

# Eastern District Orchid Society Inc

Founded 1966



<b>Patron</b>	<i>Joan Pease MP</i>	
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## NEWSLETTER APRIL 2026

### **NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

The next General Meeting will be held on **Thursday 23 April, 2026** commencing at 8.00 pm, at the Bayside Uniting Church Hall, 420 Wondall Road, Manly West.

**In order to give our Hostesses and volunteers time to set up the tables, organise Sign-in Registers and Plant registration, we ask that members DON'T ARRIVE BEFORE 7 PM UNLESS YOU ARE COMING TO ASSIST WITH SETUP, otherwise it gets very congested around the front door. Please be mindful of members who are trying to get their plants inside, and leave a clear path.**

**Please also be mindful of those members who are not as physically capable as others, and give them a little more room to move.**

### **RED SPOTTER PRESENTATION**

Red Spotters for April will be a presentation by Les Vickers on Staking Orchids.

### **FEATURE ITEM**

April's Feature item will be a presentation by Colin Noy on Spatulata Dendrobiums of North Queensland. Colin's presentations are always informative and entertaining.

### *Member Roster April 2026*

**The following members are requested to make themselves available for the next meeting:**

**Judges:** G Webb, S Crosby, K Haase, E Locke  
**Associate Judges:** K Cusack, P Latimore  
**Scribes:** Volunteers required please.  
**Supper Stewards:** Kay Ludlow and Malcolm Hay  
**Hostesses:** Dot Rooks and Margaret Rieck  
**Library:** Volunteer Please  
**Plant Registrar:** Ann Kable

### **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next Committee meeting will be held at 10.00 am on **Thursday 30 April, 2026** at Wynnum Manly Leagues Club. (To be confirmed)

### *Show Dates for 2026*

**What:** **Brisbane Orchid Society Inc**  
**When:** 2 May, 2026  
**Where:** BISC Complex, 1485 Old Cleveland Rd, Belmont

**What:** **Lockyer Valley Orchid Society**  
**When:** 8 and 9 May, 2026  
**Where:** Anglican Church Hall, Cnr Railway & Spencer Sts, Gatton

**What:** *Redlands Orchid Society Inc*  
**When:** 16 May, 2026  
**Where:** Birkdale Sports Club, Judy Holt Park,  
Randall & Bailey Roads, Birkdale

**What:** *Toowoomba Autumn Show*  
**When:** 16 and 17 May, 2026  
**Where:** St. Pauls Church Hall, Cnr Phillip and James St  
Toowoomba

**What:** *North Moreton Orchid Society Inc*  
**When:** 20 June, 2026  
**Where:** Pine Rivers Showgrounds, 757 Gympie Rd,  
Lawnton

**What:** *Southport & Districts Orchid Show*  
**When:** 4 July, 2026  
**Where:** Country Paradise Parklands, 231 Beaudesert  
Nerang Road, Nerang

**What:** *Caboolture Orchid Society*  
**When:** 17 and 18 July 2026  
**Where:** Morayfield Community Hall, 298 Morayfield Rd.  
Morayfield

**What:** *John Oxley District OS Winter Show*  
**When:** 25 and 26 July, 2026  
**Where:** Auditorium, Mt Coot-tha

**What:** *ANOS Kabi Aust Native Show*  
**When:** 15 and 16 August, 2026  
**Where:** Pine Rivers Showgrounds, 757 Gympie Rd,  
Lawnton

**What:** *Queensland Orchid Society Inc*  
**When:** 22 and 23 August, 2026  
**Where:** BISC Complex, 1485 Old Cleveland Rd,  
Belmont

**What:** *North Brisbane Orchid Society*  
**When:** 29 and 30 August, 2026  
**Where:** Pine Rivers Showgrounds, 757 Gympie Rd,  
Lawnton

**What:** *Logan & District Orchid Society*  
**When:** 29 August, 2026  
**Where:** Springwood State School, Springwood Rd,  
Springwood

**What:** *EDOS Inc Spring Show*  
**When:** 5 and 6 September, 2026  
**Where:** BISC Complex, 1485 Old Cleveland  
Rd, Belmont



**Rolin Orchids**

**Robert & Linda Trost**

Contact us by email: [rolinorchids@gmail.com](mailto:rolinorchids@gmail.com)  
Or Facebook Messenger: **Rolin Orchids**

[www.rolinorchids.com](http://www.rolinorchids.com)

## EDOS INC 60TH AUTUMN SHOW

Well, the 60<sup>th</sup> Autumn Show is now “done and dusted”. Thanks to everyone who helped out over the weekend. Although it didn’t rain during the weekend, it certainly teased us during the week, with dark skies and showers.

Entries through the door were better than the previous year with 605 visitors, including 2 busses, which was pleasing.

Our Show Bench, with 283 plants benched, was a little down on previous shows, but given the weather and the plethora of shows, it was a very colourful and varied show of well grown and flowered orchids. We are seeing a lot of interest in miniatures from our growers, which the general public also find intriguing. There were some different and unusual plants in amongst the Champions.

Many thanks to all of our members who assisted over the weekend, including those non-EDOS people who offered their time to assist the Society in any way. With enough willing workers to spread the load, it means that everyone can enjoy all aspects of the Show. It would be great if our EDOS members could reciprocate at our sister Societies’ Shows.

Thanks to all those who benched plants, and supplied plants for Plant Sales.

Thanks also to those members who provided plants for give-aways to the kids who went through Plant Sales. They were



Hostess Dot Rooks would like to thank those who assisted on the Front Door, welcoming those who attended the Show, and selling Raffle tickets.



The Craft Table Ladies and the Floral Art Experts would also like to say Many Thanks to those members who supplied items for the Craft table and donated cut flowers and foliage for the Floral Art area.



The Plant Minding Area as usual proved itself as a necessity. Convenor Dick would like to Thank those who manned this area.



Plants Sales Convenor Dick would like to thank all those who helped out in Plant Sales over the weekend, especially those working on the Registers, and those experienced growers who made themselves available to provide advice about the plants people were looking at purchasing.

Also, a Big Thanks to Rob Kerr for his Potting Demonstrations. He was very popular, offering advice to old and new growers alike, giving everyone some new ideas on how to look after their plants.

Many thanks to everyone who helped out with setting up on Friday, assisted during the weekend, and especially with cleaning up on Sunday afternoon. It was great to see how, when it looked like it could rain, our members rallied to get all of the equipment back to the shed dry (fortunately the rain didn't eventuate). All efforts are greatly appreciated as it allows everyone to go home at a reasonable hour.

Congratulations to all of our EDOS members who had Champion wins as well.

Congratulations to Ray and Janelle Girdlestone and Lynda Rapkins who had plants awarded on the Friday night.

**Fame Orchids Nursery**  
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## EDOS Inc 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

2026 EDOS Inc marks the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Eastern District Orchid Society Inc.

The Committee has planned a Luncheon on 13 June 2026 at the Wynnum Manly Leagues Club. The event will run from 11.30 am to 3 pm.

Tickets will be available at April and May Meetings. Cost will be \$20 to members. The May meeting will be the cut-off so get in early so you don't miss out!

There will be 3 great Lucky Door Prizes.

Some of our members will be going down "Memory Lane" with some entertaining stories from the past.

All members will be presented with a commemorative plant on the day to help us celebrate this milestone.

***If anyone has any memorabilia or any ideas they would like to share, please contact one of our Committee members.***

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## SOMETHING DIFFERENT IN JULY

At the July General Meeting, just for something different we will be holding an "Inhouse Mini Show". (EDOS Inc Members Only will be eligible). There will be 10 Classes, with prize money of \$25, \$15 and \$10, with an Overall Champion prize of \$50.

Because we will be using different Classes for this event, there will not be any Class points allocated towards the Annual Points Competition for July, however the winner of the Overall Champion will be the July entry into the Jack Feige Memorial Trophy Competition.

### Classes will be:

Species Monopodial  
Species Sympodial  
Cattleya  
Dendrobium  
Australian Native  
Miniature  
Any Other General Hybrid  
Oncidium Alliance Hybrid  
Vandaceous Hybrid  
Novice

More information closer to the time.

## Newsletter Articles

If you have anything interesting that other members may benefit from, that can be printed in the Newsletter, please let me know. I am happy to look at articles from members, as it is not always easy to find interesting items to include, nor do I always have the time to research.

## Date Claimer

The Committee has organised a "Table Cleaning and Maintenance" Day on 17 June at 9.30 am. Downside of volunteering? Dennis might wet you with the hose! It's not hard work, just a bit of a damp job.

If you are able to assist, please let either Barry Kable or Garth Dale know. Morning Tea will be provided.

## Show Sponsors 2026

EDOS Inc would like to Acknowledge and Thank our Sponsors for our 2026 Autumn Show:

Aranbeem Orchids  
Bendigo Community Bank  
Brisbane Orchid Supplies  
Dick Dorham  
Fame Orchids Nursery  
Michael Sue  
Rolin Orchids  
Tropic Gardener

## Congratulations

***It was announced at the end of the March General Meeting that Sarah Baumbach & Kursley & Christine Azemothe have all achieved their 30 points in Novice & as of next month's meeting will be benching in the "Open Classes". Congratulations to these members!!!***

## Date Claimer

Once again EDOS Inc will be manning the Bunnings BBQ at the Manly West Store on 27<sup>th</sup> June. The call for workers will be put out at the next meeting, so please give some thought to assisting Greg and his fantastic group of workers. Once again, if we get enough helpers, it means shorter shifts for everyone.

Remember the old saying - "Many Hands Make Light Work"

## Proposed EDOS Bus Trip

The Committee is looking at organising a Bus trip in July. More information will be available in the near future.

## The N in Orchid Fertilisers Part 1

*As presented by John Rees at March 2026 Meeting*

Nitrogen is a necessary ingredient in the production of protein. Protein manufactured by the plant is necessary for its growth.

This article looks at five sources of nitrogen which might be considered for contents of orchid fertilisers.

### Calcium Nitrate $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2$

This is one of the few soluble calcium salts. The chemical is important for the nitrogen contribution as well as the calcium to strengthen cell walls. Calcium is very active chemically and if this substance is added to a fertiliser containing phosphates, it produces calcium phosphate, which is insoluble and both calcium and phosphorus are lost to the system.

The home gardener should use it alone in solution. Some use it regularly.

Commercial fertilisers may contain calcium and keep it from reacting by using buffers. These buffers keep the pH of the solution in the range 4.5 to 6.5 at which the calcium phosphate molecules remain soluble (normally the upper end of this range).

Chelating agents may also be used to envelop the calcium ions and keep them from reacting with the phosphate. These evade the consequences described below of fertilisers with low pH values.

Calcium nitrate is hygroscopic. If left open to the atmosphere, it absorbs water from the air and dissolves in it. This means that the amount of calcium nitrate in solution is uncertain. If kept in a sealed container it can go rock hard.

In hydroponics there are two solutions. Part B is calcium nitrate and is administered on its own.

*Thanks to John Clatworthy for these photos.*



### *Den. toressae*

It is a miniature orchid native to Tropical North Queensland, Commonly known as the *Sparkle Orchid* or *Mica Orchid* because its tiny, fleshy leaves have a unique glittery surface. The flower

photographed was less than 5mm. This plant is owned by Dick Dorham and Judy Walcot



### *Den. taylorii*

Formerly *Cadetia taylorii*. Commonly called *Smooth Burr Orchid*. Native to Eastern Australia and New Guinea. It is a compact, fast growing epiphyte often found

on trees or rocks in rainforests and mangrove swamps.

### **NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

**For anyone who is interested in receiving their Newsletter and any other information from EDOS electronically, please let me know your email address and I will include you in our email group. You will receive your Newsletter in a much faster timeframe, and not miss out on anything else that is often sent out in between Newsletters. My email address is [editor@edos.org.au](mailto:editor@edos.org.au)**

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