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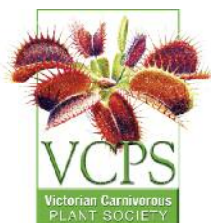
Victorian Carnivorous PLANT SOCIETY INC.

September 2015

VCPS Newsletter No. 1



Nepenthes pitopangii



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MEETING TOPICS & DATES for 2015

VICTORIAN CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY

This year we have scheduled the following discussion topics, and events:

January	(31st)	New Year BBQ at Ron Abernethy's House 12.30pm <i>Dionaea muscipula</i> (VFT). (Contact for details)
February	(25th)	<i>Darlingtonia</i> , <i>Nepenthes</i> and <i>Heliophora</i> .
March	(25th)	<i>Sarracenia</i> , <i>Dionaea</i> (VFT), beginners info
April	(22nd)	<i>Drosera</i> , video and information night.
May	(27th)	Growing conditions, pygmy <i>Drosera gemmae</i> collection, 'best' and 'worst' plants.
June	(24th)	AGM, plant give-away, any CPs.
July	(22nd)	Rosetted tuberous <i>Drosera</i> judging, Propagation – seed growing, tissue culture, division and cuttings. Potting demonstration.
August	(26th)	Upright tuberous/Winter growing <i>Drosera</i> , show preparation, displays, and companion planting.
September	(23rd)	<i>Cephalotus</i> , <i>Brocchinia</i> , <i>Catopsis</i> and swap night.
October	(28th)	<i>Byblis</i> , pygmy <i>Drosera</i> , <i>Drosera binata</i> , <i>Drosophyllum</i> , <i>Genlisea</i> , <i>Pinguicula</i> , <i>Roridula</i> , <i>Utricularia</i> .
November	(29th)	Triffid Park Open Day , any CP's.
November	(28th-29th)	VCPS Annual show at Collectors Corner.

Please note: All meetings, other than those where a specific venue is given, will be on the FOURTH WEDNESDAY of the month in the hall of the Pilgrim Uniting Church in Yarraville – corner Bayview Road and Montague Street, Melway Map Reference 41K7.

Contents



VCPS Growers photos

Top: Aphids attacking a newly developing VFT trap. This can cause new traps to become deformed if left untreated.



Bottom: Red spider mites feeding on another VFT plant, which causes rust looking damage to the older leaves. New and old leaves also become deformed.

If you'd like to publish a photo that you took of your plant in the VCPS journal.

Please email it to Stephen Fretwell the VCPS editor at: stevefretwell24@gmail.com



FRONT COVER:

A *Nepenthes pitopangi* upper pitcher from Lore Lindu National Park, Sulawesi. This was one of only two pitchers left on the only plant known at that location after poachers had desimated the site and took off with 98% of the plant.

Photo: Stephen Fretwell

BACK COVER:

Clockwise from top left:

- *S. oreophila* var. *ornata* grown from seed sown in 2007.
- *S. flava* var. *ornata* grown from seed sown in 2011. The clone originates from an A. Marshall and has Heavy black veins.
- *Sarracenia* 'Leah Wilkerson' which is an extremely large hybrid between *S. flava* and *S. leucophylla*.
- A 35-40cm tall *N. maxima* "Miniature form" plant in flower with upper pitchers. It was found near Wuasa, Sulawesi.
- *D. muscipula* "Clone No 1" a variety originally purchased from Collectors Corner.
- *Nepenthes pitopangii* upper pitcher from Lore Lindu National Park
- *N. maxima* "Miniature form" lower pitcher found near Wuasa, Sulawesi.
- *S. alata* var. *nigropurpurea* seedlings germinating from seed sown in 2015 (centre)

Design: Stephen Fretwell

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Seed Bank

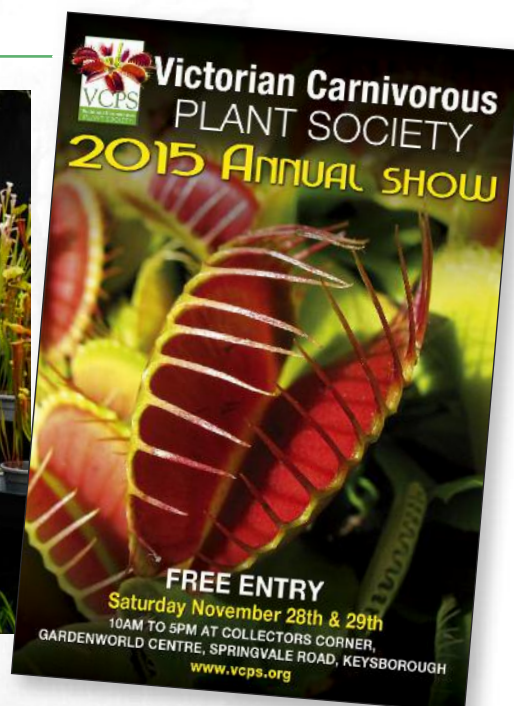
We now have a huge collection of NEW fresh CP seed available, and our seed list has become quite extensive.

With over 250 varieties of CP's, we are now providing the list in PDF format on our website, www.vcps.org

For inquiries or to order seeds, please contact the VCPS Seedbank Officer.

The articles that are found within are copyright but can be copied freely if the author and source are acknowledged. The views are of the authors and are open to review and debate. Please send all material to the editor for consideration to be included in our quarterly journal.

VCPS News



VCPS ANNUAL SHOW

The VCPS annual is on again this year and is being held at Collectors Corner in Gardenworld which is a sensational venue. Entry is free for all and it's surely going to be another great show containing a huge range of rare and amazing species on show and for sale.

This year it starts on Saturday November 28th at 10am and ends on Sunday November 29th at 5pm.

It's one of the biggest events on the calendar for the society and is a great opportunity for members to meet and greet other collectors, and see and purchase some fantastic plants.

TRIFFID PARK OPEN DAY

Triffid Park's Annual Open Day is on again this year on Sunday 29th November at their nursery in Somerville, from 12 – 4pm. (103 Dandenong-Hastings Road, Somerville)

It's free entry and everyone is welcome to come along to visit their fantastic, internationally renowned carnivorous plant nursery. Triffid Park has been very busy over the past 12 months installing grow lights for the VFT's and building 2 new *Nepenthes* hanging racks, plus getting all of their plants ready for the Spring sales.

It'll be a brilliant afternoon where you can browse through their huge collection of plants and purchase some if you wish. They take cash, Visa and Mastercard to make life easy for buyers. There will also be a FREE plant giveaway to every child – they can pot it themselves. And a FREE raffle of a \$25 gift voucher to Triffid Park drawn on the day.

The VCPS will have a display table set up to welcome visitors and to help answer any cp questions, and inform the general public about the society and carnivorous plants.

Triffid Parks "Carniseum Room" will have lots of tables and chairs if you want to bring your lunch. If members are coming from country Victoria, interstate, or overseas, mark the date in your diary now, as it is definitely worth the trip.



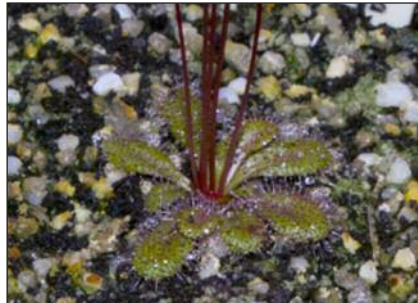
Cheers
Steve Fretwell
VCPS Editor

Meetings highlights & Plants of the night!

BY ANDREW GIBBONS



PLANT OF THE NIGHT, Equal 1st:
Drosera aberrans 'Golden Dew'



PLANT OF THE NIGHT, Equal 1st:
Drosera browniana



PLANT OF THE NIGHT, 3rd place:
Drosera aberrans (Kyneton, Vic)



Drosera lowriei "Giant form"



3 different VFT tissue culture flasks.



Drosera macrophylla

July 22nd VCPS meeting

ROSETTED TUBEROUS DROSERA

The topic for the July meeting was rosetted tuberous *Drosera* and propagation methods. Andre Cleghorn runs Flora Laboratories, a commercial tissue culture laboratory specialising in carnivorous plants, orchids and bromeliads and supplies flasks and offers flasking services to both commercial nurseries and the public. He brought in several flasks including *Nepenthes*, *Pinguicula*, *Dionaea*, *Drosera* and *Heliamphora*.

Bryn has also been tissue culturing flytraps at home. He brought in several flasks, including seedlings and plants introduced to flask from leaf pullings.

A number of *Sarracenia* seedlings were brought in that had mostly been grown from imported seed. We can expect to see a large boost in the variation and quality of the *Sarracenia* species available locally in the coming years.

Judging for the rosetted tuberous *Drosera* Section of the Annual Show was held at the July meeting and a large variety of well grown species were brought in. Equal 1st place went to Steve Fretwell's *Drosera aberrans* 'Golden Dew', a recently named cultivar that produces pale yellow green leaves, and Sean Spence's *Drosera browniana*, a pink flowered species from the inland areas of south-west Western Australia. 3rd place went to Peter Bloem's *Drosera aberrans*, Kyneton Victoria, which filled a pot with rosettes. Peter said this plant always flowers well.

The species benched at the July meeting included:

- Dionaea muscipula*
- Dionaea muscipula* 'Freaky Star'
- Dionaea muscipula* 'Red Piranha' x self

- Dionaea muscipula* 'Sharks Teeth' x ?
- Dionaea muscipula* 'Schuppenstiel'
- Dionaea muscipula* 'Vigorous'
- Drosera aberrans*
- Drosera aberrans* 'Golden Dew'
- Drosera browniana*
- Drosera aff bulbosa*
- Drosera collina*
- Drosera coccicaulis*
- Drosera erythrorhiza*
- Drosera lowriei*
- Drosera macrophylla* ssp *monantha*
- Drosera praeifolia*
- Drosera prostratoscaposa*
- Drosera regia*
- Drosera tubaestylis*
- Drosera whittakeri*
- Heliamphora nutans*
- Nepenthes naga*
- Nepenthes* sp.
- Pinguicula* sp.
- Sarracenia psittacina*
- Sarracenia psittacina* var. *okefenokeensis*
- Sarracenia flava*
- Sarracenia flava* var. *atropurpurea*
- Sarracenia flava* var. *ornata*
- Sarracenia flava* var. *rubricorpora*
- Sarracenia* 'Moorei'
- Sarracenia leucophylla*



PLANT OF THE NIGHT, 1st place:
Drosera platypoda



PLANT OF THE NIGHT, 2nd place:
Drosera modesta



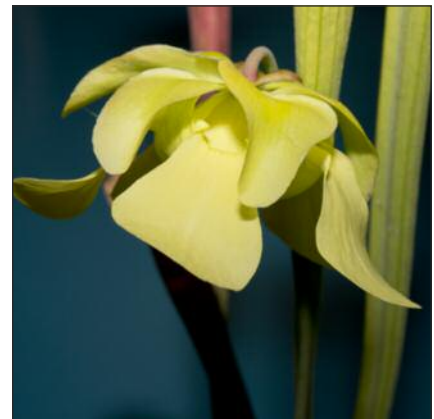
PLANT OF THE NIGHT, 3rd place:
Drosera macrantha "Swamp form"



Drosera graniticola



Drosera rupicola



Sarracenia alata flower

August 26th VCPS meeting

UPRIGHT TUBEROUS/WINTER GROWING DROSERA

Upright tuberous *Drosera* were the topic plants for the August meeting. Ron brought in two pots filled with *Drosera platypoda*, one of which was awarded the topic plant of the night. This species comes from the south-west corner of Western Australia and multiplies well in cultivation.

There were several plants of the former *Drosera peltata* complex brought in, including *Drosera peltata*, *Drosera auriculata* and *Drosera hookeri* from various locations.

Several pots were brought in that had been grown from seed supplied to the seed bank. Seed from the *D. peltata* group germinates very easily without needing heat stratification or GA3 treatment and stays viable for many years.

The question of when the best time to repot tuberous *Drosera* was asked. Steve repots his plants from late November to January. The root system of tuberous *Drosera* is usually still in the process of dying back for several weeks after the leaves have turned black. It's best to leave the plants for 1 or 2 months after the leaves have died back before disturbing the pot to allow the roots to completely die off.

Justin's *Nepenthes tenuis* won non-topic plant of the night. This species was originally collected from West Sumatra in 1957. It was formally described in 1994 from a herbarium specimen and was only recently rediscovered in the wild in 2002.

Peter brought in two dead plants of *Drosophyllum luscitanicum*. Peter is normally a very skilled grower of *Drosophyllum* but he noticed that these two young plants in his collection were dying and brought them in to explain why.

This species comes from drier areas of Portugal, Spain and Morocco and prefers a much drier mix than most other carnivorous plants.

One had been grown in a self watering pot but the plant had become too wet and was suffering from root rot. The other was started from seed in a jiffy pot which was placed into a larger pot after it had germinated. While this is an excellent way of minimising transplant shock in small seedlings, the seedling did not send its roots through the jiffy pot into the larger pot and had become too dry. This species can be very fussy about its water requirements and Peter's plants showed how attentive you need to be to making sure your *Drosophyllum* get the right amount of water.

Plants benched at the August meeting included:

Drosera auriculata
Drosera graniticola
Drosera hookeri
Drosera macrantha
Drosera modesta
Drosera moorei
Drosera peltata
Drosera platypoda
Drosera rupicola
Drosophyllum luscitanicum
Nepenthes tenuis
Sarracenia purpurea ssp *venosa* var. *burkeii*
Sarracenia alata



PLANT OF THE NIGHT, 1st place:
Cephalotus follicularis



PLANT OF THE NIGHT, 2nd place:
Catopsis berteroniana



PLANT OF THE NIGHT, 3rd place:
Brocchinia reducta



Heliamphora nutans x heterodoxa



Nepenthes vogelii



A flask of *D. muscipula* in flower.

September 23rd VCPS meeting

CEPHALOTUS, CATOPSIS AND BROCCHINIA

The topic plants for the September meeting were *Cephalotus*, *Catopsis* and *Brocchinia*. Plant of the night went to Bryn's terrarium of *Cephalotus follicularis*. The terrarium contained several well grown plants and is lit by two 24 watt compact fluorescent tubes on a 14 hour photoperiod. The terrarium is watered from the top every two weeks.

Two of the carnivorous bromeliads were brought into the meeting. Peter brought in his *Catopsis berteroniana*. This is an epiphytic species that grows naturally from Florida through to southern Brazil. Peter grows this plant in a shaded spot and uses a mix of orchid bark and peat. He says it flowers about every two years.

Steve brought in a *Brocchinia reducta* with several new pups growing from the main plant. The plant is potted in a mix of orchid bark, peat and sand. *Brocchinia reducta* is a terrestrial bromeliad native to Venezuela, Colombia, Guyana and northern Brazil.

Amongst the non-topic plants benched at the meeting Justin brought in a well grown plant of *Heliamphora nutans x heterodoxa*, which was awarded non-topic plant of the night.

Nepenthes vogelii was also benched. This was a tall plant that was producing both upper and lower pitchers. Two *Drosera platypoda* were brought in, one which was all red and the other all green.

The species benched at the September meeting included:

- Brocchinia reducta*
- Catopsis berteroniana*
- Cephalotus follicularis*
- Drosera platypoda*
- Dionaea muscipula*
- Heliamphora nutans x heterodoxa*
- Heliamphora tatei*
- Nepenthes aristolochioides*
- Nepenthes peltata*
- Nepenthes vogelii*
- Sarracenia X moorei*
- Sarracenia purpurea x oreophila*
- Sarracenia purpurea ssp. purpurea*
- Sarracenia purpurea ssp. venosa*
- Sarracenia purpurea ssp. venosa var. montana*

Things to do this spring

Sow these seeds

Due to the warming weather September to December is a good time to sow a lot of different sorts of *Drosera* (Not tuberous *Drosera* though), *Utricularia*, *Pinguicula*, *Nepenthes* and a few other genera.

Pollinate your plants

Spring is the best time to pollinate *Sarracenia*, *Darlingtonia* and *Dionaea muscipula* as it's the only time that they will flower every year. Miss them and you'll need to wait another whole year! The VCPS also welcomes donations of fresh seed to help keeping the society running.



Prepare your plants for show and for sale

The VCPS annual show is coming up on the 28th and 29th of November, so now is a good time to stake any upright growing *Sarracenia* to prevent them from falling over due to the weather if they're growing outside.

Make sure there's no other weeds or species in the pot that shouldn't be there. Trim off last years dead or dying leaves and perhaps spray them with a insecticide if any aphids, caterpillars etc are starting to eat your plants.

Top dress the soil surface with some fresh peat moss if it looks unsightly, due to slime or the moss growing too tall. And use new labels if they're looking old and the writing is starting to fade.

See plants in the wild

Many Victorian species will be at their best or will be flowering in Spring. Looking good in September and most likely flowering you can see *Drosera auriculata*, *D. peltata*, *D. gracilis* and *D. hookeri* all around the state. The cooler the weather and the wetter the ground will prolong their growth.

Utricularia dichotoma, *U. barkeri* and *U. grampiana* will start to flower from September and may be possible to see them into January if conditions stay wet where they grow.



Check watering systems

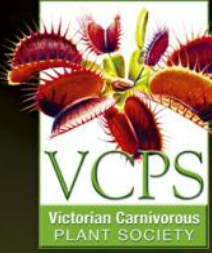
You'll be starting to have to water your plants more regulary as the temperatures get hotter and more evaporation starts to occur in your water trays. If you use drippers or misting systems make sure you do a check to see if they are still working properly so that your plants don't dry out.

Start foliar feeding

Although it's not necessary, many plants will show the benefits from foliar feeding them once every couple of weeks. Any fertiliser that's low in urea is crucial and good results have been seen using Maxsea, Aquasol and Seasol as well as many different types of orchid fertilisers.

Just remember to use a very low concentrate, a 1/4 the normal strength I'd suggested using a maximum amount and test it first on a common plant first, before using it on your whole collection or your best and most expensive plants.

Happy growing
Cheers Steve Fretwell



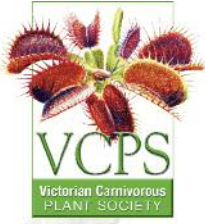
Victorian Carnivorous PLANT SOCIETY 2015 Annual Show

FREE ENTRY

Saturday November 28th & 29th

10AM TO 5PM AT COLLECTORS CORNER,
GARDENWORLD CENTRE, SPRINGVALE ROAD, KEYSBOROUGH

www.vcps.org



Victorian Carnivorous PLANT SOCIETY^{INC.}

Annual Subscriptions

- Australian membership \$28.00**
- Overseas membership \$28.00**
- Electronic membership \$18.00**
- Mail & Electronic Membership \$30.00**

All cheques or money orders should be made payable to the Victorian Carnivorous Plant Society Inc (VCPS). Payment can be made by Cheque, Money Orders, Direct deposit and Paypal. Payment from overseas must be in Australian dollars. (Payment by Credit card is also available for international members only.) Please visit vcps.org for further details

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Please forward all correspondence regarding subscription, change of address, articles for the journal and back issues to:

The Secretary VCPS
1 Pollard Place,
Sunbury, Victoria 3429.
AUSTRALIA

Journal articles, in MS-Word, ready for publication, may be Emailed to the Editor or Secretary.

Meetings

Most VCPS meetings are held in the hall at the rear of the Pilgrim Uniting Church on the corner of Bayview Road and Montague Street, Yarraville – Melway map reference 41K7. These meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 8 PM.

However, some meetings may be at the home of members during a weekend. Details of meeting dates and topics are listed in each journal.

If unsure of the location or date of any meeting, please ring a committee person for details.

The VCPS Annual General Meeting, usually held at Yarraville in June, provides substantial benefits for each and every member able to attend.



Sarracenia oreophila var. *ornata*



Sarracenia flava var. *ornata*



Sarracenia 'Leah Wilkerson'



Nepenthes maxima "Miniature form"



Sarracenia alata var. *nigropurpurea*



Nepenthes maxima "Miniature form"



Nepenthes pitopangii



Dionaea muscipula "Clone No 1"