

New Zealand National Chrysanthemum Society

Notices

2023 National Show

To be held in Invercargill on the 6th. and 7th. May 2023 at the Southland Indoor Bowling Club 50 Onslow Street Invercargill This is close to the Ascot Park hotel/motel where the annual dinner and prize giving will be held. It is recommended that you book early to stay there as accomodation can be very busy in Invercargill.

North Island Show

2023

To be held on the 6th. and 7th. of May in Hawera Paul Lander is starting to organise this show. North Island growers please support this show if you can further information will be available soon.

Subscription Reminder

A gentle reminder to those members who have not paid this years subscription yet.



Welcome New Members

We have two new members to welcome to the Society they are Stuart and Val Hamlin from Invercargill we look forward to meeting you at the show.

To make shows more relevant to the number of growers and the number of plants that people grow today we need to review show schedules so that growers are able to compete at our shows. This needs to be done in a very considered and consulted way. We have a proposal for the fantasy class in Invercargill. 6 vases of fantasy 1 bloom per vase not less than 4 cultivars. This will replace the 6 vases 3 blooms per vase class. Could this be the way to go for future shows and other classes?

Comments to the Editor

We need your comments and contributions for newsletters please send them to Michael Coulter editor.

Email coultchrys@xtra.co.nz

Cultural Notes

There are many ways that chrysanthemum cuttings are propagated here is the method that I use that gives me the best results.

The stools are cut back in May put into trays in the green house to over winter. By Late August the new shoots are ready for cuttings to be taken. The new shoots are sprayed for pest and disease a week before I take any cuttings. I use a scalpel to cut the cuttings I then trim off the lower leaves and dip the stems in liquid rooting hormone. Using plastic seed trays with pumice I then put the cuttings into the trays and water them in and for the first 2 to 3 days cover them with a single layer of news paper. The heated bench has the thermostat set at 18 degrees c . I will give the trays a fine mist dependent on the weather once or twice a day until they show signs of rooting. As soon as they are well rooted I will pot them up into small pots. I usually expect to have roots on the cuttings within 5 days and be ready to pot up by 12 to 14 days there are always some cultivars that will take a little longer. Always remember to write the label first.

I use a general purpose potting mix which has the 3 to 4 month slow release fertiliser in it. This is the same mix that I have used for the whole growing season right through to the final potting up. I have used this mix for over 25 years. I will do liquid feeds as I feel the plants may need it and also will give a potash feeds from bud initiation onwards.



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Wanted Paul Lander is looking for some help to run the North Island national show next year especially needed is a show secretary if you can help contact Paul by email
p_landar@hotmail.com

Show to be held on the 6th. And 7th. May in Hawera.

Contact me with any of your local show dates for 2023 and they will be included in the next newsletter.

Email to
coulchrys@xtra.co.nz



We are now well into spring so I have been taking plenty of cuttings and potting the rooted plants into their first pot. This year I have been able to choose the best cuttings all of the same size as the stock plants have given me plenty of cuttings. Before disposing of the old stools I will take a second lot of cuttings just in case I have a mishap as I do not want loose any of my cultivars especially if I am the only person who has them. Now that the days are longer and warmer cuttings root a lot quicker and in the past I have found that some cultivars do better from the second propagation. This gives me choices so that as I pot on I can use the best plants to carry on with.

Tray of rooted cuttings ready to be potted on.



Growers often will make up their own soil/potting mix to grow their plants in, however I have found by using a commercially made potting mix that is of the same quality every year I am getting a much better plant. I use a general purpose mix that has 4 to 6 month slow release fertiliser plus some short term fertiliser, lime and trace elements giving all that is needed for optimal plant growth. While the plants are at this initial stage I will use a ready mixed trigger spray with an insecticide/fungicide as I only need small quantities of spray which are not easy to mix.



After 2 to 3 weeks plants will have developed a good root system ready to pot on to the next size pot I would go into a 100mm pot. Give the plants plenty of space to keep them compact

NEW ZEALAND National Chrysanthemum Society

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There are still a few members who have not paid their subscription fee please up date your membership as this may be the last newsletter that you will receive.

Subs \$35 single per year

\$40 double per year

Bank account number

02-0727-0566160-000

Please let the secretary know of any changes to your address or contact details.

Charlotte Robb secretary

chrys.secretary@outlook.com



Over the last two months there have been many chrysanthemum exhibitions in India and Pakistan this a photo of one of the blooms showing the standard that is on show. They grow a wide range of types and are up to date with many new cultivars from around the world. Face book has many images of the shows which are big with large numbers of flowers on show.



Plants are now growing rapidly so need to be kept stress free with regular watering, feeding and spraying. Pest and disease damage at this stage will be detrimental to the quality of the blooms later on.



Stakes for support should be put in place now before the breaks get any larger, this will keep the stems straight and also prevent any damage to the breaks.



Plants that are grown on two stops will have many more breaks on them. Remove first any that are down low and have not been stopped once then choose the second crown breaks that are the most even.



The reason that we reduce the number of breaks is to get the best quality blooms that are the most even in size and will allow plenty of light into the leaves and stems that helps with pest and disease control.