

JULY EVENT

Monthly Meeting: Monday, July 8, 2024

Gardenhouse Workshop, at the Atlanta Botanical Garden

Gather at 7 p.m; Program starts at 7:30 p.m.

Ti Do on Soft Cane Dendrobium Cultivation

The speaker will bring plants to sell Bring your blooming plants for our monthly ribbon judging

Ti Do (Florida Orchid House) on Soft Cane Dendrobium Cultivation

Growing up in Vietnam, Ti Do and-Henry Ho have always been around orchids and fascinated by them. After their family moved to the United States, their love for orchids grew greater than ever as they were given access to a greater diversity of orchids from around the world. With backgrounds in microbiology and business administration, Ti and Henry founded Florida Orchid House to explore and advance their passion for growing, hybridizing, and trading orchids. Their goal is to make available hard-to-find varieties of orchids to other growers and collectors. Currently, our focal point is the cultivation and breeding of Asian varieties such soft cane Dendrobiums.

Ti and Henry are coming by plane and will bring a couple of suitcases full of plants to sell.



President's Message

I am sure we all can tell but the devil has come down to Georgia with his fiddle, whew! This heat is something else for us humans to deal with, but some of our orchids are loving this tropical heat and humidity. I still have to remember to brave the heat either in the morning or late afternoons to water and fertilize to make sure that my plants are getting adequate water and nutrients to maximize whatever growth they can in their growing season. Our cooler growers may start showing signs of slowing down or even lamenting in this heat which we will need to respond to by increasing shade, airflow, irrigation or moving to a cooler area of our greenhouse or house if needed.

It was great seeing everyone at last

month's ice cream social, familiar and new faces alike. This coming month we will have Ti Do from Florida Orchid House, which you may have seen at our previous orchid society shows. She will be coming to speak on soft-cane dendrobiums and will have some plants for sale.

I am a bit disappointed that my last survey for the society on potential project plants of interest didn't garner much attention, but no worries, I'll try again this coming month. I won't give up so easily!

On that note about new potential plants in our collections, I just received an email from Sunset Valley Orchids,

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Message from the Atlanta Judging Center

Do you have a well bloomed plant? The Atlanta Judging Center wants to see it!

The Atlanta Judging Center would like to invite you to any of their upcoming monthly judging events for a chance to get your spectacular orchid in bloom an award. Your plant needs to have an identity.

Seeing the judging center in action may also entice you to become a student judge and learn what it means to be an orchid judge.

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The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 65: Number 7 – July 2024 Newsletter Editors: Véronique Perrot & Mark Reinke

The Atlanta Orchid Society is affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest Corporation, the Mid-America Orchid Congress, and the Garden Club of Geogia.

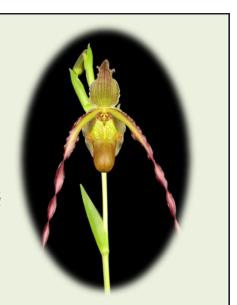
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is seeking highly motivated orchid enthusiasts to join the judging ranks

Work with other like-minded people in support of AOS awards programs and educational efforts

For more information contact us at judges@aos.org



EVENTS CALENDAR

July

8 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Ti Do (Florida Orchid House) on Soft Cane Dendrobium Cultivation

12–14 – Baton Rouge Orchid Society Show (Baton Rouge, LA)

13 – AOS monthly judging

August

10 - AOS monthly judging

12 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: workshop on how to repot orchids

September

7–8 – Smoky Mountain Orchid Society Show (Knoxville, TN)

9 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting 13–15 – Triangle Orchid Society Show (Raleigh, NC)

14 - AOS monthly judging

20–22 – Alabama Orchid Society Show (Birmingham, AL)

27–29 – Kentucky Orchid Society Show (Louisville, KY)

28–29 – Ridge Orchid Society Show (Lakeland, FL)

October

5-6 - Tampa Orchid Club Expo (Tampa, FL)

12 - AOS monthly judging

14 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

19–20 – Gainesville Orchid Society Show (Gainesville, FL)



Coelia bella 'Stunning' CCM/AOS (photographer: Bayard Saraduke)

Connoisseur's Corner The Genus *Coelia*

(Pronunciation: SEE-lee-ah) (Abbreviation: Coe.) Notable species: Coelia bella, Coelia triptera, Coelia macrostachya

A genus of five charismatic elusive species generally known for their fragrant inflorescences, at least for four of them. They originate from the majority of Central America as well as some Caribbean Islands such as Jamaica, Cuba and Puerto Rico. They have plicate leaves resembling blades of grass on top of eggshaped pseudobulbs. *Coelia bella* is said to have a strong scent of marzipan and other species have sweet spice scents as well.

Most of the species in the genus are largely intermediate growers which can tolerate warmer conditions as well, with the exception of *Coelia densiflora* which appreciates cooler conditions. Most of the species grow as terrestrial (ground-dwelling) or rarely epiphytic



Coelia macrostachya 'Las Maria' CHM/AOS (photographer unknown)

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Connoisseur's Corner

Continued from page 3

(tree-dwelling) so this allows for a variety of media to experiment with with attention to the media's ability to stay moist while maintaining good airflow to the roots. Coelia can be grown in pots or baskets of medium grade mix composed of perlite, charcoal and medium to small fir bark. Coelia appreciates even watering throughout the year with slight drying between waterings. Plants do well when allowed to be slightly pot-bound as overpotting should be avoided. They like a bright light level akin to Cattleya with attention that their leaves don't burn nor bleach from the sun. The aim is for the leaves to be an olive-green to light grass green color with slow acclimation to higher light levels. They typically experience higher light levels in the winter time versus summer due to the overhead canopy thinning out during the dry season. They appreciate an eastern or south-east facing window but can tolerate a western facing window as long as protection is given from the intensity of the day and evening sun. They are tolerant of shadier conditions but may result in thinner growths as well as reduced flowering. When plants are in active growth, they need to be fertilized weekly at 1/4 strength and can be foliar-feed with kelp once a week. With the maturation of the bulb from a tall shoot into a pseudobulb, usually around September, coincides with their rest period where they expe-



Coelia triptera 'Jardin botanique de Montreal' CHM/AOS (photographer unknown)

rience dryer and cooler conditions than normal. The watering is reduced to just enough to prevent shriveling of the bulb excessively but the media should not be dry for prolonged periods. With the appearance of new growth or flowering peduncles, the rest period ends and watering and fertilizing resumes. *Coelia* usually flower from November to March depending on the species, and when they

do, it's a fragrant show that we all can enjoy for about two weeks!

They are not often seen in collections or for sale but when they are offered, you should try to acquire one as they are a hardy species to enjoy.

Happy Growing!

Bailey Santwire

President's Message

Continued from page 1

in California, with their late spring catalog of orchids and I AM DROOLING OVER THEIR NEW SELECTIONS! The orchid bug itches once again! I might click on a few buttons as I am typing this and I hope you enjoy it as much as I do! Keep an eye out for certain vendors as they may offer online sales to us hobbyists! We also need to keep an eye out for sketchy vendors that are known for selling overpriced, mislabeled, infested or virused plants. This will affect the results, quality and vigor of our plants as

we grow them out to bloom.

I can say that I am happy as I have been promoted from associate status to accredited status as a judge from our Atlanta Judging Center. It has been a great learning journey and I'll admit that my learning will never stop as there are innumerable species and hybrids out there to see. I highly encourage anyone wanting to learn more and see more to join the Atlanta Judging Center to see what they do every month. Attending one meeting has always provided good information as

we learn about the plants, its ancestry and its desirable qualities on the table and it is a welcoming environment to all!

As my orchid-related excursions outdoors tend to be short as I am on fire with the heat, I'll keep this message brief.

Happy growing as always, and may your orchids prosper!

Bailey Santwire Atlanta Orchid Society President

Judges' Corner (1)

The Atlanta Judging Center convened on April 13, 2024. Fourteen plants were considered for AOS Awards, and one plant received an award.

2024-2070 *Anguloa clowesii* 'Candle Flame,' HCC/AOS 77 points. Exhibitor: Edison Gu

The Atlanta Judging Center convened on May 11, 2024. Fourteen plants were considered for AOS Awards, and 2 plants received an award.

2024-2071 *Rlc.* Exotic Crown Ruby 'Maneki Hill,' AM/AOS 80 points (*Rlc.* Ruby Delight x *C.* Trudy Marsh) Exhibitor: Scott Elliott

2024-2072 *Rth.* Memoria Isabel Villanueva Alonso, AM/AOS 80 points (*Ctt.* Tropical Aurora 'SVO' x *Rlc.* Little Toshie 'Gold Country,' AM/AOS) Exhibitors: Firelli Alonso and Jon Crate

All photography by Charles Wilson.

Congratulations to the exhibitors!

Doug Hartong Chair, Atlanta Judging Center



Anguloa clowesii 'Candle Flame' HCC/AOS



Rlc. Exotic Crown Ruby 'Maneki Hill' AM/AOS



Rth. Memoria Isabel Villanueva Alonso AM/AOS

Judges' Corner (2)

The Atlanta Juding Center met on June 8, 2024, and considered 19 plants for an AOS Award. Two plants received awards.

2024-2083 *Vanda ampullacea f. album* 'Snowball,' CCM/AOS 83 points. Exhibitor: Greg Mosely

2024-2084 *Vanda* Cherry Blossom 'Sweetie Too,' CCM/AOS 87 points (*Vanda falcata* x *Vanda ampullacea*). Exhibitor: Steve Tacopina

All photography by Charles Wilson.

Congratulations to the exhibitors.

Doug Hartong Chair, Atlanta Judging Center









 $\it Vanda$ Cherry Blossom 'Sweetie Too' CCM/AOS

More Eye Candy...

This issue of the newsletter took a while to be born, and orchid photos kept on accumulating. Mark Reinke sent me pictures of a couple of his beauties:

Anguloa cliftonii – 5 little monster mouth blooms this time, baseball sized. I had to move the plant so I wasn't working downwind of it in the greenhouse – heavy perfume.

Dendrobium Hsinying Glomo (mohlianum x glomeratum) – the best out of a batch of seedlings I got as plugs. A nice mix of purple and orange and sparkly!

Now for really different plants: native, terrestrial orchids. First, I saw a little white orchid on Stone Mountain in early June. Mark identifies it as a *Spiranthes*, possibly *S. vernalis* as it is the only *Spiranthes* species documented for sure in Dekalb County.



Spiranthes sp. on Stone Mountain



Anguloa cliftonii

Then I just returned from a backpaking trip in Colorado, in Arapaho National Forest, and I saw at least 7 different orchid species!

Some were rather discreet, like the tiny Twayblade (*Listera convallarioides*): the whole plant was only a couple of



Listera convallarioides



Dendrobium Hsinying Glomo

inches tall. The slipper orchid I saw was also diminutive.

There were Coralroot galore, the whole plants reddish-maroon, *Corallorhiza maculata* for sure, and possibly also *C. wisteriana*.

I saw a white *Platanthera* up and down the trail. I also noticed a green version once, but how many such plants did I not notice?



Cypripedium fasciculatum



Corallorhiza maculata

I couldn't miss the Fairy Slipper orchid (*Calypso bulbosa*), the one brightly colored orchid on offer in these mountains



Calypso bulbosa



Corallorhiza wisteriana (?)



Platanthera sp, white



Platanthera sp, green

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting Ribbon Winners for May, 2024

Notes by Mark Reinke; photos by Danny Lentz and Jon Crate



Cattleya warneri forma coerulea 'Do Suzuki' AM/AOS

Class 1: Cattleya Alliance

Species

Blue: Cattleya warneri forma coerulea 'Do Suzuki,' AM/AOS – Carson Barnes

This magnificent large-flowered species comes from low elevations in several states immediately north of Rio de Janeiro, usually found as an epiphyte on trees growing on steep rock faces along streams and occasionally as a lithophyte on the rocks themselves. The flowers can be larger than seven inches across with as many as five on a single inflorescence. May and June are the peak flowering months for C. warneri in the northern hemisphere. It has sometimes been labeled as C. labiata, possibly to intentionally mislead since that species, which blooms in fall, was lost to cultivation for many decades. It was thought to come from the vicinity of Rio, but actually grows northeast in Brazil, and as I have mentioned before, flowered for the first time in cultivation in the collection of William Cattley in 1824, and thus the entire genus was named for him. Save for

the bloom season, the plants and flowers can be quite similar. In cultivation, however, I have found that *C. warneri* is much happier kept in a constantly warm environment whereas *C. labiata* tolerates cool nights in winter with little complaint. This plant is one of the forms with bluish coloration instead of the bright lavender hues of typical examples. The first mention in the awards for it comes



Cattleya tenebrosa 'Bonnybriar' AM/AOS

in 2008 when Brazilian Orchid Lovers Society (CAOB) gave it a 3rd place in the species category. It received an 81-point Award of Merit in Hilo, Hawaii in May of 2011. The flowers on Carson's plant seem to have better color and fuller form than this variety did at either of those two events based on the photos. About 19,000 registered hybrids have this species in their ancestry.

Red: Cattleya tenebrosa 'Bonnybriar,' AM/AOS – Carson Barnes

White: *Brassavola nodosa* 'Susan Fuchs,' FCC/AOS – Carson Barnes



Brassavola nodosa 'Susan Fuchs'



Cattleya Pulcherrima

Hybrids

Blue: Cattleya Pulcherrima (1898) – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

When you know that the word pulcherrima is Latin and is a superlative usually translated as "most beautiful," you understand why there is a long list of orchids from various genera that were given that name. In this case, when you see a year in parentheses following the name, it means there is a duplicate use of it within the breeding group and the year of registration indicates which one is meant. C. Pulcherrima (1898) is a hybrid between C. lobata and C. purpurata, both of which were originally classed as Laelia species. The cross was registered by Sanders of St. Albans, UK who also in 1913 registered Rlc. Pulcherrima (Rl. digbyana x C. Canhamiana). Thankfully such duplication is no longer permitted

within orchid breeding groups. This example of C. Pulcherrima was entered as a "variety alba." As Ron McHatton, who had this job prior to yours truly, would have said: those types of designations are reserved for species, not hybrids. I supposed you could give this plant the clonal name of 'Alba' or some other word that reveals it is a white form, but only species can have "variety" or "forma" added to their name to indicate a color variant. In studying the photo very closely, I believe I am seeing a faint brush of lavender below the yellow on the lip and also to some extent through the distal portion of each petal. That would disqualify the flower as a true alba type. In species, this very faint lavender tinge is often described as a "delicata" or "albescens" form. There definitely are some white forms of C. Pulcherrima, several of them awarded, and they are purest white with



Rhyncholaeliacattleya Kyoto Takahashi 'Volcano Queen'

only a wisp of yellow deep in the throat. Both of the species involved are native to southeast Brazil, at fairly low elevations near the coast, but C. lobata is nearing extinction as what was once its primary habitat is now the metropolis of Rio de Janeiro. It still exists on inaccessible cliffs and other difficult to reach locations but is exceedingly rare. C. purpurata has a larger range, extending almost to the southernmost border of the country, but is also becoming rare due to its many color forms and popularity as a hobby plant in Brazil. Grown well, with bright light, perfect drainage and year-round watering, C. Pulcherrima can become a showy specimen plant with dozens of blooms each year in its May-June flowering season.

Red: *Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Kyoko Takahashi 'Volcano Queen' – Fred Pippin



Rhyncholaeliacattleya Hans Kunning 'NN'

White: Rhyncholaeliocattleya Hans Kunning 'NN' - Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

Class 2: Cymbidium Alliance

No Entries



Dendrobium Green Flash



Don't let the name fool you, the Orchid Digest is a non-profit membership-based organization dedicated to orchids. Designed to appeal to the mid-range to advanced grower, nothing beats the Orchid Digest. For just \$39/year you get 4 issues of full-color, in-depth articles about orchids. The magazine is large format and the fourth issue of the year is always an extra-special edition devoted to a single genus. For membership application forms contact David Mellard (404-237-1694) or visit www.

Class 3: Dendrobium Alliance

Blue: *Dendrobium* Green Flash - Fred Pippin

Dendrobium Green Flash is a hybrid between Den. Andreé Millar and Den. convolutum. The first parent is a primary hybrid between that species and Den. atroviolaceum. The resulting plant has flowers almost identical to Den. convolutum except that the base color is a more vibrant shade of yellow-green, which is likely why the cross was given this name. Fred is growing his plant beautifully, with open flowers all over, several developing inflorescences and new growths all happening at once. All the pseudobulbs look plump and hydrated. Too often, I see Latouria Type Dendrobiums like this struggling and not performing up to expectations. They are definitely not a good choice for those who are strict once per week waterers as they do not tolerate sitting dry for days and yet at the same time prefer a mix that offers quick drainage. And though H&R Nurseries, who were the first grower to offer hybrids in this group to the US market, billed them as adaptable to a wide range of conditions, I have found that they grow best when kept warm year-round. Since the species involved come from the lower elevation forests of New Guinea, where temperature and frequent rainfall are constant and light is dappled, that is what they prefer. As long as they are watered often enough, they are good "windowsill" orchids given the same care in all seasons with no rest.







Dendrobium parishii



Encyclia Cindy x adenaocaula

Dendrobium (no tag, Nobile type)

Red: *Dendrobium* Diane Meyer x Royal Wings – Janet Sherwood

Red: *Dendrobium hercoglossum* – Vinh Nguyen

White: *Dendrobium* (no tag nobile type) – Margaret Cekis

White: *Dendrobium parishii* – Vinh Nguyen

Class 4: Epidendrum Alliance

Blue: *Encyclia* Cindy x adenocaula – Fred Pippin

This unregistered cross combines three species. E. Cindy is E. alata x tampensis. The average spread of the flowers of that cross is about 1.5 inches. Encyclia adenocaula has the largest flowers of the genus, at about 3.5 inches in natural spread. They are also usually rose pink with a darker lip, a color that is uncommon among Encyclia. Whoever made this cross was likely hoping to combine the higher flower count of E. Cindy with larger size and more color. Those goals were almost achieved with this example, but a greenish base color inherited from the former parent has muted the pink shading on the segments to a large degree. I can't see the actual plant in the photo provided, but it is probably not yet mature size and should be able to produce a larger number of flowers in the future. In general, Encyclia grow best with excellent drainage and aeration to the root system that is best achieved in a basket or on a mount if they are grown in a controlled humidity environment. This cross may benefit from cooler nights and less water in winter and especially early spring to better simulate the conditions preferred by E. adenocaula.



Encyclia tampensis forma alba



Psychilis krugii

Red: *Encyclia tampensis forma alba* – Bailey Santwire

White: Psychilis krugii - Bailey Santwire



Miltonopsis Bert Field 'Crimson Glow'

Class 5: Oncidium Alliance

Blue: *Miltoniopsis* Bert Field 'Crimson Glow' – Fred Pippin

While many plant tags add an "s" to the end of the name, Mps. Bert Field is how the cross was originally registered by Gordon Hoyt in 1965. He lived in the Seattle, WA area and registered more than 50 Miltoniopsis hybrids between 1950 and 1977. The 'Crimson Glow' variety is the most common form that is still in cultivation today. It received an Award of Merit from the Hawaii Orchid Society in 1969 and earned a similar award as recently as 2021 in New Zealand. That said, I am not convinced that this beautifully grown plant is correctly labeled, as it has a different color pattern from the six different photos of Mps. Bert Field 'Crimson Glow' in Orchidwiz, which all look identical and come from widely separated locations from around the world. None of those photos depict a lip with a white picotee edge like Fred's plant. They are also slightly fuller in overall form. An image search of the name also produces photos of flowers without the white margin on the lip. Whatever you call it wouldn't matter in terms of how it should be grown. Miltoniopsis hybrids descend from five wild species that grow in the rainforests of Colombia with two also occurring in Panamá and Costa



Rica, mostly at elevations between 3000 and 7000 feet above sea level. They grow epiphytically in a moist environment with year-round mild conditions and will definitely suffer if grown outside in our summer heat. They will thrive with high temperatures limited to the low to mid 80's with good air movement and plentiful watering. If the potting media used is coarse and open, they can actually sit in a bit of water in order to keep up with their heavy demands. That may be what Fred Pippin is doing with this plant as the photo reveals the clay pot has a mineral deposit about halfway up the side. It would be wise to flush the pot thoroughly with plain water at least monthly to prevent the same deposit from building on the root system.



Rossioglossum ampliatum

Red: *Rossioglossum ampliatum* – Edison Gu

White: *Oncostele* Everglades Elegance 'Nancy Lee,' HCC/AOS – Fred Pippin

White: Gomesa Jiaho Queen 'Jiaho,' AM/ AOS - Fi Alonso & Jon Crate



Gomesa Jiaho Queen 'Jiaho' AM/AOS



Oncostele Everglades Elegance 'Nancy Lee' HCC/AOS





Paphiopedilum moquetteanum

Class 6: Slipper Alliance

Species

Blue: Paphiopedilum moquetteanum 'Dumbotron,' HCC/AOS - Carson Barnes

Paphiopedilum moquetteanum is similar to Paph. glaucophyllum and is sometimes labeled as a variety of it, though it currently has its own individual species status. Both come from Java, but from opposite ends of the island. The flowers of Paph. moquetteanum are a bit larger in spread with slight differences in color and morphology from the other species. Both are successive bloomers producing one flower at a time over many months. There can by as many as 20 produced, but usually only one or two open at a time. Carson got this plant awarded at the Deep South Orchid Society show in Savannah in 2015 and probably chose this slightly humorous clonal name because the flower as about a half a centimeter larger than the average awarded plants to date. Grow this species warm, in filtered bright light with year-round watering and only slightly less in winter.

Red: Paphiopedilum appletonianum -Carson Barnes

White: *Paphiopedilum concolor* – Vinh Nguyen



Paphiopedilum appletonianum



Paphiopedilum concolor





Paphiopedilum QF Mini

Paphiopedilum Jerry Spence

Hybrids

Blue: Paphiopedilum Jerry Spence - HB

Paphiopedilum Jerry Spence is Paph. rothschildianum x Paph. Berenice. The latter is Paph. lowii x philippinense. This particular example has a lot deeper pigmentation than most of the images of other plants of the same cross. The petals do not swoop outward as much as some of the awarded forms so it may not be reaching the average natural spread of about 7.5 inches for those plants. Nonetheless, it is a striking flower and I really like it. The cross was registered by Frank Booth of Tip Top Paphs in Burlington, MA. He registered more than 300 Paphiopedilum crosses in the 1980s and 1990s.

This one is the second most awarded cross of all his introductions, the first being *Paph*. Susan Booth (*rothschildianum* x *glanduliferum*) which has about 150 progeny. *Paph*. Jerry Spence is going to grow best in medium light with warm temperatures year-round. As with other large multifloral types the plants should never dry out between watering.

Red: *Paphiopedilum* QF Mini – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

White: *Paphiopedilum* Green Veil – Fred Pippin



Paphiopedilum Green Veil





Phalaenopsis Sin-Yaun Golden Beauty

Phalaenopsis (display of multiple plants mounted on driftwood)

Class 7: Phalaenopsis

Blue: Phalaenopsis (Display of multiple plants mounted on driftwood) – Fred Pippin

Red: *Phalaenopsis* Sin-Yaun Golden Beauty - Jon Crate & Fi Alonso

White: *Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi* – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate



Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi



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Vanda Suksamran Sunshine

Class 8: Vandaceous Alliance

Blue: *Vanda* Suksamran Sunshine – Fred Pippin

Aptly named, this 1993 introduction from Suksamran Orchids in Bangkok presents a dense upright inflorescence of sparkling sunny yellow flowers with orange tinges. As you might expect from a *Vanda* in this color range, a good chunk of the ancestry is made up of former *Ascocentrum* species, which do a good job of keeping the plant size down despite there also being a significant dose of *Vanda sanderiana*, a very large-sized species. While preferring bright light and to grow

in little or no media requiring daily watering, this cross would be adaptable to cooler nights in winter because of its genetic makeup. During cool periods, it is important that the plants are dry before nightfall.

Red: *Mysticidium capense* - Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Red: *Papilionanda* Paksorn Fragrance – Vinh Nguyen

White: Trichoglottis smithii - Vinh Nguyen



Mysticidium capense



Papilionanda Paksorn Fragrance



Trichoglottis smithii



Class 9: Miscellaneous

Blue: Acineta superba forma roja – Edison Gu

Acineta consists of at least 16 species occurring from Mexico southward to Ecuador and eastward to Venezuela. Most of the members of the genus are robust growers, and Acn. superba is no exception, capable of reaching almost three feet in height when mature. The large fleshy, spicily fragrant flowers are produced on a pendent inflorescence and there can be as many as 30 of them on a mature plant. They are variable in color from cream to reddish brown, densely spotted with reddish brown or purple, and usually don't open out fully. It grows naturally in the South American portion of the range for the genus, usually at four to seven thousand feet above sea level in cloud forest conditions though some areas have a seasonally dry period. Probably due to their size and need for a controlled environment, Acineta are not seen very often in collections. They are related to Stanhopea, which are usually somewhat smaller growers, and there are five registered offspring between that genus and Acn. superba. Three of those were introduced by Ecuagenera and the photographs of them are very interesting and beautiful. By mixing the two very different flower forms, the result is a rather flat bloom with a more rounded form. All three have received at least one Award of Merit from the AOS. The combination is called an Aciopea.



Acineta superba forma roja





Lycaste lassioglossa

Coelogyne asperata

Red: Coelogyne asperata - Bailey Santwire

White: Lycastye lassioglossa - Edison Gu

White: Nephelaphyllum pulchrum – Nick Rust



Nephelaphyllum pulchrum

