## The Orchid Conservation Coalition 2009 Wrap Up

In 2009, the Spokane Orchid Society, USA, the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society, USA, and the Vallarta Orchid Society, Mexico are participating in 1% for Orchid Conservation. As of this writing so has the Oregon Orchid Society, USA and one business the International Flower Essence Repertoire, UK.

In 2009 three non- profit conservation organizations are participating in the coalition: Debwendon Inc., Canada, the Native Orchid Conservation Inc, Canada and the Gurukula Botanical Sanctuary, India. As of this writing so is the Association of Orchid Producers in El Valle and Cabuya, Panama.

In 2009, the OCC had its first major success in being instrumental is helping save the habitat of *Arachnorchis (Caladenia) rosella* in Australia.

Good news, the habitat of *Arachnorchis (Caladenia) rosella* in Australia that Dr Randall Robinson wrote about has been purchased. A philanthropist that read the article on the Orchid Conservation Coalition website donated the additional funds needed to purchase the habitat. The purchase of the land happened on May 23, 2009 by a coalition of the Trust for Nature, Dunmoochin Foundation, the local people and the very generous philanthropist. After the successful auction bid there is enough money left over for management of the habitat.

Dr Robinson says, "We went through too many bottles of champagne after the auction! Needless to say we are all just over the moon. Thank you so much for your input. The monies we gained through the philanthropist that found us through your website tipped us over the edge and allowed us to have a wonderful outcome."



Arachnorchis (Caladenia) rosella

Everyone should be proud of the successful preservation of the habitat of *Arachnorchis* (*Caladenia*) *rosella*. There are only about 140 known plants in the wild. So this purchase is very important. It is a good example of how networking and getting information out about orchid conservation can make a positive impact. Thanks to all the people, orchid societies, businesses, and conservation organizations involved in the Orchid Conservation Coalition may we continue to have successes. Full story and more pictures: <a href="http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org/pr/arosella.html">http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org/pr/arosella.html</a>

Two initiatives to buy or protect orchid habitat:

The Orchid and Botanical Garden (Jardìn Botànico Las Orquìdeas) of Puyo, Ecuador request for donations to buy land for reforestation and as a wildlife corridor. Neighboring land to the orchid reserve, a potential corridor between the reserve and the lower Rio Puyo watershed, is currently for sale. The land is 25 hectares (61.78 acres) for \$250,000 US dollars (Ecuador's currency is the

US dollar). They are currently looking for \$125,000 in donations with the rest to come in matching funds. Full Story: <a href="http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org/pr/jblorestore.html">http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org/pr/jblorestore.html</a>

Debwendon Inc and the Native Orchid Conservation, Inc. (NOCI) are soliciting donations to build a boardwalk and interpretive trail over a part of the Brokenhead Wetland Ecological Reserve. The Brokenhead Wetland contains 28 species of orchids and 8 species of carnivorous plants including 23 provincially rare species. Full Story: <a href="http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org/pr/brokenheadtrail.html">http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org/pr/brokenheadtrail.html</a>

**Donation total for 2009** (Donation amount given in equivalents)

\$45,658.59 Australian Dollars

\$43,013.92 Canadian Dollars

\$ 500,221.14 Mexico Peso

£ 25,568.59 UK Pound

\$ 40,106.32 US Dollars

## **Total Donations since Start (2005)**

\$55,676.88 Australian Dollars

\$ 51,712.52 Canadian Dollars

\$ 599,241.87 Mexico Peso

£ 30,764.39 UK Pound

\$48,016.27 US Dollars

For more information on the Orchid Conservation Coalition and orchid conservation visit <a href="http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org">http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org</a> or email: <a href="mailto:information@orchidconservationcoalition.org">information@orchidconservationcoalition.org</a>