

NZ ODONTOGLOSSUM ALLIANCE

NEWSLETTER

Volume 6 Number 1 March 1995

FROM THE EDITOR

I'm underway again after a welcome break from meetings and the newsletter, however it was good to get together at Taranaki again in January.

So far no offers for a change of editor so we have changed the cover instead!! Hope you like it.

Orchid growing-wise conditions around the country have been pretty normal over the summer and plants are shooting away in new growth now particularly. Now is a good time to get your re-potting done if the shoots are coming away. Not so over the Tasman as the Victorians at least, swelter under 35°C plus some days. Heavy dews at night indicate falling night temperatures so it is time to think of reglazing and relining with insulation and checking that the heater and thermostat are O.K. The sun is dropping lower so watch the shading on your north and west walls in case of leaf burn on sunny days. Any damage now will spoil your plants for the big show in Palmerston North in October.

We will be having quite a large display and will be looking for attractive and spectacular Odont alliance hybrids and species from you for the display. If you can supply two or three it would be very much appreciated. It would pay to let your local club know that some of your plants will go on our display to avoid 'bad blood' when you get there! A questionnaire will be attached to your September newsletter to find out what we can expect from you.

It is not easy to find out what plants are being awarded around the country. We would like to publicise Odont Alliance awards soon after their awards are granted. Please drop me a line so I can contact the grower concerned for permission, slide etc.

A reminder — metal Odont Alliance badges are available through us, also the US Odont alliance Newsletter and we still have copies of "Veitch's Manual — The Oncidiinae" which we reprinted and enlarged. It is now available in Australia, U.K. and U.S.A.

Thank you for those notes of encouragement received with your subs. A short article (or long) would go down well at the same time! Remember I can send you a questionnaire to help you with your story. Just ask.

Ray Thomson has sent another very interesting account of his trip

He says it is changed from that sent to
the Australian journal.

Finally thank you for supporting us for another year with your sub. Best wishes with your culture. October will soon be here.

Ron Maunder Box 2107, Tauranga Ph/FAX (07)5525570

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TARANAKI SUMMER DISPLAY WEEKEND

This was probably our best attended meeting. Perhaps because it was in the afternoon after the 'Boot Sale'. About 40 attended.

Ron reported that finances were good and no increase in subs was necessary. Around 135 members for the year. No offers had been received for the job of editor so far! Alan Lewington spoke about our display at Palmerston North Conference in October. He proposed the theme of large pan pipes made from cardboard cylinders with plants on top. One or two other ideas were offered and further discussion will take place by phone and FAX. We do not (at that time, Ed) have a booked area yet. Ron and Alan to investigate what is available. We were thrilled to receive an offer of help and 'man on the spot' from Don Isles of Palmerston North. He has access to staging, backdrops etc and is not overcommitted locally. Needles to say Don has been copted as an honorary member!

Discussion took place on the work by Donald Wimber in the counting of chromosomes and sorting out tetraploids from the polyploids. Some members felt that many of today's hybrids are probably of mixed ploidy and once they have flowered well never perform again. They don't grow well. Other members disagreed and believed that when their plants went backwards it could generally be attributed to too long between potting (old potting mix) or leaving pods on too long. Ron made the point that most Odont growers here don't give ideal heated conditions in winter, so plants suffer. He had been caught last winter. In overseas collections 15°C to 18°C was the norm.

The Ray Thomson lectures were well received around the country as were the two from Phil Altmann. Video tapes of the Auckland Ray Thomson talk are available from the editor and the Palmerston North one from the OCNZ library (hire).

Alf Day then showed slides of the Phil Altmann and Clive Hall nurseries in Victoria. Some excellent flowers were seen and Ron will try to cover the nurseries and some flowers in upcoming issues of the newsletter.

At the end of the meeting several members went over to the display to see if any group hybrids could be made for future flasks. A very enjoyable weekend. Thank you Taranaki Orchid Society once again.

ILLUSTRATIONS

No.1 A new Cyrtochilum

A new Cyrtochilum from Molleturo in the south of Ecuador. The hybridizing potential from this spectacular new species must be exciting.

No.2 Telepogon nervosus

Near Loja, also in the south, this remarkably example of Telepogon nervosus grew in an area where it was remarkably dry. The plants are sustained however, by constant high humidity.

No.3 Odm. spathaceum

The volcanic rubble near Papallacta in the north, supported a fine colony of Odm.spathaceum growing as best as can be described, a lithophytic terrestrial. Pleurothallis, Telepogon, Lepanthes and Elleanthus were unexpected companion plants.

ECUADOR. THE RAPTURE CONTINUES

I awoke early the morning I flew out of Quito for the return journey to Australia. I looked out of the window to be greeted by a gloomy vista of thick fog. The lights of the city, shining through the mists gave it an ethereal peaceful look, quite pretty, too. More than I had ever felt before I did not want to go.

Quito is notorious for this fog phenomenon and the airport can be closed until the mists lift. "This will be one of those mornings. I'm not going anywhere today" I thought. My premonition was on the right track! I went somewhere, but not all the way.

Nicolas asked what were the highlights of this last trip which occurred in October/November of 1994. There was no doubt that the expedition to the volcanic hills and plains of Papallacta was an unexpected experience, I had never contemplated that orchids could be

so adaptable.

Overall, though, the greatest triumph was the knowledge that at last the CITES laws had been tightened up. This was perhaps the most gratifying news of all. No longer can the certificates be bought. Evidence of involvement in a recognised propagation program is now required before documents can be produced. I have been working towards this for some years and at last the system seems to be working. The officers at INEFAN, the plant protection body of Ecuador are not stupid, and can tell the difference between those plants ripped from their hosts in the forest and those genuinely artificially Newly installed x-ray equipment at the airport may also cause embarrassing moments for those that flaunt the new laws in the future. This trip, I even saw dogs sniffing bags before loading. Guyaquil, my Ecuadorean entry port, all luggage was searched on Things ARE changing. arrival.

In 1994 I made two visits to Ecuador and spent nearly 3 months of the year there! This recent visit had involved a time at the University of Cuenca assisting with their propagation of endangered species program. As well, we conducted initial tissue culture experiments with food crops and plants as diverse as babaco and bamboo. Bamboo? Of course, this is one of the most important construction plants in the tropics and those varieties which grow the straightest, strongest and quickest will be the varieties we will, in future, tissue culture. All this activity at the university was rewarding as well as important work, and the bonus of official field trips made the effort all the more worthwhile.

Where does one start in describing such an adventure? No doubt the first day out and the encounter with Telepogon nervosa and a large Barbosella, both growing in a very dry area, was an exciting experience only to be eclipsed a few hours later, at another location to find Masdevallia rosea growing happily with Nanodes medusae. The dryness and lack of substrate moisture continues to amaze me. This is a feature I have noticed many times, very wet followed by periods of very dry. Maybe we can learn from this, not watering until we notice slight ridging of the bulbs. I have speculated before, that as well, this is nature's anti fungal mechanism in force. As well, it appears that the arrival of the rains, is the catalyst for flower production. Oncidium excavatum in the habitat displayed shrivelled ridged bulbs, while at the University nursery, where watering was regular, the floral display was spectacular.

None of these expeditions comes easy to a lowlander such as myself, as at close to 3,000 meters, going on the rough steep terrain, is always a strain requiring constant stops for breath. My God, will I make it to the top? I did make it and as always, well worth it too!

In the south of the country in the Loja area, where we were, the forest is disappearing at an ever increasing rate. The sky was full of the constant reminder of the destruction going on around us, smoke. At this time, it was very dry and the Indians believe that the smoke generated from the random spot fires which are a feature of the

landscape, forms the clouds from which the rains will come! These old beliefs are hard to demolish and the remnants of the forests suffer consequently.

During this, my fifth visit to this country, I had never seen the air so constantly full of smoke. One can only wonder with a great deal of sadness, as to what fuel is generating these fires. Yet, the orchids live and in many areas flourish in what initially appears to be inhospitable, as well as abnormal conditions. Many eons ago, near Papallacta, the giant volcano Antizana erupted, spurting car sized rocks and magma into the air at an incredible velocity. A volcanic and hilly terrain resulted in what was then a forested area but during this activity, the orchid rich forest was incinerated. If the conditions are right, orchids must be the most tenacious and adaptable plants on this planet. Within this area now, many centuries later, there exists a wonderful variety of plant life including orchids, many of which are listed as epiphytes.

Telepogon is definitely an epiphyte, in fact it may be described as a "Twig Epiphyte" growing in a similar fashion to our own orchids within the sarcanthinae, Sarc.australis comes to mind. Here I found it, the Telepogon, growing as a lithophytic terrestrial with companion plants of Odontoglossum, Epidendrum and Eleanthus. I noted Lepanthus, Stellis and Pleurothallis as well. The Lepanthis is remarkable at such a location, as previously I have only noted the genus in areas of very high constant humidity and as an epiphyte. e.g. the primordial forests of the Mindo area.

The cracks and fissures between the rocks had become thick with moss and detritus blown in by the wind, and it was here the orchids grew and flourished with incredible vigour and remarkable cleanliness of foliage. As well, the number of seedlings, even swelling protocorms amidst the mosses and lichens were a cause for rejoicing as well as guarded optimism for the future. Identified at this point were Odontoglossum pardinum, Odontoglossum spathaceum and Telepogon hausmannianum. This area is on the edge of the Paramo, that treeless zone around 4,000 meters altitude and in fact the highest point before descended to the volcanic hills was 4,300 meters! odontoglossums grew exactly as described in Bockemühl's book, both as to habit and location, but, with a drop as expected and described, to around 3,000 meters. To my knowledge however the following had not been previously found growing in such a fashion. These gems growing and glowing amongst the rocks, ferns and odontoglossums, were the telepogons. This is a genus normally inhabiting wet montane cloud forest.

What a delightful genus is this *Telepogon*, the shame being that it is so difficult of culture. In Quito some success is being achieved and I saw plants in cultivation and flowering well after more than 12 months. The secret appears to be moderate temperatures combined with high humidity as well as constant air movement, quite vigorous too! Most plants I saw in captivity were growing in sphagnum moss with the plants and root system well clear of the moss, which tends to pack down too tightly. How they fascinate me, these *Telepogon*. Should you be lucky enough to spot one, beware, they glow in the distance, beckoning your closer examination and pleading to reside in the much softer conditions of your glasshouse. Of course, this pleading will fall on deaf ears, won't it?

There are more than 40 species of *Telepogon*, I am trying to propagate the genus by seed. If successful, the establishment may prove easier than those plants which are regrettably taken from their forest homes. Hybridisation may also offer up plants of more easy culture while maintaining the species charm of this genus. As well, it is interesting to note that more than one species of *Telepogon* can be found growing in/on a single tree. These are definite species without a hybrid to be seen, why? The answer is that for each species there is a specific insect pollinator. It would only be by some rare accident that a natural primary hybrid would result. I know of none.

The new species just kept on coming, new Masdevallias, new Barbosellas and a new Cyrtochilum from the area in southern Ecuador which also supports a few remnant colonies of Cyrt.eduardi and Odm.hallii. This new Cyrtochilum must be one of the most striking I have ever seen and the spike was not all that long, which will make it a favourite in cultivation if the seed I collected ever germinates. The habitat is disappearing and will, because of grazing, be gone within a few years! Similar in size and habit to the short spike or Nanum variety of Cyrt.macranthum, this was chocolate in colour, but with the petals brilliant yellow with rich red/chocolate spots. Maybe they were chocolate petals with yellow blotches?

New road cuts will always be a source for orchid discovery and research, as was demonstrated on this expedition and providing some interesting data. Within a few years of a new cut being made, the landscape will be covered with orchids of an incredible diversity of genera and species. Would you believe Phragmipediums, Draculas, Epidendrums, Masdevallias, Pleurothallis, Cyrtochilums, Maxillarias and obviously many others growing happily together on a road cut? Better believe it, but, around 15 years is the life of such a diverse colony. In time the shrubs and trees will mature and thus the all important sunlight will be excluded, with the ultimate demise of this rich and diverse assortment of orchids This phenomenon will however, only continue as long as there remains forest to supply the seed. Above all else, this appears to be the insurmountable problem, how to preserve the forest and the rich diversity of genetic material that exists within.

One day, should the forest that supplies the seed all be gone, this phenomenon will cease to occur. Yet, who knows, orchids are so tough they may happily prove my gloomy predictions wrong! For example, I saw a batch of odontoglossum seedlings growing where they should not have been and who ever heard of Draculas growing amidst the rubble of a road cut, all this without the protection of an overhead canopy. As the great, late Jim Rentoul once wrote, "Orchids grow where orchids grow!" He was spot on, however, let me add, that this is also a requirement. "The conditions need to be right". This appears to be so, if the climatic conditions are correct, an epiphyte can become a lithophyte or even a terrestrial. I have seen Odontoglossums, fallen from host trees and happily re-established on rocks.

The tragedy will occur when we, that is man, changes the environment and conditions to the extent that nothing, not even a cactus, will grow in the desert we have created. Natural deserts are aplenty in Ecuador and they are as delicate as any other natural environment. While not appearing to support any orchids, wonderful displays of delicate Tillandsias, Bromeliads and cactus will delight the eye of those willing to explore these arid regions. Wear boots though, as scorpions and other potentially dangerous creatures also live there.

Streams that run through the valleys of these desert areas do, however contain orchids. In such a place I found Oncidium ochmatochilum growing on a native host tree, then, not more than 50 meters away, an impressive specimen of a Catasetum, growing, would you believe, on that weed of all of South America, the Australian Eucalypt! The roots of the Catasetum held the bark so tightly in its grasp, that the discarding of the material with the orchid as well, seemed impossible. This was to me an incredible sight, two plants, a world away from each other in their origins, had found a way to cohabitate peacefully! And what of the mycorrhizal associations that allowed this phenomenon to take place? I believe, many of these organisms are obviously global in their occurance.

There is much to be done in Ecuador, this is a small country, and just a very small part of South America but with an incredible wealth and diversity of life of all types. The placement of those incredible volcanic peaks upon the equator make this place and its incredible life forms unique in the world. The salvation of this and similar countries must lie with our understanding of what is required in the

form of aid, as well as our ability to educate those who kr o better. If we are successful, our orchids, and I say our, because they belong to everyone, may be saved, along with the way of life we now enjoy.

What did happen on that day I flew out of Quito, Ecuador? Well the fog lifted and the flight was on time. There is no more spectacular or grander flight on a clear day, when flying out of Quito. No wonder the Indians worship these snow capped volcanoes that surround the city. I myself, after all these years can not take my eyes off them, until ultimately, they fade from view.

Over Grand Cayman Island and Cuba the weather was perfect, the flight calm and at 35,000ft the view superb. From there on things deteriorated rapidly and became the travellers nightmare! With bad storms between Cuba and Florida my flight to Los Angeles was delayed more that 4 hours. Nothing could get in or out. As we skidded and skewed to a halt in Miami, I noted the storm drains on the runway could not handle the volume of water. Some aircraft had difficulty landing, disappearing from view as the wheels threw up such a tremendous volume of water from the runway.

Our Captain stated we could not get in because no one wanted to vacate our berth. ""No body wants to fly in this stuff" he stated. Reassuring no! we sat there for an hour. Later, much later, in fact 4 hours later, as I flew into L.A. I saw the dread of all air travellers happening in front of my eyes. My connecting flight to Australia was on the runway about to take off as I was landing! That is not a nice sight believe me, but, for Ecuador, her people and those orchids, the inconvenience was well worth it.

As I waited for the next available flight, in Los Angeles, I thought about the experiences of the last 6 weeks. I had, in Ecuador been caught up in the unrest, protests if you like, caused by an increase in Government taxes on diesel fuel. I had also, for the first time in my life, been exposed to tear gas. It seemed the whole population was crying, the only escapes were the air conditioned supermarkets. At least they stayed open. I saw tanks as well as heavily armed military equipped with armoured cars on the streets. All this is accepted as something that now and then happens. Not to worry, unless one of those tear gas canisters hits you on the head. There were no Buses and a flight between one centre and another was telephones. impossible. I saw taxis overturned in streets ablaze with rubber tyres and oil at intersections and I saw those buses that dared to still run stoned with window shattering rocks.

For 3 weeks I suffered with amoebic dysentery and dehydrated to the point where I lost $1\frac{1}{2}$ stone in body weight, yet still I love this place! And I should point out that those demonstrations always cease for the weekends, only to resume on a Monday. All this as well as the most beautiful orchids in the world. What more could one want?

As Nicolas dropped me at the airport door in Quito, he turned to me. I guess we both had that old lump in the throat, you know the lump that accompanies such occasions. We embraced, shook hands, then Nicolas said but two words, "come back". I picked up my bags from the back of the truck, then in an instance he was gone, just an unrecognisable blur in the early morning Quito traffic.

Nicolas, I will answer your call, come back I will and it will be very, very soon.

As I write these notes, I know that it is only my body that is in Australia, the rest of me, that important part we call our soul, is still there in Ecuador, soon I must return to rejoin it!

Ray Thomson, Mooroolbark 3138 Australia

THE 14TH WOC and more

T was up early and had my washing in the machine and through the drier smartly. No one in London would bother trying to use a clothesline because of grime and lack of sun I guess. I even disturbed the foxes which lived in the backyard (I've photos to prove it). A phone call to George Black up in Brize Narton near Oxford received an enthusiastic invitation to come up for lunch. George and I had corresponded occasionally over the years and it was probably his unusual breeding of Zygopetalum which had started the friendship.

I caught the train to Victoria St.Stn and then the Oxford bus which leaves every 20 minutes from nearby gardens. The trip to Oxford was up the busy M40 to Birmingham but we turned off after half an hour to the picturesque city with trees and old cathedrals, into a central bus depot. I had time to shop about for some fancy bread and cakes and the consulted the timetable for the right bus. A fascinating array of village names such as Broughton Poggs, Ducklington and Kingston Bagpuize were listed and eventually I found a Burford bus that would pass through Brize Narton! A twenty mile or so ride out past a large RAF airbase brought me to where George was waiting and a short trip in his car had us back at his brick home. Jo, his lovely wife had our lunch ready and after the meal we chatted for an hour or so about their days living in Trinidad and the orchids there, then their return to England, his orchid breeding and eventual invitation to sit on the RHS Orchid Judging Committee.

There were many mementos and RHS award paintings around the wall to talk about too. Jo had been ill recently so he'd stayed away from Glasgow and he was in fact finding the trips to London to judge and exhibit a bit much. However I see he is still a judge. His list of Odont Alliance crosses over the years was quite staggering and covered 4 or 5 foolscap pages of typing both sides!! The diversity of genera and intergenerics he had bred with or created was astonishing. They also showed that he had been a friend and corresponded with Goodale Moir in Hawaii for many years. George is a quiet almost reserved man and I am sure if his approach to marketing and cloning his creations had been more aggressive and his agent more successful he would be much better known today. Instead, others around the world have used his pollen and gifted plants in their hybridizing programmes.

George's creations of Odont alliance genera such as *Blackara*, *Brummittara*, *Campbellara*, *Stewartara* and work with hybrids of *Odontonia*, *Aspodonia*, *Beallara*, *Burrageara*, *Colmanara*, *Degarmoara*, *Maclellanara*, *Odontocidium*, *Vuylstekeara* and *Wilsonara* over the years were part of an interesting slide presentation given at the Glasgow conference in his absence. It was fascinating and a real celebration of this man's life with orchid breeding.

We went outside and spent an interesting time in his small greenhouses which were packed with plants, compots and hanging plants. Amongst them were several of his more unusual Zygo alliance creations—Hamelwellsara and Downsara, which involve such unusual combinations of Aganisia, Batemannia, Otostylis, Zygosepalum plus Zygopetalum. A number of Odont alliance crosses had Comparettia and Rodriguezia blood. George refers to all his plants by their cross number like your local garage car parts man!

Back inside again, I was shown his lab out in the garage and had 2 flasks pressed on me as gifts. One showed this man's experimental interests are still alive! Instead of agar, the Odont alliance plants were growing in vermiculite and agar and growing well!

Too soon I had to leave this wonderfully warm and hospitable couple and catch the bus back to Oxford and London. We stopped briefly at George's old 13thor 14th century church where he showed me holy crosses hacked into the doors by the departing crusaders! If only George would write down his life story with orchids so it could be preserved for orchid growers to read in the future like that old church. It was

sad to say goodbye after such a brief taste of George Black's knowledge. Perhaps I'll get back again someday.

The trip back to Oxford is worth a mention. The IRA had been expecting me! Road blocks and police everywhere, a deserted city centre and outside the city chaotic traffic jams. A bomb had been found and defused and two more were supposedly due to explode! A long walk around the city outskirts and a bus trip back to London on my own ended a stimulating day! Tomorrow I would fly out of this troubled country to visit orchid growers in Canada and USA.

TO BE CONTINUED

GOING TO THE UK?

Remarked Pat Akehurst from outside Taunton in Somerset, S.W. England invites members holidaying in UK to drop in for a cuppa and 'see my jungle' if they are in her area. Pat breeds Welsh ponies and this interest has brought her south to N.Z. several times over the years. She remembers her visits and travels in our country vividly and also seeing our native orchids. Pat is now a keen Odont alliance grower and is offering us seed or pollen from some of her rare species. A recent photo from Pat shows a well grown plant of Cym. canaliculatum var sparkesii with two spikes! Now anyone who can keep one alive, let alone flower it in N.Z. has greenfingers, but in the low light levels of UK, is worth visiting! Now Pat would like to get her hands on the greeny/bronze form. Any pieces around? Taunton is on the M5 about mid way travelling south between Bristol and Exeter. Welcome Pat. We hope to hear more of how you grow your Odonts sometime.

ILLUSTRATIONS

No.4 Onc. aureum

Also growing as a terrestrial, Oncidium aureum may be found quite close to Cuenca growing on the roadside. On examination the substrate may be best described as a well drained moist clay. Cervando, the young Indian boy, is becoming a keen orchidist who understands the pressures being placed upon the flora and fauna of his native land.

No.5 Oncidium aureum

An apparent natural albino species from Ecuador and Peru. No hybrids have been registered to date but it has been crossed with *Odm.bictoniense* giving brown flowers with solid gold lips.

No.6 Cyrtochilum macranthum

I spotted this nice clone of Cyrt.macranthum var nanum, growing under shade cloth in Quito, the Ecuadorian capital. The minimum temperature ever recorded is 6°C and days rarely go over 25°C. At certain times the humidity can be low, so watering and misting become important even in the country of origin. Many collections even have fans in the enclosures to assist with air movement.

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From California we hear that Bruce Cobbledick of Unicorn Orchids has sold his collection to Steve Gettel of Sunset Orchids. Bruce speaks on odonts around the world and spoke at the Odont alliance seminar at the 13th WOC.

Bob Hamilton, John Leathers and Howard Liebman spent part of November/December in Ecuador looking at Odont species in their natural habitat. All three are well known growers and hybridizers so we hope to see some of their new 'back to the species' hybrids in the future. *****

From UK- John Hainsworth who is a guest speaker in Palmerston North in October, has been appointed a director of the Eric Young Foundation on Jersey. John is an odont enthusiast.

From Oz - Ray Thomson will soon be off to Ecuador again and this time also going in search of orchid seed in Colombia. We look forward to rare odont species in flask-not coca seedlings please!

Gerald McCraith in Melbourne is suffering 37°C temperatures. One day his greenhouse fuses blew and he lost some plants-mainly burnt through the glass that didn't have much paint on! Luckily he had watered earlier but some leaves with water in the axils were damaged when it 'boiled'! Evaporative coolers and fans are essential in that dry climate.

Our sincere condolences to Gerald who at 86yrs has just lost his beloved wife Nell, after 64 years of marriage. Hope to see you speaking in Palmerston North as planned, Gerald .

From the Taranaki Summer Display: - Dr. Jim Harper and his wife Eloise were back in NZ from Galena, Ohio. Jim has offered to entertain us with a talk of slides at next year's meeting.

From Auckland: - Cathy Hine's Odm.coronarium (photo Vol5 No3) finally received an AM award. She repots it now in two wallpaperers troughs. and each plant is doing fine. Attempts to use the pollen all failed and we hope that when it next flowers the other plant in NZ will be in flower or pollen from UK can be used to make a selfing.

Best wishes to Betty and Joe Vance, Alan Darlow, Ross Tucker and Alf Day as they leave for the Santa Barbara Show, San Francisco and Los Angeles. They intend visiting odont growers on the tour. Who is going to be the scribe and photographer to bring back a story, folks.





ECUADOR AGAIN!



No.1 A new Cyrtochilum



No. 2 Telepogon nervosus



No.3 Odm. spathaceum



No.4 Onc. aureum



No.5 Oncidium aureum



No.6 Cyrtochilum
macranthum

ODONTOGLOSSUM ALLIANCE

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

1995-1996

The Odontoglossum Alliance is an organization devoted to the exchange of information of and about the orchid plants in the Odontoglossum Alliance. A meeting of the Alliance is held annually and announced in the newsletter. The newsletter is issued quarterly containing information on the alliance plants, notices of upcoming meetings, and reports on events of interest to the Alliance members.

Annual dues are \$15.00 which includes the subscription to the newsletter for the period of August through May. Newsletters are issued in February, May, August, and November.

The New Zealand Odontoglossum Alliance newsletter may be received for an additional \$5.00.

If you wish to contribute to the establishment of the AOS Trophy for the Best Odontoglossum Alliance flower awarded annually, you may add that in with your payment.

To obtain membership send the enclosed form completed with dues, to:

Odontoglossum Alliance P.O. Box 38 Westport Point, MA 02791

NAME:			
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Contribution to the AOS Trophy	 	E-mail Address	
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Odontoglossum Alliance