

UPDATE FOR NSW GROWERS & RE SELLING NATIVE ORCHIDS IN NSW

I have been engaged in further correspondence with the National Parks and Wildlife Service regarding outstanding issues relating to the Growers' Licensing provisions of the *Whole Plant Sustainable Management Plan 2018-22*.

Most people and societies who wanted a grower's licence should have been able to obtain it by now, but there were some unresolved issues regarding the licences for orchid societies and National Parks has prepared a draft set of guidelines specifically for orchid societies. I made submissions about some matters addressed in that document and I understand the guidelines will be finalised and released very soon. I have not seen the final form of that guidance document so I will not comment on it. However, in the meantime a few of my own questions were answered by National Parks and this information may be of interest:

1. Only Orchidaceae native to NSW are required to be licenced for sale under the Management Plan. Members should refer to PlantNET <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/> for information on the species that are considered to be native to NSW.

Although this separate topic was not specifically addressed, it would seem to follow from the above that hybrids consisting solely of species which are not native to NSW would not be caught by the licensing requirements either.

2. The provision of the Management Plan prohibiting the offering for sale of plants attached to "an endemic growing media" was intended to identify (illegal) wild harvested orchid plants still attached to the branch on which they were growing when illegally collected from the wild. Attaching propagated orchids to cultivated mounts is acceptable.

Though this is reassuring, I think it would be wise for anyone planning to eventually sell plants they are mounting on cultivated native mounts to keep a record of the source of the mounts and of the attaching of the cultivated plants to those mounts, maybe even a digital photo of the flask, the label, and the newly mounted seedlings.

Roslyn Capell
ANOS Inc. Conservation Officer
15.11.18