

Central Vancouver Island Orchid Society Newsletter
April 2010



Dendrobium hercoglossum 'Dr. Carl Withner' CCM/AOS 82pts Exhibitor: Rob Elvidge
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Meetings are held September through June on the Saturday before the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Harewood Activity Centre, 195 Fourth Street, Nanaimo, in the hall on the second floor, doors open at 11:30, with the business meeting starting at 12:00 noon.

Coming Meeting Dates:

April 17, May 22, June 19, 2010

Program for January 23rd

Repotting and Plant Care

By Four of Our Members

Coming Events:

Vancouver Orchid Society Show and Sale May 7th – 8th 2010, Richmond Curling Club
CIVOS Summer Picnic, Time and Place to be announced.

Refreshments

For March - Thank you to: Maureen, Laurie, Shirley, Mike, Hilary & Fred, Sue C. and Bob Campbell

For April reminder to: Jeannette Franson, Nan Johnson and Angie Beltane

Editorial:

There are no minutes as we had no formal meeting in March with the Auction. Please see March for minutes we will need to vote on the 24th.

This is also coming to quite late as I got a little behind with the show and other jobs that sprung up on me.

The show is now over, but the report will be in next month's Newsletter along with the show in Vancouver.

I was asked to take the society's display to Vancouver and I agreed if we rent a van and that came about only if it was the only vehicle the society was paying for to go over. So the collecting of plants will be on May 5 to designated sites and I will be leaving before noon on the 6th. We had a record number of you bringing plants in to our show in April and I would like the same for Vancouver, please. I am building a folding mezzanine shelf so I can take even more of your plants over. Please don't make it a waste of my time. I am being hopeful and optimistic that you guys will come through with a fantastic variety of beautiful plants. If you have something really big please warn me in advance so I can start loading the van with them in mind. I will have to see if I can work out a hanging bar for plants as well. Be forewarned, I will really need the plant lists from you as I am making out all the little cards on the ferry going over so the job will be done before I set up. [PRINT PLEASE]

Cheers Mike

Cultivation of Tuberous European Terrestrial Orchids at Kew

By SANDRA BELL

A recent article by Dr. Tom Norman asserts that there must be many ways of growing the tuberous European terrestrial orchids and prompts this account of their cultivation at the Royal Botanic

Gardens, Kew. European orchids have been grown at Kew for many years and since 1983 they have been the subject of intensive research by staff of our Tropical Section and the Sainsbury Orchid Conservation Project. This co-operative venture between Kew and a privately funded project was instigated by Dr. P. Cribb in response to concern at diminishing populations of European and particularly British orchids. Its aim is to produce a method whereby these plants can be propagated from seed, thus making possible their reintroduction to the wild, where appropriate, and introduction into cultivation. Funding was provided from the outset by the generosity of Sir Robert and Lady Sainsbury. The first Sainsbury Orchid Conservation Officer, Mark Clements, brought to this country experience of the cultivation and propagation of Australian terrestrial orchids. His expertise formed the basis of this method of cultivating European orchids, a responsibility he shared with Chris Bailes who was then Kew's Orchid Unit Supervisor. Since 1983 staffing in both these posts has changed twice, the current Orchid Unit Supervisor being Sandra Bell whilst the Sainsbury Orchid Conservation Officer is Robert Mitchell. The fact that this method of cultivation has been used by a number of different growers enables us to recommend it to others without hesitation.

This article describes how orchids in the genera *Serapias*, *Ophrys*, *Orchis*, *Aceras*, *Himantoglossum*, *Barlia* and *Anacamptis* are cultivated at Kew. *Dactylorhiza* and *Gymnadenia* differ from this group in some respects and are outside the scope of this account, as are the rhizomatous genera such as *Cypripedium* and *Epipactis*. Cultivation of these and many other temperate terrestrial orchids is covered by a recent publication, *Hardy Orchids* by Cribb and Bailes, Christopher Helm, 1989.

Encouragement of the fungal association with tuberous terrestrial orchids is central to this method of cultivation and in this respect it differs from Dr. Norman's approach. The fact that mycorrhizal fungi, for use in the symbiotic method of propagation, are isolated from the roots of flowering-sized plants would seem to show that fungal association is as natural to the mature plant as it is to the germinating seed. Our aim, then, is to cultivate these two organisms, orchid and fungus, in a balance which is beneficial to the orchid.

An understanding of the life-cycle of this group of orchids is also vital to their successful cultivation. Most are well adapted to life in climates with a relatively mild winter with some rainfall and a dry, warm or hot summer. During the summer they are dormant, beginning their growth with the onset of damper weather in autumn. A pointed shoot rises from the dormant tuber and short roots begin to grow from the base of the shoot. The roots continue to grow as the basal rosette of leaves starts to develop at ground level. At this stage fungal attack on the orchid roots begins and in an astonishing counter attack the orchid feeds itself by killing the invading fungus.

In cultivation at Kew most of the tuberous terrestrial orchids have well-formed rosettes of leaves by the beginning of January although some species such as *Anacamptis pyramidalis* are very much later and may not be fully grown until April. While the rosettes are growing the new tubers begin to develop underground. They may form at the end of a root that is so short that the new tuber eventually fills the space formerly occupied by the old tuber, or they may form some distance from the old tuber. Normally one old tuber will give rise to one new tuber and sadly we have found it to be a rather rare occurrence for the number of tubers to increase, except in the genus *Serapias* where many species multiply quite freely. The old tuber diminishes in size while the new tuber grows and usually by the time of flowering the new tuber has reached its full size.

Ophrys fusca is usually our first species to flower each year, opening at the end of January, and is closely followed by many other *Ophrys* species. Broadly speaking the different genera flower in

succession with *Ophrys* species flowering from January to May, *Orchis* species from March to June, *Serapias* species from April to June and *Barlia* and *Anacamptis* during May and June. *Himantoglossum* species are always the last to flower in June and July. In many species, particularly various *Ophrys* and *Himantoglossum hircinum*, the leaves begin to die as the flowers open. By the end of July most of the plants are again in their dormant state with only the withered remains above ground.

Glasshouse conditions

The European orchids are grown in a glasshouse maintained at a winter night minimum temperature of 5°C. Ample ventilation is given whenever the air temperature rises above 10°C, and air movement is encouraged by a fan. Artificial humidification is not used and the 50% shade cloth which covers the glasshouse from mid-May to mid-September is not necessary for the tuberous species, but is needed by the woodland species and also protects young seedlings from sun-scorch.

Tuberous terrestrial orchids are grown in pots rather than beds as we wish to keep the fungus growing with each tuber distinct and the pots stand upon conventional slatted wooden staging. Water draining from the pots thus falls away freely and is not able to seep along and perhaps be absorbed by other pots and possibly transfer fungi.

Containers

Choice of pots, compost and watering frequency are all closely interlinked and have been given a great deal of thought and a little experimentation. At the moment most of the tuberous orchids are grown in plastic half-pots. Plastic pots are used rather than clay pots, as the former do not allow the compost to dry out as quickly as clay pots do and therefore the moisture content of the compost remains more stable. We feel that this is necessary for the fungi to work adequately. The need for a stable moisture content also influences pot size. Very small pots dry out much more quickly than larger ones and the resulting fluctuation in moisture inhibits fungal activity to such an extent that tuber size dwindles. A four-inch diameter half pot is now the smallest in use and can accommodate a single tuber. Five-and-a-half-inch diameter half pots are used for groups of up to three tubers of *Ophrys* or *Orchis* species or seven *Serapias* tubers. It is essential that pots have plenty of drainage holes as waterlogged conditions are as detrimental to the orchids as those which are too dry. Species which have particularly large tubers, such as *Himantoglossum hircinum*, or those which are known to enjoy more moist conditions than the others, such as *Orchis laxiflora*, are grown in full pots of up to seven inches in diameter and extra drainage is given by putting an inch depth of coarse Perlite at the bottom.

Compost and reporting

The potting compost complements the pots by providing conditions that are very well-drained and yet retentive of some moisture. A loam-based mix is used with sharp grit to provide drainage. Leaf mould is added to give a short-term source of food for the fungi and fine pine bark, customarily used for epiphytic orchids, forms a longer-term substrate.

The formula in current use is:

- 3 parts by volume grit
- 1 part by volume loam (unsterilised)
- 2 parts by volume fine bark

1 part by volume leaf mould.

The loam in current use at Kew is very fine, being almost dust-like when dry. Exact proportions of each constituent are varied from year to year depending on the quality of the available loam. In previous years crushed dolomitic lime was added to the compost.

However, this has been omitted for the last three years without any adverse effect and it would appear that the leafmould and loam contain sufficient calcium. Two years ago an organic base fertiliser was introduced consisting of equal parts hoof and horn and dried blood, applied at the rate of one teaspoonful per bushel (70 litres) of compost. It is very hard to say whether this has been beneficial but it certainly did not do any harm.

Tubers are repotted during August while they are dormant. Each pot is carefully turned out and shreds of fibre from the old tuber and root system are gently removed from each tuber. The new pot is filled to one third of its depth with new compost then one third of the compost from the old pot is added to ensure that a plentiful supply of fungus is carried over from year to year. The tubers are bedded gently into the old compost and then another third of new compost is added and firmed lightly. Each pot is watered thoroughly and placed on the staging.

Watering and feeding

Under normal weather conditions the pots may need watering two or three times before the new shoots begin to emerge from the compost. While the rosettes are growing the compost is never allowed to dry out completely as this is the time of greatest fungal activity. The plants need a surprising amount of water during the winter months and yet care in watering is paramount at this time. We try to water early on sunny afternoons and to run the water around the edge of the pot, avoiding the rosettes if at all possible. By watering during fine weather we hope that any drops of water spilled onto the foliage will evaporate in the relatively warm temperature before nightfall and the subsequent cooling of the leaves. Frequency of watering is dependent upon the weather and, during mild spells, may be weekly. The foliage, especially in *Ophrys* and *Orchis* species, indicates when the plants have become too dry by losing their normal glossy shine and will wilt if desperately dry.

As soon as flower buds are seen there is a need to avoid watering more than absolutely necessary as the leaf growth is finished and the new tuber fully formed. Too much water at this stage may cause rotting of the new tuber and death of the plant. The compost is allowed to become almost dry before watering and intervals between watering become longer until by summer the intervals extend to about one month.

Inorganic fertilisers have not been used in our compost as they are known to be harmful to fungi; in general, however, a balanced foliar feed is drifted lightly over the rosettes at weekly intervals during the winter. It is hard to measure any benefits of foliar feeding but again it certainly does no harm if done early on sunny afternoons when any moisture is sure to evaporate quickly and the temperature is warm enough to allow uptake of the nutrients.

Pest and Disease Control

We have found that, provided these plants are not stressed by inadequate cultivation, they are relatively pest and disease free. Incidence of pests can often be attributed to physiological factors. Whitefly provide an example, as they appear most frequently in summer on foliage that is dying down

naturally. Aphids occasionally appear in winter if the temperature in the glasshouse is too warm and the foliage becomes very soft.

We try to avoid wet sprays in the winter as moisture on the foliage can cause rotting. In addition, quite a range of orchid species have proved to be sensitive to malathion, a commonly used insecticide. Fumigation overnight has been a less damaging means of insect control. Propoxur has been used to control whitefly and Lindane and Pirimor for aphids. Lizard orchids, *Himantoglossum hircinum*, are sensitive to these three chemicals and are removed from the glasshouse before fumigation. If exposed to the fumes the foliage becomes burned and the plant may be too weak to survive.

During the summer, when evaporation of wet spray is more rapid, Savona, a soap-based insecticide, is used to control whitefly. Repeated applications are needed as this chemical is only effective against adult insects and not their eggs.

Fungal attack seems to result from allowing water to settle in the rosettes and careful watering prevents a lot of trouble. Fungicides have not been used as they would be harmful to the fungi we wish to encourage. By placing infected plants in positions of maximum air movement it has proved possible to arrest attacks and save the new tubers even though a season's flowers may be lost. *Serapias* in particular seem to be prone to fungal attack on the leaf tips caused, perhaps, by too high a relative humidity. This is not usually fatal and improved ventilation prevents any spread. Air movement and scrupulous hygiene reduce the risk of disease dramatically.

The aim in providing this description of the cultivation of tuberous European orchids is to invite comparison with other methods and to stimulate discussion. It is not to encourage collection of tubers from the wild. These species excite admiration from many people and there is no doubt that in many areas their survival is threatened by collectors. All orchid species are covered by Appendix 2 of CITES, the International Convention for Trade in Endangered Species, and may not legally be imported into this country without a licence from the Department of the Environment. European terrestrial orchids have been raised to Appendix 1 of CITES within the European Economic Community and all trade in them is prohibited except under licence. Permission to collect and an import permit are legal requirements without which orchids should not be taken from the wild.

It is our wish to see seed raised plants on sale to growers as soon as possible and some orchid nurseries seem eager to put seed raising techniques developed by the Sainsbury Orchid Conservation Project, based at Kew, into practice. It should not be too long before a selection of these enchanting orchids is available for sale from nurseries in this country.

Alpine Garden Society Bulletin, Vo. 58 No. 2, June 1990

Dendrobium atroviolaceum and its environment

By G. Hermon Slade

Taken from the Australian Orchid Review, September, 1967

For as long as can orchidaceously remember, *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum* has stood apart in my mind as an orchid of special charm. It is a plant which has presence and individuality. It is not one which conforms to the rules that would earn it horticultural certificates - they apply to Orchids which are either created round in shape or are the result of hybridists' sophistication in building up a flower round in form and toeing the party line of man-made judging rules. *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum* is modest in colour, its background is that of the riper part of an Avocado pear, splashed with purple. Its sepals are triangular and unlike many of its close botanical relatives, is free from hairs. Like the petals, it is freely spotted with dull purple. The petals are slightly more yellow than the sepals and are rhomboidal in shape which is one of the characteristics common to the Latoureas, a noteworthy section of the genus *Dendrobium* which includes *Dendrobium macrophyllum*, *D. spectabile* and about 25 other *Dendrobium* species. They too, are spotted with dull purple.



Photo by Bill Lavarack, 'Dendrobiums and its Relatives'

The labellum is neither flamboyant nor gorgeous but is rather regal or even papal

in that it is a fascinating combination of rich green decorated with pure Tyrian purple lines and spots. The inflorescences are erect and carry about seven flowers which are long-lasting and which display themselves in a graceful and modest way in that they present beauty when seen from above rather like a canopy, and charm when viewed from under when the full richness of the flower can be observed and yet, when viewed from a directly horizontal angle they appear almost as if they are flying.

This unique orchid has been known for 70 years - and yet it is one which has been singularly difficult to find in the wild. Of the many trips I have made to New Guinea, it has always been a hope and yearning to see the plant growing in nature. Although many other Latoureas have been brought back and appreciated as plants of much interest and horticultural merit, *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum* has remained a plant that eluded me.

In the "Australian Orchid Review" there have been several mentions of this species relating to its habitat. Its most famed habitat is Rossel Island at the extremity of the Louisiade Archipelago. When the Government made one of their occasional trips to the island, I found an invitation awaiting me to join the acting Government Botanist and keeper of the Lae Herbarium, Mr. Ted Henty, and Government Land Valuer, Mr. Peter McGowan, on a proposed visit there in November, 1965. The trip began in earnest in Misima, an island towards the end of the Louisiade Archipelago and which has the eastern-most airport constructed to date at Bwagaoia its principal European settlement.

We left Port Moresby at 8.00 a.m. by small plane and arrived at Misima in the early afternoon after several interesting stop's en route, including a refueling stop at the war-time base at Milne Bay. Arriving at Misima, we lost no time in an initial botanical examination of the local flora. We were given the utmost in help and hospitality by the local District Officer, Geoff Littler.

We noticed from plants in several gardens that *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum* is indigenous to Misima which probably accounts for its early introduction to horticulture as Misima was the centre of sizeable gold-mining operations at the turn of the century, and this required much timber to be felled to act as mine pillars. Consequently, *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum* must have been freely available. It was

in Misima, later that day, that we saw our first specimen growing in Nature at an elevation of about one thousand feet - half way up a vertical trunk of a sizeable tree. After the short excursion we returned to dine with our hosts and that evening we saw the vessel which was to take us to Rossel Island; a 43 foot boat with native crew awaiting us for an early start in the morning.

After a delightful dinner arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Littler, we retired aboard during a stiff south-easterly wind which, increased steadily overnight. This was at a time when the south-easterly should be giving way to the north-westerly as each is a Trade Wind and the changeover is in November from south-east to north-east and is usually associated with periods of calm. However, at the time when we set off in the morning it was anything but calm - the south-easterly was blowing at a steady 35 knots and the sea was as choppy as the English Channel.

We passed the Renard Islands in daylight and continued in the open ocean. It was singularly free from reefs considering the reef-infested sea in which we were traveling. At sunset we encountered the fringe-reef of Rossel Island, which extends well to the west of the island and by this time, the island itself, which rises to nearly 3,000 feet, was vaguely visible. In the brief twilight, we moved due-east keeping about 40 yards off the immensely long reef and in short time, a full moon provided adequate light to watch the reef which was made more visible by the heavy swell which billowed over it in a fury of foam and turbulence. At this stage, the ability of the native bosuns, of which there were four, produced a feeling of confidence in an otherwise rather awesome situation in that not for a moment did the speed of the boat slacken, despite its fifty foot or so distance from the Rossel Island barrier reef. The native crew watched the reef edge intently and by 8.30 p.m. the vessel was steered directly towards the reef and this created a sensation of nervous excitement which is one of the emotions which gives such a trip a unique and added pleasure in the end. We did what appeared to be a direct turn into the boiling and fearsome reef and in due course found that here was an opening, which only the trained eye of a man born and bred in the Coral Sea could perceive. Without reducing speed, we passed through the reef with waves breaking on each side and into the entrance, which was the width of a modern suburban road. At this moment the vessel acquired a peculiar motion as if we were sliding over some soft medium - lifting one minute, twisting the next, which provided an extraordinary appreciation of the nervous apprehension and excitement which every explorer must feel at various stages of his life.

The vessel turned sharply to port and then made, a "J" turn to starboard and we were quickly in water of extraordinary tropical calm. When we dropped within a few yards of the land, the coral sand fringed by coconuts was lit by the full moon as if it were fluorescent, so striking was the contrast between itself and the still, black water and the silhouette of the island against the brilliantly clear sky.

Next morning it was possible to look back and see the entrance through which we had passed and one could not, help but admire the navigational ability of the natives who had brought us in, in complete safety, through water described on the marine chart as "Full of shoals and many 'reefs'". Also, upon further observation, it became apparent that the strange "soft objects" which had created the unusual movement of the boat the night before, was due to the vortexes and currents caused by the high volume of water passing through the narrow passage. The reader can well imagine that where a reef surrounds an island like a fry-pan and where water constantly breaks on the edge and thus continuously flows into the centre, there is an incoming mass of water which has to find its way out and this, still picturing the fry-pan, would flow out through the handle. In the case of the reef, the water flows through one or more of the reef openings that is a consistent feature of every large coral reef.

Safely moored and thoroughly refreshed after a cool night of brilliant tropical beauty, we set out on our mission to one of the high peaks on Rossel which rises to about 2,500 feet. At first we rowed by dinghy down a small river inlet past native villages and found ourselves surrounded by a dense tropical mangrove area. We explored this by landing and wandering through the peculiar breathing roots which project vertically through the sand, watching thousands of crabs and those extraordinary amphibious fish, *Pteriophthalmus*, which spend most of their time out of water.

Orchids were quite abundant especially *Dendrobium*s of section *Ceratobium* with twisted "antelope" flowers. We were immensely delighted to find *Phalaenopsis amabilis*, in full flower half way up one of the mangrove trees growing on a vertical trunk with its leaves hanging quite pendulously.

The Rossell Island *Phalaenopsis amabilis* has a much branched inflorescence and produces flowers for months on end.

Leaving the mangrove area, we began a steady climb finding a veritable carpet of *Dipodium papuanum* growing in the ground, up trees, clamoring *Convolvulus* style, being in many places almost the sole ground cover. As we ascended, the trees became taller and the steamy lowland stillness was replaced by a cooler fresh sea-breeze, delightfully refreshing. We were now about 600 feet up the mountain. We stopped to enjoy the view over the village and reef when, there only fifteen feet up on a *Dillenia* tree, were several fine plants of *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum*. They were not rare either, we collected about ten fine plants on one large *Dillenia*. We sought far and wide and quickly discovered that *D. atrovioleaceum* chose only those places with considerable and consistent air movement and about 50% light. Picture a site anywhere from 500 feet to 2,500 feet on a mountain side, open to the horizon in front with huge forest trees growing neither closely packed nor remotely isolated, but almost as in a parkland; the sea and coral reef ahead and a good 15 knot 75°F. sea-breeze blowing consistently: the very site I imagine many of us would choose for a dream home: this then is where we regularly found *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum*. It seems to be equally plentiful at 600 feet as at 2,500 feet, despite the cooler air at the mountain top.

As we climbed the mountain, we encountered steeper and still steeper sides, until in the end we were climbing on all fours. Here in such rocky areas we found no *atrovioleaceum* but there were numerous *Begonias*, *Impatiens*, *Macodes* and such terrestrials growing on the rough and damp terrain, here too above 2,000 feet we found those lovely New Guinea crimson orchid genus including *Dendrobium lawesii* and scarlet *Dendrobium*s belonging to Sections *Oxyglossum*, *Cuthbertsonia* and *Pedilonum*, which are all characterised by their brilliant and long lasting flowers, peculiarly "New Guinea" in aspect. After the final, almost vertical climb, we emerged on a small plateau commanding a spectacular view over the entire island and its complex system of reefs. What brilliance, unbelievably clear air and cool steady breeze surround us! Green mountains and with little relief except where the rocky outcrops become vertical, was the distant view: delightful *Selaginellas*, tassel ferns, ribbon ferns, orchids and gnarled trees were close at hand. *Rhododendrons* at such levels are no rarity in New Guinea and *Hoyas* are plentiful at all places and at all elevations. This genus of interesting and beautiful scandent plants seems ever at hand in New Guinea and its surrounding islands. Some *Hoyas* have star-like flowers, others are like sealing-wax in colour and texture, others are bell shape; this group includes some large size species of a delightful dusty pink hue, the flowers reaching well over an inch in diameter; which makes the inflorescence a spectacular thing indeed. Here we found those colourful New Guinea *Dendrobium*s with flowers nearly as big as the entire stem and leaf structure. On the sizeable summit trees we saw *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum* facing the breeze and having scarcely a second without its stems swaying or nodding, so consistent are the trade winds in this area.

No plant we saw was larger than a well cultivated specimen, many of the new eyes and growths are attacked by insects so that scarcely ever a perfect plant can be found. Although the flowering season was practically over, the extreme durability of the flowers enabled us to acquire a few plants of superior size and horticultural merit. The Australian quarantine laws are so stringent that most of the plants we collected went to Europe and America where centres of botanical interest have received them with much gratitude. Let us hope the few plants permitted to arrive in Australia will provide seed material to delight the local orchid fraternity.

Now to return home with our collection. We left our Rossell Island coral haven, sailed due west to Sudest Island where we landed at *Nepenthes* Point, so named because of the immense number of Pitcher plants *Nepenthes mirabilis* there. These fascinating plants grow on the poorest of lateritic soils, which are almost brick-like in texture and hardness. Hundreds of dead and digested ants were in

each pitcher and, to our amazement, each pitcher was the home of a mosquito larva colony. The particular mosquito belonging to the genus *Tripteroides*, breeds in Pitcher plants according to D. J. Lee, Entomologist, School of Tropical Medicine, University of Sydney. These mosquitos in their larval state are fully tolerant to the *Nepenthes*' digestive juices thus share the *Nepenthes* fare and enjoy a watery home protected from enemies in an otherwise arid area. *Spathoglottis* were plentiful in all the open grassland areas, surviving the grass fires, which, started by natives, regularly destroy all surface vegetable life. The corms must be quite fire resistant like the roots of the Kunai grass, as the plants grow freely together. We left Sudest and steered through a maze of coral reefs and islands, which makes the area one of the most shunned seas in the world for major shipping. Yet in the proximity of sea and land, of reef and ocean surface, was a world of marine richness which must one day become a place visited by thousands seeking sheer natural beauty which can be enjoyed in protection from the ocean waves by the ever present reef; the climate is tropical but not uncomfortable and the fishing and scenery are supreme.

We wended our way for six hours through a mere fragment of this marine paradise which permeates the length and breadth of the Louisiade Archipelago, before setting out through the outer reef into deep water and thence a five hour trip back to Bwagaoia and plane for Port Moresby and home.

It was *Dendrobium atrovioleaceum* which triggered the adventure and my sincere thanks are due to the Department of Administration, Territory of Papua New Guinea for their kind invitation to join the excellent company of Ted Henty and Peter McGowan, which made the trip one of the most pleasant and memorable I have experienced.

CVIOS Newsletter excerpts No. 067-S-D



Abu Salleh wrote:

I am pleased to report that at the AOS Pacific Northwest Judging Center (Vancouver)'s monthly meeting on April 10, 2010, the following AOS awards were granted:

Lert: *Miltonia* (Linda Marie Sellon x Saffron Surprise) 'Lemon Chiffon' HCC/AOS 79pts *award is provisional pending hybrid registration Exhibitor: Poul Hansen

Right: *Phalaenopsis* Taisuco Date 'Diana Burritt's Yellow Monkeys' HCC/AOS 79pts (*Phalaenopsis* Brother Lawrence x *Phalaenopsis* Taisuco Glory) Exhibitor: Abu Salleh

Page one: *Dendrobium hercoglossum* 'Dr. Carl Withner' CCM/AOS 82pts Exhibitor: Rob Elvidge

Photo: by Judith Higham the judging site Photographer.