preferences as in the Grampians it grows in fertile soils of open woodland, near Portland in fern covered slopes and in the Otways in poor sandy soils of scrub near the sea and elsewhere is more common in the mountains.

I would expect that before excessive vegetation clearance which came with settlement it would have grown in the more fertile forests on basalt around Mount Gambier.

If still present in SA it would most likely flower about mid November.

There is also the possibility that another undescribed species occurs in the Mt Burr area as very slender almost colorless plants were seen there in the 1970's before most of the district was put under pines.

ORCHID GRID – May 04

Les Nesbitt

The grid has been enlarged to 6m wide by 11m long and is divided into 1m squares. One corner is cut off by the access road. The extensive colony of *Diuris corymbosa* (*orientis*) is now mostly within the grid. Plants are appearing and many have two leaves. Amongst the *Diuris* are many *Pterostylis pedunculata* and one plant of *Ptst. nana*, both of which I didn't notice last year. They have got there without my direct help.

April was dry with only 16mm rainfall and that spread over 4 occasions. In mid May 50mm of rain soaked the soil surface layers and by the end of May orchids were appearing again in the grid. Each time that I pass the *Dipodium*'s I tap the stems and another shower of seed escapes and falls to the ground. This has been occurring for several weeks. One *Dipodium* green pod was flaked to see what will happen as I have not tried to flask this species before. Again this year there are 2 large leaves of *Thelymitra grandiflora* that look big enough to flower but I have been disappointed before. In the next grid are four *Thelymitra* leaves of unknown origin. When they flower they can be identified. *Thel. pauciflora* and *Thel. luteocilium* are up but there is no sign yet of *Thel. rubra* or *Thel. antennifera*. The *Ptst. curta* that were entirely eaten off last year have reappeared. I planted some more tubers in an adjacent grid and they are up and have larger rosettes. So far, touch wood, they are all undamaged. There are four flowering plants and nine rosettes of *Pterostylis robusta* but only two rosettes of *Ptst.*

nutans so far. One *Ptst. plumosa* is through but will not flower this year either. How long must I wait? Is the soil so poor that they will never flower.

I planted some tubers of *Diuris lanceolata* in summer. These have come up and are looking good. From last years' clump of *Eriochilus cucullatus* there were no flowers this year and only one leaf is showing, although there could be others under a layer of gum leaves that cover the ground. White fungus threads are growing everywhere under the thin layer of damp gum leaves on the ground only weeks after the rain. Is this a useful fungus for seed germination or to stimulate growth in *Caladenia*?

Leptocerus, *Acianthus* and *Corybas* are not showing yet.

Orchid Adventures in Tasmania, March 2000

Bob Bates

On a recent two-week holiday in Tasmania I was delighted with the number of orchids seen. As the only person in our party interested in orchids, it was not possible for me to do a co-ordinated study but as we were visiting all parts of the state, it was easy enough to look around our bush camps, tourist stops and at roadside breaks for at least the common species. A similar trip in SA in March would have shown very little, but in Tasmania there were orchids at most of our camp sites.

Just a few kilometres outside of Devonport hyacinth orchids could be seen along the roadsides, just a few pink flowers of *D. roseum* on the top of stems but with many seedpods in evidence. This is the only *Dipodium* in Tasmania.

A walk that afternoon to the lookout over the Mersey River Gorge (Alum Gorge) near Mole Creek showed the autumn bird orchid, *Chiloglottis reflexa* to be abundant, and what a neat species this is with all segments reflexed to emphasise the suitability of the name. *Pterostylis parviflora* flowers appeared in little clumps under the sheoaks with scattered pink *Eriochilus cucullatus*. With its broad petals the pink *Eriochilus* looked rather different from our Adelaide Hills species which is yet to be named. These pink 'rabbit ears' reminded us that it was nearly Easter. The beautiful pink flowers were to be seen throughout the north and east of Tasmania but were absent from the west where they were replaced by a slim, white flowered *Eriochilus* sp. similar to our own unnamed swamp *Eriochilus* from the Myponga area. In a patch of damper soil the fuzzy flowered *Corunastylis (Genoplesium) morrissii* completed the list for this track which ended in a spectacular view.

Our beachside bush camp that evening revealed a single *Cryptostylis subulata* spike under the ti-trees.

The next day saw us in the mountains and the remains of several summer flowered greenhoods appeared on clay banks by the roadside while on mossy logs in the *Nothofagus* forests the last flowers of the beech orchid, *Townsonia viridis* were just finishing. Already the leaves of spring flowered bird-orchids, *Chiloglottis gunnii* were appearing on the forest floor in vast colonies, otherwise orchids were sparse in the rainforest. Later that afternoon a quick stop at Sisters Beach turned up only a few midge orchids *Corunastylis (Genoplesium) despectans*.

A few days later saw us at Strahan, easily the nicest town on the wild and wet, west coast. We had seen seed pods of various spider orchids, *Diuris* and sun orchids but otherwise it was the same orchids previously mentioned.... but Strahan was different. In the peaty gravelly soils at the town lookout *Corunastylis (Genoplesium) pumilum* was located, rather a special find as this was a species I have rarely seen. On the rainforest track to the town Falls very tall spikes of the large potato orchid *Gastrodia procera* were evident. These had fat pods ready to burst. While putting up our tent on the edge of Macquarie Harbor we noted spikes of an undescribed *Microtis* with the last flowers still green.

I do recommend the boat cruise from Strahan out into the Southern Ocean, across Macquarie Harbor to Sarah Island penal colony ruins and thence up the lower Gordon River through vast areas of primal rainforest.... you won't see any orchids but they are surely there!

A few days later and we were doing the Tahune Forest treetop walk and visiting Mount Field National Park. The summer orchid show was already over but on rock outcrops near the road to Lake Pedder we found yet another *Eriochilus* with tinier flowers than I have seen for any of our SA species. Tassie does seem to have at least three species of *Eriochilus*.

The last few days of our trip were spent on the East coast of Tassie where orchids are much easier to find as the open forests mean orchids can be seen from a distance. A 10 minute stop in sandy *Callitris* woodland just out of Spring Bay showed seedpods of *Caleana* and *Paracaleana* and flowering amongst them the Adelaide Hills midge orchid, *Corunastylis* aff. *rufum*. Why was I not surprised to find in the same habitat as at Kuitpo in the Adelaide Hills the same orchids! There were also buds of some *Diplodium* greenhoods.

A few km up the road toward Triabunna another 10 minute stop revealed a greenhood I had never seen flowering in the wild before in *Pterostylis pedoglossa*, and what a spectacular flower it is. Surprisingly these were growing in hard soil amid rocks, not the 'sandy soil' habitat mentioned in most books.

Other orchids seen in flower on this trip include the same soft pink flowered form of *Spiranthes australis* as occurs in the Adelaide area. I am convinced that there are at least three taxa of *Spiranthes* in Australia... namely the tiny, deep pink and white flowered taxon from coastal northern NSW and Qld, the abundant and widespread larger flowered, soft pink and white species and the self pollinated narrow, white flowered species such as occurs near Ashbourne in SA.

According to the books on Tassie orchids there were many species I missed but I was quite happy to see as many as I did without local advice, use of references or actual time to search properly. Tasmanians are lucky indeed to have so many March flowering orchids all within a days drive from home! And the highlight of the trip..... seeing three different *Eriochilus* species in flower!

George W. Knight, One of Victoria's Earliest Orchid Growers

By Greg Campbell, Gerald McCraith AM and Brian Milligan

From a continuing AOF research project

Sir Frederick Sargood is believed to have assembled the first major collection in Australia at Ripponlea (his estate at Elsternwick, a Melbourne suburb) in 1883. His interest in orchids was sparked by a visit to England in 1880-1882. Not only did he return to Melbourne with a large collection of orchid plants but he also 'imported' two trained gardeners to care for them!

It now appears that George W. Knight, City Surveyor at Sandhurst (Bendigo), also accumulated a substantial orchid collection, beginning in 1884. Knight's copy of the fifth edition of B.S. William's *The Orchid-Growers Manual*, published in 1877, has recently been found. Not only did Knight inscribe his name in the frontispiece of his copy but he also noted in the margins the orchids that he had acquired and when they first flowered in his collection. Knight's notes indicate that he acquired his first orchids (seven species and two hybrids) during 1884, followed by at least a further 46 orchids the following year (other entries list only the date of flowering, not of purchase). A total of 89 orchids were marked altogether.



Four of Knight's first orchids, acquired in 1884, were paphiopedilums, then known as cyripediums. Two (*Paphiopedilum concolor* and *P. niveum*) were species and the other two were hybrids (*P. Dominicanum* and *P. Harrisianum*). His *P. concolor* produced four flowers in 1888, while *P. niveum* had three, results that would delight most modern growers. He also purchased two odontoglossums (*Odontoglossum hallii* and *O. rossii*, now *Rhyncostele rossii*) in 1884 but there is no indication that either had flowered. He had more luck with *Phalaenopsis schilleriana*, which flowered four years later.

Knight grew four cattleya species and must have been especially pleased with his plant of *Cattleya mossiae* 'albo-marginata', as (according to his note in the margin) its flowers measured 7.5 x 7 in. when it won a first prize at the Brighton show in Britain. Of his eight oncidiums, only one (*Oncidium cavendishianum*) had flowered three years later. Considering Bendigo's hot summer weather, he did well to flower *Odontoglossum crispum* in 1888, when it displayed its "beautiful pure white blooms" during the entire month of August. Another orchid that deserved special mention was *Odontoglossum citrosum* (now *Cuitlauzina pendula*), which in December 1888 produced flowers that were "lovely, large white, of great substance, (and) highly perfumed". *Trichopilia suavis* produced twenty blossoms in late August 1888, while *Sophranitis grandiflora* (now *S. coccinea*) also flowered in August the same year.

We know that George Knight purchased some of his orchids from William Bull's Establishment for New and Rare Plants of the King's Road, Chelsea, because a letter written by Bull was sandwiched in the pages of the above book. Dated 28 October 1885, it reads (in part) "*Your letter of the 15th August duly reached me and I have now forwarded by P & O "Carthage" a case containing the Saccolabiums as per enclosed invoice ... I have sent two extra strong plants of *Cypripedium caudatum* and *C. caudatum roseum* and charged half price for them. I have also sent extra strong plants of the two others that failed.*" Three of the saccolabiums that Knight ordered are now known as *Ascocentrum ampullaceum*, *A. curvifolium* and *Rhyncostylis gigantea*, while *Cypripedium caudatum* is now called *Phragmipedium caudatum*. It's surprising that so few of Knight's purchases died in transit, which would have taken about two months, as calculated from the above dates.

George Knight was born in London in 1831. He qualified as an architect and practised as a civil engineer before coming to Australia with a younger brother in 1854. After arrival in Victoria he was appointed Government Engineer and supervised the construction of a railway line to Williamstown and the Sunbury section of the main railway line to Bendigo. Subsequently he established a vineyard at Sunbury but soon sold it and moved to Bendigo, where held the position of City Surveyor until retiring in 1886. During that period he established nurseries, vineyards and orchards on four different sites in and around Bendigo, trading as the Knight Brothers. The Rosenburg nursery at Back Creek was established on former gold diggings only after turning over the whole site to unearth the fertile soil and bury the clay and gravel that the miners had brought to the surface. One of the most noteworthy plants at his nursery was a rose 'bush' measuring 19m long, 13m wide and 4m high! Another was the 'Grand Centennial' grape vine, bred from a Waltham cross, that yielded grapes measuring 35mm long and 28mm in diameter. It won a silver medal for "the newest and finest grape variety raised in the colony" at the Melbourne Centennial Exhibition in 1895.

At the Williamson Street nursery Knight built a conservatory measuring 40m long x 7m wide, reputedly the largest in the colony at that time. In 1895 he was said to have one of the largest orchid collections in Australia, comprising over 400 species, including a large shipment recently arrived from New Guinea.

William Knight was a Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria and served as a Justice of the Peace and Court Magistrate in Bendigo for over fifty years. He died in 1923, aged 93 years.

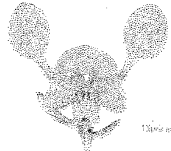
ORCHIDS

5th Australasian Native Orchid Conference & Show

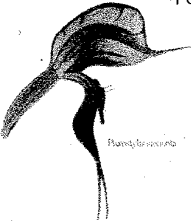
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 23 Wordsworth Avenue
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 Australia 2560

FREE SHOW ENTRY

Dockrillia cucmerina

Commonly called the cucumber orchid because of the unusual shape of the leaves. They are like small cucumbers. The species grows in South Queensland through to NSW and is commonly found growing on *Casuarina* trees. In South Australia slab culture suits it well but needs frequent misting in the hot summer months also requires ample air movement under 70% shade cloth. About six hybrids have been registered using *cucmerina* as a parent, a couple having intriguing names like *Doc. Goose Bumps* and *Zucchini*.

Dockrillia linguiformis

Commonly called the tongue orchid or thumbnail orchid referring to the leaves, which are flat and ridged like a tongue of thumbnail. Usually forms large colonies on tree fern, melaleuca etc. found naturally in North East Queensland to NSW south coast.

]

Dockrillia linguiformis grows well on hardwood of cork slabs quickly making up into a good specimen plant. Slabs need to be watered every evening in the summer months and in the mornings in the winter. *Doc. linguiformis* has been used as a parent six times including one natural hybrid *Doc x grimesii* (*Doc. linguiformis x teretifolia*) interestingly if this cross is man made it is called *Doc. Virginia Jupp*.

Dockrillia teretifolia

This lovely orchid goes by the ugly common name of Rat-tail orchid or by the more attractive name of Bridal Veil orchid the first in reference to the long thin leaves that do represent rat's tails and the second to the massive display of white flowers on a mature plant. They form very large clumps sometimes up to 3mtrs long a very spectacular sight when in full bloom. There are several varieties such as variety *album*, *aureum* and *fairfaxii*. Found in NSW to South East Queensland. In cultivation they like slab culture and need regular misting during hot weather.

Dockrillia schoenina

This species is a very untidy grower forming clumps of fleshy, grooved terete leaves. When young the plants long erect leaves as the plant ages they become droopy or pendulous. Slab culture best suits this species cork slab being ideal. Needs plenty of moisture particularly in the hot summer months and prefers to be under 50% shade cloth.

Dockrillia wassellii

This species is endemic to Cape York Peninsula in monsoon rainforests usually found growing on the trunk and branches of Hoop Pine. The main flowering period seems to be May to June (early winter) but can flower at other times. Slab culture is best to allow for its' creeping and bunching rhizomes. Good air circulation with plenty of moisture during hot weather. Keep on the dry side during winter. Just the one hybrid has been registered to date, *Doc Zucchini* (*wassellii x cucmerina*). These are just a few of the *Dockrillia* species that I grow and flower here in Adelaide reasonably successfully.

SPORE WATER WORKSHOPS

Mrs Beverley Overton, Deputy Chairperson KI APCB; **Workshops Coordinator.**
Contact details 1 Nepean Avenue (PO Box 469), Kingscote, Kangaroo Island 5223
Telephone/Fax 08) 8553 2374. Mobile 0429 110 ~62. (email not available).

[This article has been condensed from the information provided by Bev Overton. It is hoped that perhaps some of our members may attend the workshops and take a role in combating the aggressively invasive bridal creeper. Members of our society have been very active in the past manually weeding bridal creeper from areas where it has been severely affecting native orchids. Control by rust spores promises to be a more practical solution to the problem. Ed.]

KANGAROO ISLAND LEADS THE WAY WITH SPORE WATER

What is spore water? Spore Water is made by washing Bridal Creeper leaves infected with rust fungus with **rainwater**, and adding this concentrated mix to a clean spray unit (or another suitable container) containing rainwater. **Note:** It is necessary to always use rainwater as the chemicals in mains water and minerals in bore water adversely affect the rust spores. It is necessary to have a clean tank; lines and spray gun otherwise residual herbicide may also adversely affect the rust spores.

The advantage of using spore water is that the rainwater and viable spores can be sprayed over any foliage, and providing Bridal Creeper is also sprayed these suspended spores will infect Bridal Creeper leaves. Spore water can be sprayed when the day is warm or cold, when it is windy or just breezy or when misty rain is falling, or before rain is expected. It has been proven on Kangaroo Island in trial quadrats and in the field that only Bridal Creeper is infected by Bridal Creeper specific rust fungus when 110km of roadsides containing Bridal Creeper were successfully infected with rust spores by using Spore Water. (No other member of the Asparagus or any other plant family is affected).

What workshops are planned?

Four practical workshops are planned for Kangaroo Island (6, 7 and 13 July 2004) and KI Bridal Creeper Control Committee will fund these. Four APCB practical workshops are planned for mainland SA, and the Animal and Plant Control Commission grant will fund these. The workshops will be at Robe in the South East (Monday 19 July 2004, 10-1),- Karoonda, Murray Mallee (Tuesday 20 July 2004, 10-1); Kadina, Northern Yorke (Wednesday 21 July 2004, 10-1) and Fleurieu (Thursday 22 July 2004, 10-1). It is possible that some areas, such as Fleurieu, may need more than one workshop. If this proves necessary, extra workshops will be conducted from 2.30-5 on the same day. Other practical workshops are also planned for other groups. Naracoorte, Threatened Species/National Parks and Wildlife (Friday 16 July 2004) and this group will pay all expenses for these workshops.

Bush for Life, Trees for Life (possibly Friday and Saturday 23, 24 July 2003) and this group will pay all expenses for these workshops.

Who can attend?

Authorised Officers, APCB members, and any other interested persons.

At the July 2004 workshops there will practical demonstrations, or if the weather is unsuitable, a power point presentation also verbal and written instruction will focus on the creation and application of spore water. The workshops will be conducted by Dean Overton the spray operator who was involved (with Bev Overton) in the development of spore water from May to September 2003. In July he sprayed over 110 kilometres of selected roadsides on Kangaroo Island for the KI Bridal Creeper Control Committee and was fully involved with the establishment of quadrats, mapping and monitoring. In September 2003 he ran an impromptu workshop for seven of the Murray Mallee Authorised Officers about spore water.

Spore Water Workshops for Bridal Creeper Control

During 2 or 2.5 hours participants will learn

- How to recognise viable rust fungus spores
- How to harvest bridal creeper stems with rust infected leaves
- How to calculate the ratio between the weight of leaf to the volume of rainwater required to create effective spore water
- How to make the spore water concentrate
- How long it will be before rust can be found on the leaves of Bridal creeper sprayed with spore water
- That the spores clump together in rainwater and that this action is an advantage. A clump of spores means that when the rust appears, there will be a small concentration of rust that will be more quickly and effectively spread by wind and other air movements

Questions, comments and suggestions will be very welcomed during the workshops, and there will be time to chat afterwards.

The information supplied will ensure that participants in these workshops will be able to spread the word as well as the rust as far as possible across affected SA to achieve the aim of reducing Bridal Creeper to a manageable level. It is hoped that interested persons from Western Australia, Victoria and New South Wales will also attend a workshop so that other states can also use this method to more quickly spread a known effective biological control vector.

Locations, dates and times for Kangaroo Island

EMU BAY	Tuesday 6 July, Public Reserve, 10am to 1pm
PENNESHAW	Wednesday 7 July, Lloyd Collins Reserve, 10am to 1pm
AMERICAN RIVER	Wednesday 7 July, The Oval, 2pm to 5pm
KINGSCOTE	Tuesday 13 July, Little Brownlow Public Reserve, 2pm to 5pm

Locations, dates and times for mainland South Australia workshops

NARACOORTE, South East (Threatened Species and National Parks and Wildlife)
Friday 16 July 2004, 10am to 1pm (A second workshop may be from 2.30pm to 5pm).
Local contact- Randall Johnson Threatened Species Coordinator, PO Box 134,
Naracoorte, SA 5271. Phone 8762 3142, Mobile 0408 960 714

ROBE, South East Monday 19 July 2004, 10am to 1pm.
Local contact for more information - Authorised Officer - Dean Burgoyne Lacepede Tatiara Robe APCB,
Box 1, Robe, SA 5276. Phone/fax 8768 2993, Mobile 0408 854 602.

KAROONDA, Murray Mallee Tuesday 20 July 2004, 10am to 1pm.
Local contact for more information - Authorised Officer - Roger Kelly, Murray Mallee APCB, PO Box 58,
Karoonda, SA. Phone 8578 1493, Fax 8847 2500, Mobile 0427 813 861.

KADINA, Northern Yorke Wednesday 21 July 2004, 10am to 1pm (2.30pm to 5pm).
Local contact for more information - Authorised Officer - **Ken Rudd**, 51 Taylor Street, Kadina, SA 5554.
Phone 8821 1600, Fax 8821 2736, Mobile 0418 859 684.

FLEURIEU PENINSULA - Inman Valley Community Hall, directly across from the General Store Thursday
22 July 2004, 10am to 1pm (for Landowners and Community Groups within the Region) Thursday 22 July
2004, 2.30pm to 5pm (for Natural Resource Industry Representatives).
Local contact for more information - Project Officer, Asparagus Weeds Management Committee - Dave
Cunningham AWMC, PO Box 1565, Victor Harbor SA 5211. Phone 8552 9366, Fax 8552 3950, mobile
0417 858 457, E-mail asparagus2@bigpond.com

EYRE PENINSULA - Port Lincoln is currently being planned.

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