

New Zealand National Chrysanthemum Society

Notes

We are now at the time of the growing season when we will be securing the buds on our plants. It is very important that we have the plants pest and disease free to ensure that the buds will not be damaged. The plants will have their maximum number of leaves now which makes it harder to spray for insects so concentrate on the underside of the leaves which is where thrips, mites and caterpillars like to hide. Removing the old leaves at the very base of the plant also helps control pests.

Bud Securing

Bud securing also known as disbudding is done to help the flower bud to develop to its maximum size and form. Once the bud is secured the flower will be fully developed about six weeks later. One needs to be careful when removing the lateral buds not to cause any damage to the stem as that would cause the stem to be bent. Disbudding is best done in the morning when the plant is cool and full of water. Only do disbudding once the buds are well developed and easy to handle by a side way movement from the leaf axial then pull it back the other way so that the stem is not damaged. Never try to disbud if the plant is under any stress and the foliage is wilting. Disbudding is best done before the side buds get too large or have grown taller than the terminal bud. The central terminal bud will have the highest petal count and the best form.



The National Shows are to be held in Invercargill (South Island) and Hawera (North Island) on the 6th. And 7th. May. Registration forms have been sent out you can request forms if you need them from the Editor (Michael Coulter email coulтчrys@xtra.co.nz).

As the editor I would welcome any items about chrysanthemums and club news.

Congratulations to our National President and his wife on the occasion of their golden wedding best wishes to you both Tom and Isobel Dalhenburg.

The Editor

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