

and only half cover the stem. Plantlets emerge from the nodes and when large enough can be removed and potted up.

Protection

For *Phaius* to be available for future generations to appreciate in the wild, the following measures need to be followed:

Ensure plants are only purchased from licensed suppliers

Discourage wild collection

Identify and control problem weeds

Exclude pigs and livestock from known areas where they currently exist

Carry out some form of fire management in known habitat areas

Try to minimise clearing, draining and development of known habitat areas

Promote awareness of their vulnerability.

Harry Kupke is a specialist grower of tassel ferns, ant plants and *Phaius* in Mackay, Queensland.

2016 Australian Orchid Foundation Award of Honour

By Geoff Stocker

Mr. Philip Spence, a well-known hybridizer and grower of orchids from Australia and the Pacific region, was presented with the Australian Orchid Foundation Award of Honour for 2016.

Orchids became a full time occupation in 1997 when he was appointed to be Director of the Research Centre of the National Capital Botanic Gardens, Port Moresby. Here his main duty was to explore the potential for establishing a cut flower industry based on the orchids native to the region. To achieve this a library was established, expeditions mounted to collect new and poorly known species, a hybridizing programme begun, laboratory and herbarium established, and staff trained in all aspects of orchid cultivation.

Phil's returned to Australia in 2000 and has continued the work of documentation and hybridization, becoming an Honorary Research Associate of the Herbarium of Sydney Botanic Gardens. Currently his major taxonomic interest centres on the *Dendrobium* spp. of section *Latouria*.

The size and depth of his work as a hybridizer is clearly shown in Sanders lists where, in relation to hybrids within the genus *Dendrobium*, it is revealed that he has been the second most prolific worker in the field. In a lifetime of involvement with orchids Phil's contribution to the scientific, pot plant and cut flower sectors of the industry is well documented in local and international journals and in his participation in conferences here and overseas.

In recent years Phil has led many field trips to PNG. These have provided practical insights into the ecology of this rich environment. The knowledge gained by participants has greatly assisted growers determined to cultivate this beautiful group of orchids.



Philip Spence with *Dendrobium finisterrae*
Photo by Justin Tkatchenko



2016. "2016 Australian Orchid Foundation Award of Honour – Phil Spence."
The Orchadian 18(10), 475–475.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/312325>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/363370>

Holding Institution

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

Sponsored by

Atlas of Living Australia

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Australasian Native Orchid Society

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

Rights: <http://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.