The Western Australian Orchid Bulletin

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VOLUME 61 NO 10



October 2021

The next meeting of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on **Friday 22 October 2021**.

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THIS MONTH'S MEETING

NORM STOCKTON

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHIDS

NOVEMBER MEETING DATES

OSWA Committee: 7:30 pm Friday 5th

General Meeting: 7:30 pm Friday 26th

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We acknowledge assistance from Lotterywest for the printing of this Bulletin

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Birthdays

4th, Kristene Northover, 9th Tara Peeters, 11th Enid Chelva, 14th Eric Bateman, 16th October: Barbara Burnett, 21st Ann Walker

November: 2nd Aishya Ghose; 13th Rosalie McCallum; 18th Trevor Burnett

Best wishes to anyone else celebrating Birthdays or Anniversaries. To any member on the sick list we wish you a speedy recovery & may you soon be well.

Late Flowering Orchid Display — Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre

Setup: Friday 12 November from 5 pm, followed by social night with home made soups and bread!

Open: Saturday 13 October, 9 am - 4 pm, and Sunday 14 November, 9 am - 3 pm

The Late Flowering Orchid Display, run jointly with the Cymbidium Orchid Club of WA (COCWA) and the Australian Native Orchid Society (ANOS WA), is our chance to show off Australian native cymbidiums, sarcochilus, and other orchids that flower too late for the usual shows. This will be a Display only, so no plant competition or judging, but there will be plant sales, snacks, and the chance to meet members of other clubs.

We'll need plants for the display and for the sales table. Also, we need volunteers to help set up and pack up, manage the entry/raffle table, help in the kitchen and at the sales table, and do walk-around tours of the display for small groups of members of the public. A sign-up roster will be available at the October GM. Please sign up to indicate whether you are coming and where you would like to help. For those kind enough to prepare something for the kitchen, please let us know what you're bringing on the roster too. Entry is free if your name is on the roster.

Setup is on Friday 12 November from 5 pm, and will be followed by a social night with homemade soups and bread provided, so please join in!

Our Christmas Dinner this year will be at Bentley Pines Pfizer Inc South TAFE, Bentley. Enter the car park via the Bentley Pines roundabout at the junction Restaurant at South... of Hayman and Dumas Hayman Rd M Bloc Roads (see map at right). For a three-course meal, Aroma Cafe H Block J Bloc South Metropolitan rth Hockey Stadium TAFE, Bentley Campus Curtin Safer Communities SwanCare Ningana

beer, wine, or soft drink). There is a bar at the venue, so thirsty folks can buy extra drinks. Those who attended the Christmas dinner in 2019 were very impressed with this venue, the food and drinks, and the value for money. Payment in advance is essential. Put your name on the list and make payment (\$30 per person) at or before the October general meeting. For details on how to pay by direct deposit into OSWA's account, see the section on Membership Subscriptions on the next page.

OSWA Christmas Dinner - Wednesday 24 November, 6:30 pm (arrive from 6 pm)

the cost is only \$30 per person. The Christmas includes: menu seared scallop, lentil salad, smoked paprika aioli (GF); roasted capsicum and tomato soup; roast turkey breast, stuffing, cranberries. seasonal vegetables, jus; Christmas pudding, brandy sauce; petit fours; and one drink (either

at

Restaurant

Metropolitan

Hayman Road,

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It is time to bring the Trophies back!

Could members who are holding the trophies please return them by the October General Meeting, as they need to be engraved during November, before our Christmas Meeting and presentation night. If you wish to polish them, please use Silvo. Thanks to those who have already returned them.

Thank you!

Potting Workshop: Thank you to everyone who helped out with this year's Potting Workshop. It was another successful OSWA event enjoyed both by club members and the general public, and two new members joined on the day.

Membership Subscriptions are due on 1 November!

\$26 double, \$21 single. With interest rates as low as they are, you may as well pay now and avoid the November rush! For your convenience OSWA accepts payment by direct deposit (preferred method), cheque, or cash (paid at a general meeting). Direct deposit can be made via electronic banking or at any Westpac branch using the account information below. *If possible, please use direct deposit or cheque, to lessen stress and chaos at the general meetings.*

For direct deposit into OSWA's account:

Account name - Orchid Society of Western Australia Inc. Bank - Westpac Bank, Booragoon, WA BSB - 036069 Account Number - 457265 Reference - please use your name, to help us identify your payment.

For payment by cheque:

Make cheques payable to The Orchid Society of WA Inc. and bring them to a general meeting or post them to OSWA, 58 Gladstone Rd, Leeming 6149.

De Greenhouse

As part of your membership to the Orchid Society of Western Australia, you are entitled to access a broad range of gardening products at wholesale prices, including phalaenopsis orchid plants, at a new venture by Flora Plant. The new venture, **De Greenhouse**, is located at 45-47 Belmont Avenue, Belmont. As well as products from Flora Plant, it will provide a range of products from other companies, possibly including Richgro, Brunnings, Growth Technology, Garden City Plastics?

Please note that **De Greenhouse** is not open to the general public and you will need your OSWA badge to enter the premises.

New Grower Participation Incentive Scheme

New OSWA members are encouraged to bench plants at our monthly meetings. Members in their second, third and fourth year as OSWA members collect points from benching plants, and at the end of the year the grower in each year category with the most 'points' will be awarded a quality, flowering sized plant from the OSWA stockpile.

(This item reminds me of the first time I benched a plant at an OSWA meeting. It was a beautiful Cattleya hybrid, with bright yellow petals and a burgundy labellum. The contrast of colours was stunning, and the flower had a lovely fragrance too. The photo at right doesn't do justice to the beauty of the flower. In their wisdom, the judges awarded it a 2nd, even though it was the only plant entered in its class that night. Meh! It's still my favourite Cattleya, by far. The popular vote winner in the Open section last month only got a 2nd from the judges too!)



Neutrog — feedback wanted about Strikeback for Orchids Liquid

Neutrog is a generous supporter of our club, and most members will be familiar with, and probably use, Neutrog's Strikeback for Orchids Liquid in their orchid fertilising regime. Neutrog would love to hear from anyone who has something to say about the product. If you have any experiences with Strikeback for Orchids Liquid, good or bad, please let Harry or Murray know and they will pass them to Neutrog. If you could submit an anecdote written up as a paragraph or two with a picture to show off your success with Strikeback for Orchids Liquid, that would be much appreciated. Please note that this request is especially about the *liquid* version of Strikeback for Orchids, not the pellets.

Mike Duncan speaking on "Mountains of Orchids", 23 October 2021

This year at the Australian Orchid Council's AGM on 23 October, guest speaker Mike Duncan presenting on "Mountain's of Orchids" in Australia on October 23rd. Mike is an expert on Australian native orchids and has worked in both academia and government on the study of orchids and orchid conservation. If you would like a link to watch Mike's presentation via Zoom, let Harry know. This would be a good activity for those who feel they need an excuse to take some time off from that urgent business of repotting.

Cymbidum Cultural Notes (October/November) - based on notes from Roy Brown

Repotting should be in full swing, but by the middle of November the temperature will be fairly high, so it would be advisable to have all the repotting done by the first week of November at the latest. When dividing your plants, try not to break them up into sections that are too small. A three bulb piece will have a better chance of flowering the following year. Try not to overpot your plant. Select a pot that will hold the plant and its root system and will allow for a further two years growth.

When repotting, hold the plant firmly in one hand one inch below the top of the pot, then using your fingers work the fresh pine bark between the plants roots. Fill the pot to about a centimetre from the rim, firming the bark in as you go. The plant should now be sitting neatly in the centre of the pot, with the base of the bulb just below the top of the bark.

Give the plant a good watering and place it in a cool, shady position for about a week, until the roots start into active growth again.

When the flower spikes have been cut and the plant repotted, you will find the new season's leads will shoot ahead. Keep them growing strongly by increasing the fertilizing to weekly or fortnightly intervals. Strike Back for Orchids pellets can be used as a slow-release fertilizer if you don't have time to fertilize regularly, but if you are in the habit of using liquid fertilizers frequently, Strike Back for Orchids liquid can give an immediate boost. In the growing season, Cymbidiums love plenty of light, water and a regular feeding programme.

Cattleya Cultural Notes (October/November) - based on notes from Henry Eaton.

Now that the shows are over for this year, we will be getting into the season for assessing the needs of our plants to be reported or potted on. This is the start of the growing season and getting the plants off to a good start will result in better flowering next year.

Plants that will need to be considered for potting will be:

- (a) seedlings that have been more than six months in the pot;
- (b) plants where the front growth is over the edge of the pot, or where the next growth will take it over the edge;
- (c) plants showing signs of being unhappy in their current mix;
- (d) plants that need breaking up because of their large size.

When to pot can be largely influenced by the appearance of new roots. When new roots appear, you can be sure they will establish in new mix quite readily. Do not allow new roots to grow more than 2-3

When potting on, choose a pot size one step up from the pot you had used till then, e.g., from a 125 mm to a 150 mm pot. The mix you use should fit in with your schedule for having time to water your plants. The coarser the mix, the more frequent the watering will have to be.

At the time of potting, place the oldest pseudo bulb against the back wall of the pot and fill in with mix from the front. Push the mix in so that the plant is held firm in the pot. If adequately immobilised, you can usually lift the plant up by its leaves without the plant coming away from the pot. Stake the pseudo bulbs up vertically as far as possible and make sure the front growth cannot move around damaging the emerging new roots. If you hang your pots, a neat trick is to use the hanger as the stake.

Place the repotted plant in a shady spot in your growing area for a couple of weeks to counter the shock of replanting. Something like solution of Neutrog's Seamungus watered through would also help counter shock. If there is a need to divide a plant, make sure you use a sterilised cutting instrument and do not make a division smaller than 3-4 healthy bulbs.

Paphiopedilum Cultural Notes (October/November) by Trevor Burnett

This month is about getting our newly potted plants into full growth as the growths will need to mature in order to produce flowers next year. With the warmer weather, the fertilizer programme can be increased to weekly or fortnightly at ¹/₄ to ¹/₂ strength, with a high nitrogen based fertilizer to promote good development of the new growths. Strike Back for Orchids Liquid is a good all-round fertilizer that would be suitable.

In our repotting process we usually end up with plants being repotted into larger pots or divided into several pieces, so be very mindful not to cram your plants together like sardines. They still need space between plants for good air movement. If we cram plants together, we provide a wonderful place for all sorts of bugs to hide and also restrict the airflow around plants. Good air movement around the plants is essential for good healthy plants and greatly reduces the problems of disease.

In respect to watering, we must ensure that our plants do not become completely dry, as we have a nice new mix which for the first couple of months will tend to dry out quicker than the old mix we have just replaced. At this time of the year I would water at 7 day intervals, unless the temperature goes above about 32 °C for three consecutive days, then I would bring back my watering to every 4 days.

It is also an ideal time to see if that plant you admired from one of the growers has been divided and a piece may be available to purchase. Remember this is the ideal time to reflect on your cultural success and sharing your growing success with friends and club members. Good luck and good growing for the summer months ahead.

When is the best time to repot Cattleyas?

This month has been a bit stressful for various reasons and the bulletin has to be out a week earlier than usual, so, regretfully, the Bulletin Editor is not able to include the usual quantity of photos this month. He promises to make up for it in future issues, but in the meantime offers a contribution from Harry that may be of interest to members, especially those who are fussy about their Cattleyas.

Some members will be familiar with work by Sue Bottom, a very knowledgeable orchid grower and regular contributor of articles to Orchids, the monthly magazine published by the American Orchid Society. OSWA maintains a subscription to Orchids magazine and members may borrow copies from the OSWA library. The magazine has lots of good stuff in it and is definitely worth a look. Anyway, Harry found an article written by Sue Bottom that included the Table provided on the next page. The Table lists the most common Cattleya species and, interestingly, the time at which new roots begin to develop each season. Why is this interesting, you ask? Well, if you are careful about how you go about your repotting, you will probably want to repot your orchids at a time before new roots start to develop, so that you don't damage them when you do the repotting. Ideally, you'd like to do repotting after flowering has finished too, so that you don't ruin the flowers, and Sue's Table lists flowering times as well. Note that Sue's Table is written with a North American audience in mind, so the months indicated in the last column are for North America. We need to add six months to convert the last column into something more relevant for growers in Perth. If you google "cattleya species and their culture", you may be able to find and download a PDF version of the article by W P Rogerson in Orchid Digest that Sue used as her source.

*** Thank you to Sue Bottom for kindly allowing us to reproduce her Table in our Bulletin. ***

			Roots	Roots	Unusual	
Cattleya Species	Judging	Subgenus	before	after	Growth	Blooming Season
outaoju opooloo	Class	Cubgonuo	Blooming	Blooming	Patterns	[For Perth, add 6 months]
C. amethystoglossa	Bifoliate	Falcata	X			January / February
C. trianaei	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			January / February
C. auranticea	Bifoliate	Circumvola	X			February / March
C. intermedia	Bifoliate	Intermedia	X			March / April / May
C. lawrenceana	Unifoliate	Cattleya	X			March / April
C. lueddemanniana	Unifoliate	Cattleya	~	x		March / April
C. nobilior	Bifoliate	Rhizantha		~	х	March / April
C. schroderae	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x		<u> </u>	March / April
C. aclandiae	Bifoliate	Aclandia	~		х	April/May and through Summe
C. forbesii	Bifoliate	Intermedia	-	x	. Л	April / May
C. iricolor	Unifoliate	Stellata	x	~		April / May
C. kerrii	Bifoliate	Intermedia	~			April / May
C. luteola	Unifoliate	Stellata	x			April / May
C. mendelii	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			April / May / June
C. mossiae	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			April / May
C. schilleriana	Bifoliate	Falcata	^	×		April / May
C. skinneri	Bifoliate	Circumvola	×	X		April
C. granulosa	Bifoliate	Falcata	X	×		May / Early June
	Bifoliate	Falcata		X		May / Early June
C. porphyroglossa	Bifoliate	Schomburkoidea		X	~	·
C. violacea			-		X	May and Through Summer
C. warneri	Unifoliate	Cattleya		X		May
C. dowiana	Unifoliate	Cattleya	-	X		late June / July
C. harrisoniana	Bifoliate	Intermedia		X		June / July
C. leopoldii	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		June / July
C. warscewiczii	Unifoliate	Cattleya		X		June / July
C. araguaiensis	Unifoliate	Stellata				July
C. aurea	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		July / August / September
C. gaskelliana	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		July
C. maxima	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			July to November
C. rex	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		July
C. schofieldiana	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		July / August
C. bicolor	Bifoliate	Schomburkoidea		x		August / September
C. velutina	Bifoliate	Aclandia		x		August
C. eldorado	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		September
C. elongata	Bifoliate	Schomburkoidea		х		September
C. guttata	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		September
C. tenuis	Bifoliate	Schomburkoidea		x		September
C. bowringiana	Bifoliate	Circumvola	x			October / November
C. labiata	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			October / November
C. loddigesii	Bifoliate	Intermedia	х			November to March
C. mooreana	Unifoliate	Stellata	x			November
C. jenmanii	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			December / January
C. perciavaliana	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			December / January
C. quadricolor	Unifoliate	Cattleya	X			Late December / January
C. walkeriana	Bifoliate	Rhizantha			х	December to April
C. deckeri	Bifoliate	Circumvola	x			December / January

Note: For 'Roots Before Blooming' Cattleyas, roots emerge as a new lead grows and blooming occurs after the new lead and roots are mature; repot when they begin to send up new growths in spring and summer.

For 'Roots After Blooming' Cattleyas, the new lead grows, matures and flowers and only then do new roots emerge, repot immediately after they bloom in spring, summer and fall. In some cases, the roots emerge as the lead develops or the blooms open, repot after the new roots start to emerge even if this disrupts the bloom cycle.

For 'Unusual Growth Patterns' Cattleyas, repot as the new leads are developing in the spring. *C. aclandiae* and *C. violacea* send up new growths in the spring and when mature, immediately flower and then start a second growth, with roots forming anytime during this growth cycle. *C. walkeriana* and *C. nobilior* send out leafless growths in winter that bloom when the leads mature (roots may or may not emerge from these blooming growths) and then sends up regular leaved growths that do not bloom but roots emerge as they grow. Repot these after blooming when the new leaved growths grow in the spring.

Source: Rogerson, William P., Cattleya Species and Their Culture. Orchid Digest. 68:4. pp. 196-219.

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The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.): Minutes of the General Meeting held on Friday 24th September 2021

Welcome: 7:37 pm

Presentation: Lynn Brooks on Orchids in Water Culture

Minutes: Moved Arnold, Keng seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. Carried. **New Member Introductions:** Lien Nguyen, Jean Paton

Correspondence:

- 26/8- received email from Albany orchid society confirming contact details
- 26/8- Neutrog have provided some details regarding analysis of Strike Back for Orchids pellets
- 1/9- received invitation to present on orchids at Bunnings Baldivis > will donate a \$50 gift card. Accepted.
- 30/8- Neutrog asking us to provide any feedback on their new Strike Back for Orchids Liquid product
- 30/8- received reply from Little Aussie's re free advertising on their Events page
- 7/9- emailed Lien to clarify details of joining OSWA (re; neutrog etc) > happy for Neutrog welcome pack
- 6/9- received correspondence from EziGrow regarding registration of Cattleya OSWA 75th Jubilee
- 14/9- received to the AOC AGM, re guest speaker Mike Duncan presenting on "Mountain's of Orchids"
- 14/9- provided our associations incorporated extract to OWA for De Greenhouse registration
- 17/9- notice of OWA AGM
- 22/9- provided details of upcoming events to Little Aussie Directories

• 22/9- enquired about benefits of us joining the WA Horticultural Council

Business arising from correspondence — See general business

Moved Harry, seconded Lina that the correspondence be accepted. Carried.

Reports:

- **OSWA Spring Show** congratulations to Courtney for winning Grand Champion with Dendrobium Candice, and Howard Tan for winning Reserve Champion with Phal Joy Angel Voice 'Serene'
- John Carless Home Visit
- 75th Anniversary Dinner Lina reported on the dinner, which was a very nice night. The food was great- a
 number of members expressed that they would have come if adequate notice had been provided so we'll
 endeavour to be a bit more organised next year!

Financial report: Presented by J Bateman

Business arising from the financial report - Nil

Moved Jacqui Bateman seconded Alan that the financial report be accepted. Carried. **General Business:**

- Courtney OSWA Sales Process
- De Greenhouse (see section in this Bulletin under General News)
- Potting Workshop (see section in September Bulletin under General News)
- Late Flowering Orchid Display (see section in this Bulletin under General News)
- New Grower Incentive Scene Participation (see section in this Bulletin under General News)
- Lina: New raffle prizes: Given a large amount of interest in OSWA raffles, the committee have agreed to increase the number of raffle prizes available by 2 plants, and also add some non-plant prizes!
- Event calendar for 2021
 - 1) OSWA Potting Workshop (October 17th)
 - 2) Late Flowering Orchid Display (November 12th November 14th)
 - 3) Christmas dinner at Bentley Pines (November 24th 6:30pm)

BREAK FOR PLANT JUDGING

Raffle: Helen Stetch, Enid Chelva, Tara Peters, Courtney Jones, Kim James, Lien Nguyen x 2

Open popular vote: Courtney with Dendrochilum cobbianum. Courtney grows this under Alsynite and aluminet shadecloth that diffuses light quite evenly.

Novice popular vote: Enid Chelva with a beautiful Australian native dendrobium- the stark white flowers contrast beautifully against the dark green flowers. Enid grows this under an open pegola with shade cloth on top. Door Prize: Lynn Brooks

Plant discussions: Merril presented on a beautiful pink cattleya hybrid. Merril grows this under 50% shadecloth and adds another layer in summer. It gets rained on all year. **Courtney** brought in a stunning zygopetalum, which he grows in a unique area of his garden, under alsonite sheeting and shadecloth. Courtney highlighted how zygopetalums and their hybrids do not like as much sun as other species and hybrids (and are prone to hideous brown spotting if they are exposed to excessive light). **Tara** presented on *Laelia milleri* x *Cattleya boringiana*- a plant Harry is very jealous of! *Laelia milleri* is a stunning miniature species from South America that lives in cracks in rock faces, in quite bright exposed conditions. Tara waters about once a week, and is growing it in a water well pot. Tara also discussed a phalaenopsis bought from Ikea. The small flowers have a very 'species' vibe about them! Tara grows this in Flora plant mix in her bathroom.

Meeting Closed at 9:45

MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (SEPTEMBER 2021)

OPEN

1A	(1)	1	Harry Ashton	Cattleya aurantiaca
1B	(1)	1	Merril Brechin	Blc Triumphal Coronation 'Seto'
1F	(3)	1 2 3	Harry Ashton Tara Peeters Harry Ashton	<i>Cattleya</i> Amethyst Glass x <i>Epidendrum</i> Revex Marques <i>Cattleya milleri</i> x <i>Cattleya bowringiana</i> <i>Cattleya</i> Golf Green
2D	(2)	1 2	Malcolm Davis Malcolm Davis	<i>Cymbidium</i> Gwen Thomas 'Golden Aura' <i>Cymbidium</i> FIFI 'Harry' 4N x Mem. Elizabeth Dumigan 'Geyserland' 4N
2E	(2)	1 2	Malcolm Davis Malcolm Davis	<i>Cymbidium</i> Heartbreak Doctor 'Bleeding Heart' <i>Cymbidium</i> Gladys Whitsell 'Lips of Cream'
3A	(1)	1	Kirsty Bayliss	Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum
3B	(1)	1	Tara Peeters	Paphiopedilum Leeanum (insigne x spicerianum)
3C	(1)	1	Howard Tan	Paphiopedilum Hsing Ying x Red Shift
3D	(1)	1	Howard Tan	Paphiopedilum Ky So
3E	(1)	1	Howard Tan	Paphiopedilum Magic Mood
5C	(1)	1	Howard Tan	Phalaenopsis Joy Angel Serene
5E	(1)	1	Tara Peeters	Phalaenopsis Name Unknown
7B	(1)	1	Courtney Rogash	Angraecum sesquipedale x Angraecum superbum
8A	(2)	1 2	Harry Ashton Harry Ashton	Sarcochilus hartmannii Sarcochilus weinthalli
8B	(2)	1 2	Tara Peeters Harry Ashton	<i>Dendrobium</i> x <i>delicatum</i> <i>Dendrobium</i> Jonathan's Glory 'Volcanic Glow'
10B	1	1	Courtney Rogash	Dendrochilum cobbianum
11B	1	1	Courtney Rogash	<i>Zygopetalum</i> Adelaide Meadows 'Pure Jade' <i>x Zygopetalum</i> Dynamite 'Jelly green'

NOVICE

16C	(1)	2	Enid Chelva	Cymbidium Name Unknown
17A	(1)	1	Jacqui Bateman	Paphiopedilum spicerianum
17D	(2)	1 2	Jacqui Bateman Jacqui Bateman	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Dark Matter (Enzan Rose Crown x Yi Ying Firefox) <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Name Unknown
18A	(1)	1	Jacqui Bateman	Dendrobium speciosum
22B	(1)	1	Enid Chelva	Dendrobium Name Unknown
24B	(1)	2	Lina Pacca	Bletilla striata

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Novice Popular Vote Winner Dendrobium unknown Grown by Enid Chelva.



Open Popular Vote Winner *Dendrochilum cobbianum* Grown by Courtney Rogasch.



Cymbidium Gwen Thomas 'Golden Aura' Grown by Malcolm Davis



Cattleya Golf Green Grown by Harry Ashton



Grown by Tara Peeters



Cattleya aurantiaca Grown by Harry Ashton





Spread your Whoflungdung before spring has sprung!

Whoflungdung is a biologically activated, nutrient rich, weed free, absorbent super mulch that introduces a wide diversity of beneficial bacteria into the soil.

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