



ARANBEEM ORCHIDS

"The Orchid Centre of Australia"

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Mr Col Clarey
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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

We have trialed Maidenwell Diatomite at Aranbeem Orchids for the past 18 months. In addition, we have also monitored trials by associated amateur growers in other areas of Queensland and New South Wales during this period.

Maidenwell Diatomite has been used both 100% and as a major component of media for an extensive range of genera, including Cattleya, Dendrobium, Oncidium, Vanda, Phalaenopsis and Species. We have used it for newly deflasked plants, potting on of intermediate size plants and for flowering size plants being divided.

During this period we have also followed extensive trials of Maidenwell Diatomite in leading overseas nurseries we have association with. These trials involved growth and tissue analysis of plants, and have resulted in the adoption of Maidenwell Diatomite as a growing media in their extensive operations. Aranbeem Orchids and associated growers have in the order of 100,000 orchids now potted using Maidenwell Diatomite.

We are achieving excellent growth (both rate and sturdiness of plant) and healthy root development. Fungal and bacteria disease problems with newly deflasked to divided plants have been non-existent. Other growers also attest that this media is repellent to slugs and snails. In addition (though not of prime consideration), cost is more economical than most traditional medias used in orchid culture.

Aranbeem Orchids is a reputable and respected supplier of good quality, healthy plants in the Australian Orchid Industry. Over the past 20 years we have trialed many alternative "new" orchid growing medias, and none has achieved the results mentioned above. We recommend Maidenwell Diatomite for your serious consideration.

(Ross Maidment B.Ag.Sc.)