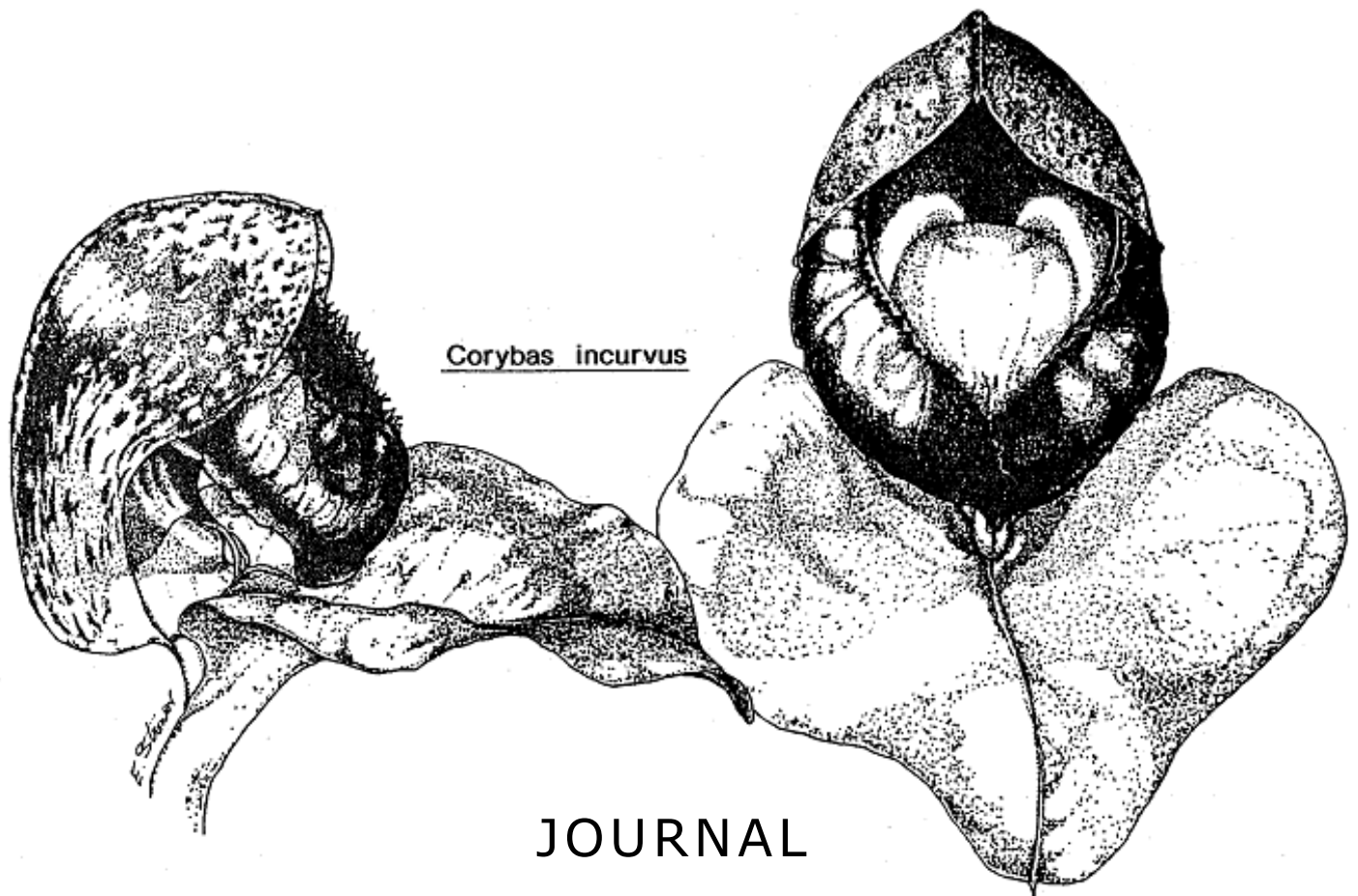


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NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY
of
SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia promotes the conservation of native orchids through cultivation of native orchids, through preservation of naturally-occurring orchid plants and natural habitat.

Except with documented official representation from the Management Committee of the native orchid society of South Australia, no person is authorised to represent the society on any matter.

All native orchids are protected plants in the wild. Their collection without written Government permit is illegal.

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NEXT MEETING

When: Tuesday, 23 October, 1990, at 8.00 p.m.

Where: St Matthews Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington_

Why: A culture evening and potting demonstration
presented by Les Nesbitt.

Visitors welcome.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr B.J. Conlon, Coromandel Valley
Mr and Mrs G. Hawkins, Elizabeth Downs
Mr P. Lang, Urrbrae
Mr D.J. Miller, Upper Hermitage
Mr and Mrs K. Roberts, Heathmont
Mr I.G. Wilson, St. Agnes
Mr W.G. Deer, Oaklands Park.

LAST MEETING

Due to unforeseen circumstances our September speaker was unable to attend. Committee will establish a back-up programme to cover such absences in future.

PLANTS BENCHED SEPTEMBER MEETING

Terrestrials

Pterostylis cucullata
P. cucullata x *P. curta*
Caladenia tentaculata x
 C. patersonii
 (natural "back-
 yard" cross)
C. tentaculata
Diuris aurea
D. corymbosa
D. punctata ("Old Vic")
Glossodia major
Elythanthra brunonis

Epiphytes

Dendrobium x *delicatum*
D. Ellen
D. Ellen Enfield
D. Golden Fleck (x 2)
D. gracilicaule
D. kingianum
D. kingianum Albert West
D. Ku-Ring-Gai x *D.*
 speciosum
D. linguiforme
D. macropus sub *gracilicaule*
D. Rutherford Surprise
 (*kingianum* Wongera)
D. striolatum
D. teretifolium
D. tetragonum var *giganteum*
D. tetragonum var *tetragonum*
Sarcochilus hartmannii (x 3)
S. veralica

COMMENTATORS

Terrestrials

Don Wells

Epiphytes

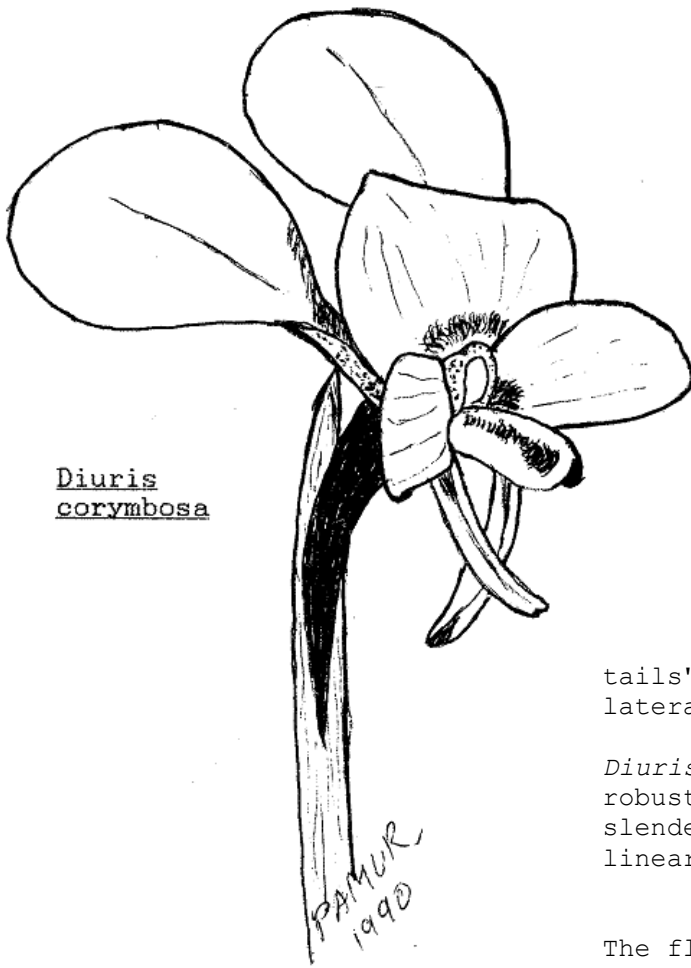
Ron Robjohns



Diuris punctata

PLANT OF THE MONTH

DIURIS CORYMBOSA. (formerly *longifolia*) Wally Walloscheck



Diuris
corymbosa

Diuris Corymbosa is, in my opinion, one of the most beautiful orchids of this genus. The large flowers, usually two or three in a loose raceme, are variably coloured from clone to clone. The colours basically are golden yellow and brown and fusings of the two; or golden yellow, purple and brown and fusings of the three. The latter with the three colours gives the orchid its common name, the "wall-flower orchid".

The genus was named by James Edward Smith in 1798. Its name "*Diuris*" is derived from two Greek words meaning "two tails", referring to the two long lateral sepals.

Diuris corymbosa is one of the more robust members of the genus. It is a slender, erect plant with two or three linear leaves.

The flower has two petals which are held erect behind a broad dorsal sepal. The petals can be ovate or circular in shape, depending on the clone. Differently shaped and coloured clones can be less than 100 metres apart (as they are on my property in Ironbank) - *Diuris corymbosa* is delightfully variable. The labellum, with its edges entire, is deeply three-lobed, the lateral lobes being nearly as long as the mid-lobe. At the basal end of the mid-lobe there is a raised line extending in a central keel to the tip. The lateral sepals which hang down below the labellum, can be parallel or politely crossed near the tips, sometimes both ways on the same raceme.

The tubers are spaghetti-like and sometimes have a yearly increase of four, hence the ability for this *Diuris* to produce dense colonies.

This attractive species can grow quite tall (up to 65 cm or more) and is widespread in the damper grasslands, heathlands and open forests.

Diuris corymbosa flowers from July to October.

NOSSA SPRING SHOW 1990
PRIZE LIST

CLASS	GROWER	
1	<i>Caladenia</i> or <i>Glossodia</i> species	
	1 st <i>Caladenia behrii</i>	R. Bates
	2 nd <i>Caladenia hirta</i>	R. Bates
2	<i>Diuris</i> species	
	1 st <i>Diuris corymbosa</i>	Black Hill Flora Centre
	2 nd <i>Diuris corymbosa</i>	Black Hill Flora Centre
3	<i>Pterostylis</i> species	
	1 st <i>Pterostylis pedunculata</i>	M. and O. Fuller
	2 nd <i>Pterostylis baptistii</i>	D. Wells
4	<i>Acianthus</i> or <i>Chiloglottis</i> species	
	1 st <i>Chiloglottis trapeziformis</i>	R. Bates
	2 nd <i>Chiloglottis truncata</i>	R.S. Rogers Shadehouse
5	Terrestrial species other than in cl. 1 to 4	
	1 st <i>Lyperanthus suaveolens</i>	D. Wells
	2 nd <i>Thelymitra nuda</i>	D. Wells
6	<i>Pterostylis</i> hybrid	
	1 st <i>Pterostylis curta</i> x <i>pedunculata</i>	R. Bates
	2 nd <i>Pterostylis</i> Cutie "Showtime"	G. Edwards
7	Terrestrial hybrid other than in class 6	
	1 st x <i>Calassodia tutelata</i>	R.S. Rogers Shadehouse
	2 nd <i>Diuris</i> Pioneer	Black Hill Flora Centre
8	Specimen Terrestrial species or hybrid	
	1 st <i>Chiloglottis trapeziformis</i>	R. Bates
	2 nd <i>Pterostylis pedunculata</i>	M. and O. Fuller
9	<i>Dendrobium kingianum</i>	
	1 st Corrigan's Red	B. Mules
	2 nd Albert West	D. Wells
10	<i>Dendrobium speciosum</i>	
	1 st var. <i>grandiflorum</i> "Kroombit Gold"	B. Mules
	2 nd var. Yarramalong	B. Mules
11	<i>Dendrobium</i> species other than class 9 or 10	
	1 st <i>Dendrobium tetragonum</i>	M. Maxwell
	2 nd <i>Dendrobium gracilicaule</i>	R. Robjohns
12	Epiphytic species other than <i>Dendrobium</i>	
	1 st <i>Sarcochilus falcatus</i>	G. Brooks
	2 nd <i>Sarcochilus falcatus</i>	R. Robjohns
13	Epiphytic hybrid - cream or yellow	
	1 st <i>Dendrobium</i> x <i>gracillimum</i> "Purity"	B. Mules
	2 nd <i>Dendrobium</i> Hilda Poxon	B. Mules

NOSSA SPRING SHOW 1990 PRIZE LIST (contd.)

- | | | |
|----|--|-------------------|
| 14 | Epiphytic hybrid - pink or red | |
| | 1 st <i>Dendrobium</i> Bardo Rose | B. Mules |
| | 2 nd <i>Dendrobium</i> Pee Wee | B. Mules |
| 15 | Epiphytic hybrid - any other colour including white | |
| | 1 st <i>Dendrobium</i> Aussie Starlight x
Gillian Leaney | B. Mules |
| | 2 nd <i>Dendrobium</i> Jamie Upton | R. and G. Shooter |
| 16 | Specimen epiphyte--species or hybrid | |
| | 1 st <i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> | R. Robjohns |
| | 2 nd <i>Dendrobium</i> x <i>gracillimum</i> | B. Mules |
| 17 | Best Table Top Display | |
| | 1 st R. and G. Shooter | |
| | 2 nd L. Burgess | |

CHAMPION NATIVE ORCHID OF THE SHOW
 var. *grandiflorum* "Kroombit Gold"
 B. Mules

THE ROY HARGREAVES TROPHY (Best Terrestrial Species or Hybrid)
Calassodia tutelata
 R.S. Rogers Shadehouse

IRA BUTLER AWARD (Best Hybrid)
Dendrobium Bardo Rose
 B. Mules

CHAMPION TERRESTRIAL SPECIES (from classes 1-5, 8)
Caladenia behrii
 R. Bates

CHAMPION TERRESTRIAL HYBRID (from classes 6-8)
Calassodia tutelata
 R.S. Rogers Shadehouse

CHAMPION EPIPHYTIC SPECIES (from classes 9-12, 16)
Dendrobium speciosum var. *grandiflorum* "Kroombit Gold"
 Bruce Mules

CHAMPION EPIPHYTIC HYBRID (from classes 13-16)
Dendrobium Bardo Rose
 Bruce Mules

"*Caladenia rigida*. *C. behrii*

Special"

Fifteen people met at Les and Kay Nesbitt's Orchid Nursery, Kersbrook, on a glorious early spring morning. It was in fact the first warm, sunny day for nearly three months and the prediction was made that the combination of cold, cloudy winter and late start to the wet season might well have retarded flowering of the spider orchids we were seeking. Previous records showed that both *C. rigida* and *C. behrii* normally begin flowering in late August (it was now September 8) but our prediction was to prove correct!

Our first stop on Mt Gawler quickly showed that there were numerous buds of both the orchids we were seeking. *C. rigida* is, as the name suggests, a short segmented, rigid sepelled species - glistening white flowers, red striped below with clubs of red or yellow - *C. behrii* on the other hand has long drooping segments, glandular on both sepals and petals, beautifully fragrant white flowers with contrasting red labellum. Both species are rare and occur only in the Adelaide Hills. Curiously these two restricted endemics normally occur together.

Thirty minutes searching revealed three *C. rigida* in flower - small insipid specimens reflecting the poor season. Strangely one flower had already been pollinated. Large numbers of the vivid blue *Caladenia deformis* made up for the lack of *C. rigida* and odd flowers of *Pterostylis nana* and *P. nutans* were seen.

Our second stop (made on impulse on the side of the main Kersbrook/One Tree Hill road) revealed some of the largest *C. deformis* flowers we had ever seen and a perfect double header *C. rigida* which saw the photographers spring into action.

Our final stop was made near Humbug Scrub - a last ditch attempt to find *C. behrii* in flower, but again - only buds two days to a week from flowering. At least there were more greenhoods, donkey orchids and helmet orchids to make up for the lack of spiders.

Conclusion: it is a poor year for orchids. Those areas visited previously had provided a riot of colour today the number and variety of orchids was well down. Indeed we spent more time looking at *Drosera* and *Wurmbea* (Sundew and Early Nancies) simply because they were more available!



Pterostylis nana

Field Trip Report (contd.)

ORCHIDS SEEN	Stop 1	Mt Gawler South
	Stop 2	Mt Gawler North
	Stop 3	Humbug Scrub

Flowers:

Acianthus exsertus - 1,2,3
Caladenia deformis - 1,2,3
C. rigida - 1,2
Corybas diemenicus - 3
C. incurvus - 3
Cyrtostylis reniformis - 2
Diuris pardina - 3
Pterostylis longifolia - 3
P. nana - 1,2,3
P. nutans - 1,2
P. pedunculata - 1,2

In bud:

Caladenia behrii - 1, 2, 3
C. tentaculata - 1,2,3
C. reticulata - 3
Thelymitra - (5 species)

Leaves:

Microtis
Eriochilus

Gary Guide

NEW MEMBERS' GROUP

The new members group has been formed with an impromptu meeting called for Friday night, 28 September. The meeting discussed a plan of action and the following points emerged as a starter for the group -

The leader for 12 months is Don Wells with Graham and Jan Burford prepared to take over. They will form a focal point for members to direct questions, welcome new members and assist with extra planned activities.

Definition of a new member - any member new or old who considers they would benefit from extra tuition. This will take the form of visits to private collections with cultivation help, visits to nurseries, cultivation information for terrestrials and epiphytes - including potting, mounting and pollination, occasional extra field trips and slide evenings. The Journal will be used to report on activities and advise of coming events.

Members are asked to wear their name tags on all occasions to introduce themselves and help make it a friendly atmosphere.

First Activity - Visit to Don and Bub Wells with an introduction to basic orchids.

Where: 86 Pitman Road, Windsor Gardens
 When: Saturday afternoon, 27 October
 Time: 2.00 p.m.

Please wear name tag.

Enquiries - Don Wells (261 6030) or
 Graham and Jan Burford (45 3085)

DENDROBIUM AEMULUM

(Iron Bark Orchid) Robt. Brown

R. T. Robjohns.

There are several growth forms of *Dendrobium aemulum* due probably to the wide variety of habitats, the flowers of all forms being similar. It has a range from the Clyde River in south-eastern New South Wales to the Atherton Tablelands in Queensland.

Those growing in the rainforests of New South Wales and Queensland have straight stems up to 20 cm long with 2-4 shining dark green leaves. On the edge of the rainforests in northern New

South Wales and southern Queensland in the dense brush forest, the principle hosts are the trunks of "Brush Box"

trees where it has stems up to 30 cm long which tend to radiate from a central point. It also has 2-4 dark green leaves. In the open forest areas its hosts are the

"Iron Bark" eucalypt trees, it has shorter (up to 7 cm), stouter (up to 1 cm), and more crowded stems, sometimes growing into large mats and having 2-4 yellowish green leaves. On

the Atherton Tablelands at an altitude of around 750 metres

and with callitris

trees as its favoured host,

it has very slender stems of about 0.3 cm with usually only two dark green leaves.

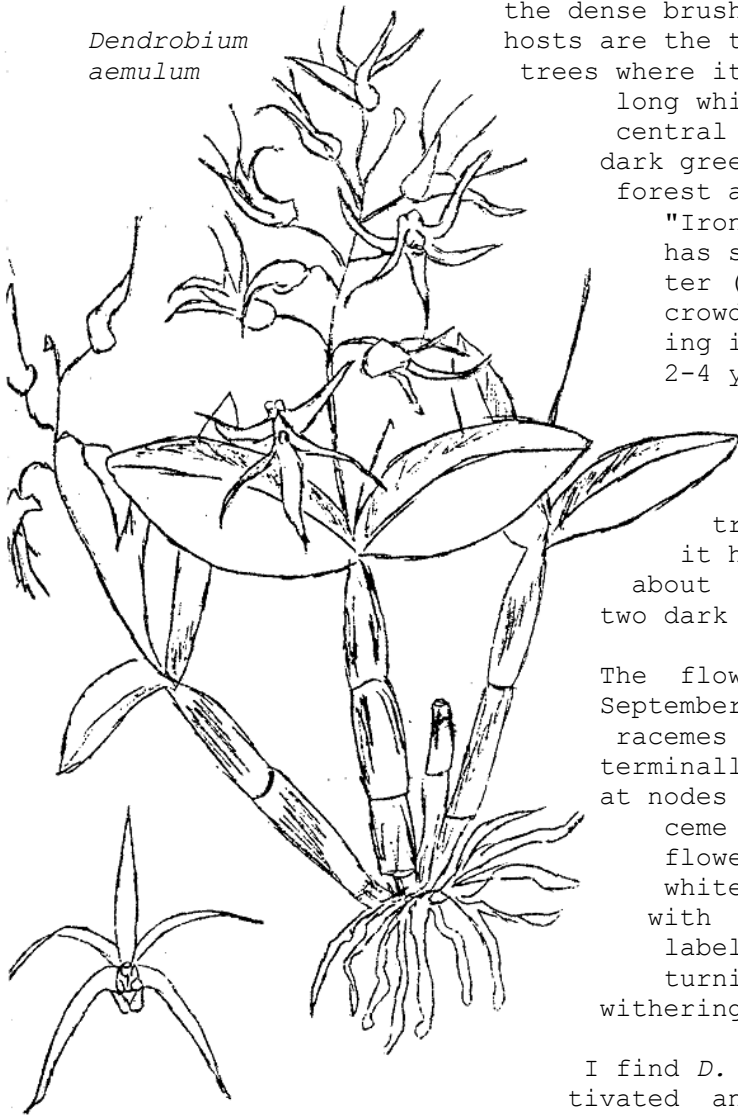
The flowering period is August/September. One to three slender racemes (5-10 cm long) occur terminally from between leaves or at nodes along the stem, each raceme bearing 3-20 cm diameter flowers. They are usually pure white (sometimes pale cream) with purple markings on the labellum, the whole raceme turning deep pink before withering.

I find *D. aemulum* is an easily cultivated and highly rewarding plant that flowers freely with masses of feathery flowers. It grows well mounted on hardwood slabs, cork or on a paperbark branch under 50% shade cloth.

Mine get about 65% shade in mid-summer and receive an occasional spray of weak foliar fertiliser during the growing period. It does thrive in pots.

This is another of our natives which to date does not appear to have attracted much attention from the hybridisers -- only six

Dendrobium aemulum



D. aemulum (contd.)

crosses having been registered. Its progeny appear to be free-flowering and having a feathery type of flower with plants midway between the parents.

Reference: Dockerill "Australian Indigenous Orchids".

NOSSA SPRING SHOW THANKS

As Publicity Officer I would like to express my thanks to the various newspapers who printed the notice re our NOSSA Spring Show held at the Mitcham Girls High School, Kingswood - also to Michael Kleelan (5DN) and Jon Lamb (5AN) and to the management of Channel 7 and its section "Touch of Elegance" for their promotions.

(Among the flowers shown on television were two winners being Class 1, *Caladenia behrii* "Spicy Spider Orchid" - an endangered endemic species which grows only in the Adelaide Hills - and Class 7, x *Calassodia tutelata* - a very rare hybrid also from the Adelaide Hills which was lost for 50 years and has recently been rediscovered.)

Again, many thanks.

Roy Hargreaves

NOSSA SHOW RAFFLE WINNERS.

The winners of the raffle held during the NOSSA Spring show were Harvey Tyson (first); Anmdre Pracejus (second) and Julie Evans (third).

ORCHIDS IN FLOWER IN THE ADELAIDE HILLS IN OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

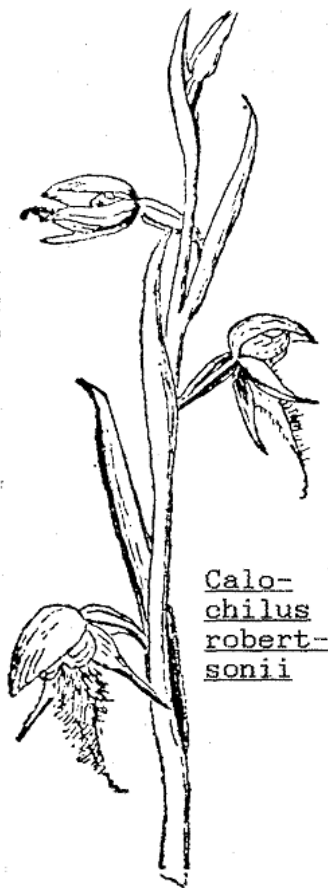
The hills are starting to dry out now and most orchids flowering either have some drought avoiding mechanism or flower in damp or very shady conditions where the soil dries out slowly.

Most of the greenhoods have finished but there is one group, e.g. the "rufa group" of species, which flower after the leaf rosette has died. Best known of these is *Pterostylis biseta* which occurs in dry rocky places and is common in Warren and Hale Conservation Parks near Williamstown. Much rarer is *P. aciculiformis* which is only half as large as *P. biseta* but also favours rocky dry ridges such as that south of the Almanda Silver Mine in Scott Creek Conservation Park. Very rarely seen is *P. excelsa* which can be found just inside the entrance to Sturt Gorge Recreation Park.

Orchids In Flower In The Adelaide Hills Oct./Nov. (contd.)

It should also be noted that there are 2-3 unnamed "sister" species involved in this group. The best known is the *P. affinity biseta* "stumpy" which occurs in Sandy Creek Conservation Park on sand dunes. This has short flat sepals and is often verdant green. It flowers before *P. biseta* in the strict sense. There is also a *P. aff. aciculiformis* growing at Sandy Creek which has thick textured red flowers instead of the pallid green flowers of *P. aciculiformis* proper. Also in this group is *P. arenicola* found on Grange Golf Course in red sand and *P. aff. boormanii* which used to occur on the black Bay-of-Biscay soils around Golden Grove but is extinct now. Another species is the tiny *P. pusilla* found at Sandy Creek but finished flowering by now. It is now estimated that as many as 30 rufa group greenhoods occur in South Australia - most of them unnamed. Whereas "rufa group" greenhoods overcome dry conditions by storing food and moisture in their fleshy stems and large tubers other species avoid drought by growing in swampy or moisture retentive soils.

A



Calo-
chilus
robert-
sonii

Early flowered swamp species tend to occur on the edges of permanent bogs or in temporary bogs which dry out in summer. The multi-leaved donkey orchid *Diuris brevifolia* is an uncommon species with shiny golden flowers. It can still be found around Kuitpo (on Christmas Hill Road) in mid-November. Kuitpo is a good place to find late spring orchids - the pine forests dry out slowly and the deep shade ensures that orchids such as *Caladenia tentaculata* (the King Spider), *Thelymitra juncifolia* (the Spotted Sun Orchid), *Calochilus robertsonii* (the Bearded Orchid) and *Microtis frutetorum* (the Forest Onion Orchid) hang on right through November.

Along creeks *Gastrodia* (the Potato Orchid) is beginning to flower - a good spot for these is behind Scott Creek Oval or in Filsell Hill Conservation Park just off Gum Flat Road, Carey Gully.

Most Onion Orchids (*Microtis*) flower in November - Kuitpo has four species. The tiny *M. strata* occurs on boggy flats toward Peter Creek, i.e. where forest tracks cross clay based creeks. The rare *M. orbicularis* occurs in waterholes on one of these creeks. *M. parviflora* is more common, again along any of the creeks around Kuitpo. A similar species is *M. unifolia* which differs in having a

square labellum instead of the cordate labellum of *M. parviflora*. *M. unifolia* differs from *M. frutetorum* because it does not have a bilobed labellum or decurved beak on the labellum apex.

Some 60 species of orchid flower in late spring in the Adelaide Hills!

Sandy Phillips