Odontoglossum Alliance Newsletter

Odontoglossum Alliance meeting in Portland.

The meeting of the Odontoglossum Alliance was held in Portland on 28 April 1995 in conjunction with the Western Orchid Congress. The lectures were attended by over 100 people who were privileged to hear four great talks on interesting aspects of the Odontoglossum Alliance. The meeting opened with, coffee, fruit and rolls giving attendees the opportunity to have some early morning conversation about odontoglossums and renew old friendships. Bob Hamilton, President, with his opening remarks, introduced Wim Velsink, the session moderator. Wim is an amateur odont grower and provided a lively and brief introduction of each speaker.

First to come on the scene was Sandro Cusi of Mexico. Sandro gave an accurate and interesting description of the growing conditions of Lemboglossums in their natural environment. His talk was illustrated with pictures of the growing conditions as well as maps showing location and climate conditions for the plants. His photographs of flowers were many that had not been generally seen before. Sandro's talk as well as some flower pictures, will be printed in the August 95 newsletter.

Juan Filipe Posada of Medellin, Colombia, gave an accurate, but discouraging picture of the state of odontoglossums in the wild in Colombia. De-forestation is destroying the natural habitat of odontoglossums and Juan saw no stopping of the present trend.

Dues Are Due

Included with this newsletter is a membership and dues form. The membership year is from August through May. Several of you have already given me your dues payment for the year 1995-96. Please excuse me sending you an additional form. Just ignore it. For those of you who have not renewed this is the time to do it. Please note that dues for membership, which includes the newsletter is \$15.00 per year. If you would like a copy of the New Zealand letter, also quarterly, this is an additional \$5.00. Membership dues <u>NOT</u> received before the

August 95 newsletter will receive a reminder notice <u>BUT NO</u> Newsletter. So send in your dues promptly.

We continue to accept contributions to the AOS Robert B. Dugger Trophy which will have the first award in the spring of 1996 and annually thereafter.

This year we are asking for some more information. We plan to publish and send to each member a membership booklet.

If you wish to receive the two tape set of the talks given in Portland you may also add this with your payment (\$50.00). These tapes will be mailed in the August time frame. We will only reproduce enough to cover orders so this is your opportunity. You should order them now if you want them.

Election

The by-laws of the Alliance call for electing a Board of Directors. We will have a nominating *j* committee recommend a slate that will be printed in the February 1996 newsletter. During the period February 1996 through 1 May 1996 we will accept nominations from members.

(continued on page 2)

(continued on page 2)

1

Alliance Meeting

He then went on to show slides of native Colombian odontoglossums and suggest many, that are not well known, as potential breeding parents for further hybrid development. His talk was most interesting and informative.

Helmut Rohrl is well known for his intergeneric hybrids of the odontoglossum alliance. He described many hybrids made with alliance material, illustrating them with slides of the flowers. His talk is reproduced in this newsletter.

Steve Gettel was the concluding speaker with his discussion of Classic Odonts. He showed the finest odonts raised over the years and the results of current breeding programs. Steve's talk is also reproduced in this newsletter. All of these talks were video taped as well as the talk of Dr. Wally Thomas- "Odontoglossums". The talks are on two 60 minute tapes. The Odontoglossum Alliance will make available this two tape set for the cost of \$50.00, which covers reproduction and mailing costs. Members who missed these talks or those who were present that wish to have a reminder of these talks should send their money to:

Odontoglossum Alliance P.O. Box 38 Westport Point, MA 02791

We will close out this opportunity in August and mail the tapes shortly there after. Following the talks a luncheon with over 60 attendees was held. The President gave a short business report followed by a Treasurer's report. The Treasurer's report showed there were adequate funds for the establishment of the AOS Odontoglossum Alliance trophy and operating funds for the Alliance. The operating funds are used principally for the printing and mailing of the quarterly newsletter.

The high light of the luncheon was the auction of very high quality, unusual and normally not obtainable Odontoglossum Alliance material, generously donated by our members.

Election

In the May 1996 Newsletter we will send out a ballet accompanying the dues form for the period August 1996-May 1997. Voting will be done by returning the ballot before 1 August 1996. At that time the top eight by vote count will be elected as Directors for the next three years. The Board of Directors will then elect the Officers of the Alliance, President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. These results and the election results will be published in the August 1996 newsletter.

Future Odontoglossum Alliance Meetings

The next scheduled meeting of the Odontoglossum Alliance will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia on Saturday 13 April 1996. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the Western Orchid Congress and AOS Trustees meeting. The Saturday date was scheduled to not conflict with any other lecture programs of the congress. It will also permit those who can't travel before Friday to attend this meeting. Dr. Wally Thomas is the Western Orchid Congress Chairman and Organizer. He reports we will be in "Odontoglossum country". Preliminary efforts are underway to organize this meeting. It is planned at this time to have a four lecture series in the morning followed by a luncheon and auction of fine Odontoglossum Alliance material. There is some consideration for having a dinner on the evening 12 April 1996. Those who have comments or suggestions for this meeting can send them either to the President, Robert Hamilton, 2439 Woolsey Street, Berkeley, CA 94705 or to your editor. It is planned that the 1997 meeting of the Alliance will be held in Santa Barbara, California in conjunction with the Western Orchid Congress. The 1998 meeting will be held in Toronto, Canada in May 1998.

(continued on page 3)

Meeting

There were some 34 separately auctioned items. Dr. Howard Liebman, John Hainsworth, and Dr. Steve Beckendorf ably conducted the auction. The lively and active bidding raised \$3005 for the Odontoglossum Alliance. This was the largest amount ever raised the several times these auctions have been conducted. The material contributed was most exciting with several items available that are just not seen on the open market. The bidders were interested and generous. The proceeds of the auction will go towards the AOS trophy, fund more color in the newsletter and into a general reserve fund for alliance purposes.

All in all it was a most interesting and informative meeting that was very well attended.

Future Meetings

Plans are underway to have an International Odontoglossum Alliance meeting at the World Orchid Conference to be held in Vancouver in 1999. It is hoped we will have all the Odontoglossum ALliances participating. This include New Zealand, Australian, and British as well as our own Alliance. Make your plans and start to block out these dates.

Robert B. Dugger AOS Trophy Established

At a meeting of the AOS Committee on Awards, Chaired by Anita Aldrich, the committee recommended to the AOS Trustees the establishment of the Robert B. Dugger award for "an odontoglossum or hybrid with odontoglossum in the parentage, exhibited before the AOS Judging System" to be awarded annually.

The Trustees of the AOS have approved the award and the endowment fund has been established. \$5100.00 was sent to the AOS.

Contributions to this fund may continue to be made. They may be sent directly to the AOS or to the Treasurer, John Miller of the Odontoglossum Alliance. The award will be determined by the AOS Committee on Awards with the first award being made in the spring of 1996.

The procedure is for each of the sixteen judging centers to submit a single nomination for award to the committee. The Committee for Awards then makes the final determination. The award is a monetary award equal to the income derived from the endowment. The Odontoglossum Alliance exceeded the minimum amount required of \$5000.00 to establish the award. The initial contribution to this fund was slightly larger than the minimum amount. Amounts can be contributed to the endowment in the future to increase its size and the award. The concept of establishing the trophy and naming it after Bob Dugger was proposed by the chairman of the Board of the Odontoglossum Alliance, Bruce Cobbledick at a meeting in Santa Barbara in March 1994. At that time a plan was developed to request establishment of the award at the 1995 meeting of the Odontoglossum Alliance and the AOS Committee on awards. The proposed award was publicized in the Odontoglossum Alliance newsletter and contributions were solicited from our members. Generous contributions were received from many people, contributions both large and small, but all counted to bring the fund beyond the minimum required. The President, Robert Hamilton wrote a a comprehensive letter to the AOS committee requesting the award, defining the award parameters and clearly citing the work of Bob Dugger. Please note in the figures the number of hybrids Bob has contributed to the Odontoglossum repertoire'. John Miller made a short presentation to the Awards Committee on Bob's contributions to the odontoglossum world and requested their approval for establishing the award, which was granted. All the members of the Odontoglossum Alliance

should be pleased and proud. It is hoped that next year one of our members will be the first recipient of the award.

Letter from President, Robert Hamilton, Odontoglossum Alliance to:

Ms. Anita Aldrich Chairman AOS Committee for Awards Galvaston, TX 77554

Dear Ms. Aldrich, 21 January 1995

The Odontoglossum Alliance submits this request for the establishment of an AOS award to be presented annually for the best odontoglossum shown each year. Alliance members have collected in excess of \$5000.00 for the establishment of an endowment fund. Upon approval of this award, the total collected amount will be turned over to the AOS Executive Director Mr. Lee COoke. We wish to name this award "The Robert B. Dugger Trophy" presented annually for the best odontoglossum alliance plant shown each year. The criteria for consideration of this award is:

"An odontoglossum or hybrid with odontoglossum in its parentage, exhibited before the AOS Judging System."

The award name was chosen to honor Robert B. Dugger for his significant contributions in the development of the alliance. Bob has been growing odontoglossums and allied genera since the mid 1950's. His home and greenhouses are in Solona Beach, California, just north of San Diego, situated on a hill, overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Early on, Bob was able to adjust his growing conditions for successful culture producing quality well grown plants with spectacular flowers. When Bob began growing odontoglossums, English nurseries were preeminent in breeding. Bob made numerous visits to England stopping at notable firms such as Charlesworth Ltd. and Mansell & Hatcher, as well as visiting and establishing friendships with private English growers. On these visits, Bob acquired many plants used in his odontoglossum hybrids.

Bob has bred and raised a remarkable number of hybrids. More than 400 crosses by Bob have been registered with the Royal Horticulture Society. Bob ranks as the third most prodigious Oncidinae hybridizer in history, exceeded only by Charlesworth Ltd. and W.W.G. Moir. All done from two greenhouses, one 12 feet x this 20 feet (Devoted primarily to exhibition and stud plants), the other 10 feet x 12 feet. In addition to breeding within classic odontoglossums, Bob established significant new pathways in intergeneric breeding. Bob distributed crosses mainly through the sale of replated flasks. Many odontoglossum growers (I, for one) got their start by purchasing Bob's odontoglossum seedlings from commercial firms such as Rod McLellan Co. Some of went on to purchase Bob's flasks, Bob showing us how to grow seedlings at this young and fragile stage. Bob's hybrids have garnished numerous AOS awards. His crosses include such notables as Alexanderara Songman, Beallara Marfitch, Odontiodas Alstir, Jack Greatwood, New Start, San Elijo Joy and Uxmal, Odontocidiums Incali & Solona, Odontoglossum Conperry, Sally Jones and Somelle, Odontonia Yellow Bird, Oncidium Mexico, Vuylstekara Keith Andrew, Wilsonara Anaway, Kendrick Williams, Solona Pixie and Spaceman. In addition to plants, Robert Dugger has provided inspiration to many of today's odontoglossum growers. Bob took it upon himself to frequently lecture at orchid meetings around the world and actively talk before American Orchid Society affiliated societies. The orchid world is indebted to Bob for his devotion to odontoglossums and his extraordinary achievements. On behalf of the Odontoglossum Alliance and its Directors, I urge the Committee on Awards to

establish the Robert B. Dugger Trophy. Members of the Odontoglossum Alliance would be pleased to meet with the committee to provide details, testimony, answer questions and provide background for the establishment of this award.

Sincerely, (signed) Robert Hamilton President, Odontoglossum Alliance



Hybrids Registered by R.Dugger



Newsletter

May 1995

Trophy

Letter to Robert B. Dugger from Robert Hamilton, President, Odontoglossum Alliance 22 May 1995

Dear Robert,

I am most pleased to tell you that efforts by the Odontoglossum Alliance have succeeded in establishing an American Orchid Society Trophy in your name:

The Robert B. Dugger Trophy

This trophy will be presented annually for:

An odontoglossum or hybrid with odontoglossum in its parentage exhibited before the AOS Judging System

The first award will be made in 1996. Many members of the Odontoglossum Alliance contributed generously. In addition to members monetary contributions, auction proceeds and speakers fees helped us exceed the minimum amount necessary to endow this trophy. The Robert B. Dugger trophy is a monetary award made from the income on the endowment fund. This award honors your decades of effort in hybridizing and establishing odontoglossum culture. You have influenced untold numbers of growers and produced a legacy of superb plants. In addition, you explored novel paths to new genera and hybrids. On a personal note, your work and your hybrids had a compelling influence on me, turning my interest towards the genera. Clearly, you have won the respect and hearts of your colleagues. It is probable that results of your work will figure highly as the basis for many Robert B. Dugger Trophies. My heartfelt congratulations on behalf of all odontoglossum lovers.

Sincerely, (signed) Robert Hamilton

Oncidiinae Intergenerics

by Helmut Rohrl

The subtribe ONCIDINIIAE has warm growing genera such as Aspasia, intermediate growing ones such as Miltonia, and cool growing ones such as the Andean Odontoglossum. The color range encompasses every color except blue and, of course, black. Plant size goes from very small to large, spike length from a few centimeters to a few meters, and flower count from single flowers to few hundreds. The total number of ONCIDINIIAE species is few thousands, depending on the taxonomist questioned. Thus there is a tremendous gene pool available for creating ONCIDINIIAE crosses. The main genera in ONCIDINIIAE are

* Ada, Aspasia, Brassia, Cochlioda, Miltonia, Odontoglossum, Oncidium.

It should be understood that Cochlioda includes some Symphyglossum species, Odontoglossum includes Lemboglossum, Rossioglossum and some minor genera, and Oncidium contains some genera such as Cyrtochilum, that are sometimes listed under different names. There are, of course, many more genera in ONCIDINIIAE and I would group into a second tier the following ones

* Babtistonia, Brachtia, Comparettia, Gomesa, Helcia, Ionopsis,

* Leochilus, Lockhartia, Macradenia, Notylia, Rodriguezia,

* Sigmatostalix, Trichocentrum, and Trichopilia

The genus <u>Ada</u> has about 10 species that occur from Costa Rica to Peru, with Ada aurantiaca, Ada glumacea, and Ada keiliana the better known ones. Adas enjoy subdued light, cooler temperatures, and a moist atmosphere. They are closely related to Brassia. There are 10 hybrid genera involving Ada, the principal ones being

. . **.** .

* Adaglossum, Adioda and Brassada.

Breeding with Ada has been somewhat neglected. Adas and Brassias tend to restrict the floriferousness in intergeneric combinations. As a consequence they should be used only in crosses involving plants of high flower count and long peduncles. Primary Ada intergenerics are generally more colorful than the equivalent Brassia crosses. In particular, Ada aurantiaca is the main source for the color orange in ONCIDINIIAE. I feel that creating complex Ada hybrids will lead to very colorful and interesting intergenerics. It would also be useful to create some intrageneric Ada crosses such as Ada aurantiaca x Ada keilana to obtain stronger growing Adas with a better separation of the flowers along the inflorescence. As an example of an Ada intergeneric hybrid can be seen in Figure 1.

The genus <u>Aspasia</u> encompasses about 10 species inhabiting the area between Nicaragua and Brazil, with Asp. epidendroides and Asp. principissa their main representatives. Aspasias are warm growers and are grateful for a resting period in the fall. There are 20 hybrid genera (as of 1990) containing Aspasia. In my opinion the most useful ones are

* Aspasium, Aspoglossum, Aspodonia, Baldwinara, Blackara,

* Crawshayara, Lagerara, and Milpasia.

Aspasias have a low flower count, and the caveat about the use of Adas in intergenerics applies here too. It would be quite beneficial to line-breed Asp. epidendroides and Asp. principissa to obtain more floriferous clones and also to create some intrageneric Aspasia crosses. Aspasia often imparts on its progeny lips with excellent shape and interesting patterns. When used as a pod parent it makes its hybrids warmth tolerant. More emphasis should be put on creating Aspoglossums and Lageraras. In addition, more Milpasias should be made to obtain broader access to Blackaras and similar intergenerics. One drawback in first generation Aspasia crosses is that the color range is usually quite limited. However, hybrids that are two or three generations removed from Aspasia often show much stronger and more varied colors. Fig. 2 offers an example of an Aspasia intergeneric cross.

The genus <u>Brassia</u> resides in the tropical Americas and contains approximately 25 species. Most Brassias are warm growing, however Brs. gireoudiana, Brs. thyrsodes, and Brs. verrucosa prefer moderate conditions. The flower size ranges from small to huge, the color range is quite restricted from off-white to yellow to light brown, and the inflorescence is (with the exception of Brs. thyrsodes) not branched and varies in length from few tens of centimeters to one and one half meters. They require high light intensity and are quite intolerant of deteriorating potting media. There are 27 hybrid genera that have Brassia in them. The best ones in my estimation are

* Alexanderara, Aliceara, Bakerara, Brassada, Brassidium

* Crawshayara, Degarmoara, Goodaleara, Maclellanara, Miltassia

* Odontobrassia, and Sanderara.

Since Brassias generally reduce floriferousness in their hybrids one should use only those cultivars that have long peduncles and high flower count and combine them with other parents that have the same characteristics. The same applies to some on the hybrid genera such as Alicera, Brassada, and Miltassia that have predominantly low flower counts. It would be very useful for future hybridizing efforts to make new Brassadas and Miltassia that are more floriferous. Fig. 3 presents a Brassia intergeneric. The genus Cochlioda is a small genus of approximately 6 species residing in the Andean mountains of South America. For registration purposes Symphyglossum sanguineum is included in Cochlioda. The better known ones are Cda. noezliana, Cda. rosea, and Cda. sanguinea.

Cochliodas, with the exception of Cda. sanguinea

have relatively short spikes with a crowded flower arrangement. They are cool growers and like a humid atmosphere with plenty of air movement. Only one intrageneric Cochlioda cross (Cda. Floryi) is known and the importance of additional such hybrid Cochliodas cannot be underestimated. Since there are some very floriferous Cda. sanguinea cultivars, they are the first choice for such intragenerics. There are 23 genera containing Cochlioda. The best of them are

* Adioda, Alexanderara, Baldwinara, Bellara, Blackara, Burrageara

* Charlesworthara, Goodaleara, Lagerara, Odontioda, Oncidioda, Sanderara

* Vuylsekeara, and Wilsonara.

The latest entry in this list is Baldwinara. Only a few of them have been made and those with Aspasia more than one generation removed are quite attractive with fairly long inflorescence and good colors. Alexanderara is Bob Dugger's creation. So far there have been only a handful of Alexanderaras. Their colors range from yellow-brown to purple to bright red and their spike habit and flower presentation are quite pleasing. Both lines of breeding look very promising. A Cochlioda Intergeneric appears in Fig. 4.

The genus Miltonia consist of about 10 species that are found mostly in Brazil. The best know Miltonia species are Milt. candida, Milt. clowesii, Milt. cuneata, Milt. flavecens, Milt. regnelii, Milt. schroederiana, Milt. spectabilis, and Milt. warscewiczii. One might want to add to this list the natural hybrid Milt. x castanea. Those with the longest spike are Milt. castanea, Milt. clowesii, Milt. regnellii, Milt. schroederiana, and Milt. warscewiczii. Miltonias are well adapted to considerable changes in seasonal temperatures. They are usually robust plants that frequently produce multiple leads. Their inflorescences are rarely branched. It would be quite interesting to line-breed or create intragenerics with plants that have branched

spikes. Most Miltonias have beautiful lips that are passed onto their progeny in intergeneric breeding. When used as a pod parent Miltonias make hybrids that perform well under diverse temperature conditions. Miltonias with low flower count usually restrict the floriferousness of their hybrids sharply, whence great care has been exercised in their use. 31 hybrid genera involving Miltonia have been created. In my opinion the best ones are

* Aliceara, Aspodonia, Bakerara, Beallara, Blackara, Burrageara,

* Charlesworthara, Colmanara, Crawshayara, Degarmoara, Goodaleara,

* Milpasia, Miltassia, Miltonidium, Odontonia, and Vuylstekeara.

Milpasias, Miltassias, Miltonidiums, and Odontonias should be regarded as stepping stones to other hybrid genera. As a consequence they should be made with highly floriferous parents. This, in turn, requires Miltonias with high flower counts. Currently there are Miltonias that produce 12 or 13 Flowers per spike. With further efforts one should be able to create Miltonias with close to 20 flowers per spike. A Miltonia intergeneric cross is shown in Fig. 5 The genus Odontoglossum (including Lemboglossum, Mesoglossum, Osmoglossum, Otoglossum, Rossioglossum and Ticoglossum) contains approximately 90 species that inhabit the subtropical and tropical Americas from low to high altitudes. Of these, there are about 14 Lemboglossums, 1 Mesoglossum, 3 Osmoglossums, 7 Otoglossums, 6 Rossioglossums and 2 Ticoglossums. The remaining ones are the Southern (or true) Odontoglossums. There are a few additional species that for registration purposes are classified as Odontoglossum, e.g. Odm. hastlabium and Odm. trilobum. Lemboglossums occur in the mountainous areas from Mexico to Costa Rica, Mesoglossum is endemic to Mexico at intermediate altitudes, Osmoglossums inhabit Central America at higher elevations,

Otoglossums are found in the montane forests from Costa Rica to Peru, Rossioglossums reside in the mountainous regions from Mexico to Panama, and Tricoglossums live in the lower montane forests of the central Cordillera in Costa Rica and Panama. The best-shaped flowers occur among the Southern Odontoglossums, although some Lemboglossums and some Otoglossums make their progeny cool growers. Odontoglossum enters into 40 hybrid genera. The most attractive and promising ones are

* Adaglossum, Alexanderara, Aspodonia, Aspoglossum, Bakerara,

* Baldwinara, Beallara, Blackara, Burrageara, Carpenterara

* Colmanara, Degarmoara, Goodaleara, Lagerara, Maclellanara

* Odontioda, Odontobrassia, Odontocidium, Odontoia, Odontorettia

* Sanderara, Vuylstekeara, and Wilsonara.

The latest entry in this list is Carpenterara, created by Milton Carpenter. The second generation crosses of Babtistonia echinata tend to be quite pretty and this line of breeding should be pursued further. Carpenteraras and Odontorettias as well as other hybrids genera of Odontoglossum, show that the combination of the best Odontoglossums with some of the lesser ONCIDINIIAE leads to very satisfying results. in particular when these lesser ONCIDIINAE are more than one generation removed. Fig. 6 presents an Odontoglossum intergeneric. The genus Oncidium (including Cyrtochilum, Hispaniella, Psychopsis, Psychopsiella, and Tolumnia) contains somewhat around 600 species and is found in the subtropical and tropical Americas. It is badly in need of revision. Cyrtochilum contains about 150 species most of which in the Andean mountains of tropical Central and South America, Hispaniella is monotypic genus found in Hispaniola (and

often grouped with equitant Oncidiums), Psychopsis consists of the 4-5 species allied with Onc. papilio that reside in lower altitudes from Costa Rica to Peru, Psychopsiella is a monotypic genus consisting of Onc. limminghei and ranging from Brazil to Venezuela, and Tolumnia are the approximately 30 species usually called variegata (equitant) Oncidiums that are endemic to the West Indies. The genus Oncidium is one of the largest and most widely cultivated orchid genera. Some Oncidiums are cool growing, others are intermediate growers and still others are adapted to warm conditions. All enjoy humid conditions, moderate shade, and plenty of moisture. They range in size from very small to large and vary in spike length from few centimeters to several meters; for instance, Onc. leucochilum and Onc. wydleri can have spikes that are 5 meters in length. Some Oncidiums species are single flowered, others produce few hundred flowers per spike. Their colors are mostly in the yellow -brown bracket, but red and purple occur too. The better Oncidums are strong growers and are the main source for vigor and floriferousness in ONCIDIINAE intergenerics. It should be pointed out that not all Oncidiums have the standard ONCIDIINAE chromosome number of 56. Indeed Hispaniella, Psychopsis, Psychopsiella, and Tolumnia have chromosome numbers other than 56, explaining the difficulty of combining them with other ONCIDIINAE. There are 51 hybrid genera containing Oncidium. In my opinion the best ones are

* Alexandara, Aliceara, Aspasium, Bakerara, Baldwinara,

* Brassidium, Burrageara, Carpenterara, Charlesworthara,

* Colmanara, Crawshayara, Goodaleara, Maclellanara, Miltonidium,

* Odontocidium, Oncidioda, and Wilsonara.

A fair number of Oncidium intragenerics have been created, many of them with variegata (equitant) Oncidiums. Quite a few of the remaining ones are descendants of Onc. varicosum. However, Dr. Howard Liebman has started a intrageneric breeding program in Cyrtochilum. Although I have seen only few of these crosses I consider this a very rewarding and important line of hybridizing. It would be quite interesting to combine these Cyrtochilums with other Oncidiums and, more generally, with other ONCIDIINAE. In addition to the standard hybrid genera listed above, more efforts should go into making Aspasiums, Brassidiums, Miltonidiums, and Oncidiodas. Some very attractive flowers can be created this way. They should serve as important stepping stones toward more complex hybrid genera. An Oncidium intergenric cross can be found in Fig. 7.

"Classic Odonts"

by Steve Gettel

Classic Odonts conjure up visions of the finest Charlesworth & Company crispum type Odontoglossums which reigned supreme in the 1920's and 1930's. Many of these lines were lost during World War II. Many others have been repetitively outcrossed or repetitively line bred diluting their quality.

Odm. crispum remains the finest example and building block of the classic odont style. Odm. crispum 'Pearl McBean' AM/RHS appears to be responsible for most of today's modern line bred crispums. Selection and breeding is establishing virtual pure-color crispums such as Odm. crispums 'Sunset Crystal' and 'Sunset Sammy' thanks to Dr. Wally Thomas' line breeding. Odm. Toreador 'Defiance FCC/RHS 1933 has contributed substantially through Odms. Tordonia and Crutordo to some of the finest modern day hybrids such as Oda. Saint Clement. Oda. Saint Clement is turning out to be an exceptional parent with its dominance for shape, size, and substance. Oda. Gale Gettel. Oda. Noe Valley and Oda. Helen Perlite are just the tip of the iceberg.

Odm. Alector 'Monaco' FCC/RHS 1935 reminds me of Oda. Mont a l'Abbe 'Sunset Orchids' (Cristor x Jumbo) although as confirmed by Alan Moon probably (Cristor x Stroperry). The Odm. Cristor line continues to yield fine large shapely whites due to the dominance of both Odm. crispum and Odm. Tordonia. Oda. Clouds Rest (Flocalo x Mont a l'Abbe) is an example. Oda. Pittiae 'Empress' AM/RHS 1927 was truly the finest patterned odontioda of its day. The striking resemblance to Oda. Alstir 'Tiffany' HOC/AOS and Oda. Alstir 'Rio' cause me to speculate that they may actually be (Pittiae x Aloette).

Oda. Pittiae is responsible for the predominance of the purple patterned lines to present day. Most notably Oda. Florence Stirling. Sibling crosses have helped provide building blocks for future generations. Oda. Point Nepean continues the Florence Stirling line, including another shot of Odm. crispum in Oda. Florispum. Oda. Point Nepean 'Sunset Jaguar' AM/AOS has been line bred and out-crossed, and is providing some fine patterned types including Oda. Gene Gettel, Oda. Treasure Island, Oda. Sunset Jaguar, and Oda. Vernal Falls. Oda. Lillian Dugger has been crossed back to Odm. crispum paralleling Oda. Florispum to yield

some outstanding building blocks in Oda. San Andreas.

Oda. Beatrix 'Jewel' AM/RHS 1938 provides one of the bases for red line breeding. Oda. Lautrix sib crosses are providing new building blocks for the reworking the red lines. After all it provided the basis for the finest red bred to date, Oda. Robert Dugger 'Unicorn Ruby' AM/RHS. The Robert Dugger is a counted tetraploid and has produced what appears to be many fine triploids. In an attempt to establish a race of red tetraploids it needs to be back-crossed to another red tetraploid. Consequently, Sunset Orchids made a sibling cross of Oda. Lautrix 'Lyoth Jester' with one of Bob Dugger's Oda. Lautrix siblings and colchicined them. They are currently growing in community pots. We will let you know the results in a few years. The illusive Odm. Georgius Rex FCC/RHS 1915, produced Odm. Ascania 'Stamperland' AM/RHS 1927 providing the basis for much of the yellow line. Odm. Bassanio 'Ashcroft'

AM/RHS 1948 also provided a substantial influence in Odm. Chilgrove. Odm. Stonehurst Yellow is a fine example although most are triploid. Odm. Charade (Parade x Charles) was made with the only available diploid parents to concentrate the Odm. Chilgrove color dominance. A few pure colors have come out of this cross. Similarly, Oda. Bo's Gold and Odm. Somelle were crossed yielding some exceptional Oda. Ross Newmans.

Odm. cripsum xanthotes 'Princess Mary' AM/RHS 1919 has come to live at Sunset Orchids. It contributed Odm. Citrinum 'Stonehurst' AM/RHS 1931 and then Odm. Rialto AM/RHS 1932. The Rialto is responsible for much of the modern British pure colors emanating from Alan Moon's work at the Eric Young Orchid Foundation.

More recent day classics include the orange line. Oda. Echanson 'Orange' sported from Vacherot's cross. Keith Andrews' Oda. Harry Baldwins fixed the color but not necessarily the form. The Posadas have provided the most recent building blocks in this line. Oda. Santa Maria 'Tangerine Eclipse' HCC/JC/AOS and Oda. Portentosa 'Tangerine Sunset' AM/AOS are fine examples. This fall Sunset Orchids should see the first blooming of crosses of these plants. After all the fun in Odonts, as in all orchids, is in the expectation of classics yet to bloom.

Editor's Note:

This talk was delivered by Steve Gettel at the Odontoglossum Alliance meeting in Portland 28 April 1995. Pictures of some of the plants mentioned in the article are contained in the color section of the newsletter.

One of Steve's slides "Oda. Portentosa 'Orange Sunset' turned up missing. If anyone should find this slide please send it on to Steve Gettel or to the Editor, who will see that Steve gets it.

IN SEARCH OF ECUADORIAN CYRTOCHILUM Part II

by Dr. Howard Liebman

One of the most beautiful cyrtochilums found in several regions of southern Ecuador is cyrto monachicum. Cyrto monachicum was used by european growers to make several attractive hybrids at the turn of this century, but appeared to have been lost from cultivation by the 1930's and did not reappear until recently. The reason for this is unknown, but may be due to the less robust nature of this species compared to cyrto macranthum or serratum. The plant is not rare in Ecuador and is easy to bloom. Alex Hirtz told me that he thought that cyrto monachicum will "bloom itself to death". While I have not found this statement to be true, my monachicums do bloom regularly and I have made a number of crosses with them. The flowers of monachicum are 5 to 7 cm in size, with round sepals and petals and a dark purple lip which recurves at the tip. The color ranges from a light chestnut brown to a darker form with purple tints on the medial aspect of the petals. However, I have seen very little color variation in the plants that have been imported into this country and little variation in the plants in Ecuadorian collections. Most cultivars have been the lighter brown form. While exorbitant prices have been paid for imported plants of monachicum, sibling crosses of better cultivars are being grown and should discourage the importation of collected plants.

The road from Cuenca to Loja is indelibly imprinted in my memory. It was on a dark mountain road heading down to Loja, on a foggy night at 11 PM, that the brakes failed on the rented truck that Dennis was driving. Fortunately, by crashing the truck into the mountain side, we prevented ourselves from driving off the road with a 2000 foot drop. When I said that this trip was adventuresome, I was not kidding! However, if one is interested in cyrtochilums, then one must go to Loja provence, since this is the home of cyrto. loxense.

Loja provence is the only region where cyrto loxense is found. In fact, loxense is the old name for the city of Loja. This species grows in the hills east of the city. This beautiful and desirable species is noted for its large yellow lip and rich olive brown sepals and petals. The substance and texture of this species is the best in the cyrtochilum genus. In many ways, the flowers and growth habit of cyrto loxense are so markedly different from other cyrtochilum species that one could easily justify the placement of loxense in a different genus. The limited range of cyrto loxense, habitat destruction and the demand for plants by orchid growers has made this the most endangered cyrtochilum species in Ecuador. Fortunately, several loxense sibling crosses have been made and are being grown in the United States. I believe that cyrto loxense has tremendous potential as a parent when used in oncidium intergeneric hybridization. However, only one cross between cyrto loxense and cyrto macranthum has been made to date.

Cyrtochilum halteratum is a species found in northern Ecuador and Colombia. The better forms of this species are superb and I believe that this plant ranks among the most beautiful of all orchid species. The flowers of cyrto halteratum are similar in shape and form to cyrto tetracopis and cyrto gargantua, which are found respectively in Venezuela and Peru. In fact, I personally cannot distinguish between the flowers of cyrtochilum halteratum and the flowers of my Peruvian collected plants of cyrto gargantua. Unfortunately, I have not had a chance to compare side by side them in bloom. In Ecuador, I saw several lovely plants of this species in the collections of Padre Andretta and Dr Edwardo Sanchez. The accompanying photographs demonstrate the variation seen in two different specimens.

The golden brown to honey colored flowers have a waxy texture and appear to glow in sunlight. Another desirable feature of cyrto halteratum is the fact that the species has a compact growth habit similar to cyrto macranthum. I brought back pollen from several cultivars of this species, but have failed to obtain any successful crosses with this pollen.

Two interesting and lovely cyrtochilums seen in Ecuadorian collections are cyrto trifucatum and cyrto cryptocopis. Cyrto trifucation is relatively common and found in several provinces of Ecuador, while cryptocopis is less often seen since it is limited to southern Ecuador and Peru. I have one cultivar of trifucatum and find it to be one of the most vigorous species in the genus. Steve and Julie Beckendorf in Berkley, CA, are also growers of cyrtochilums, have a plant of trifucatum which they have bloomed. I do not have a plant of cyrto cryptocopis and have been in contact with growers from Peru in an attempt to acquire a plant. I did, however, see a plant in bloom at the University of Cuenca botanical gardens and found the flowers to be stunning. The waxy texture of the reminded me of the texture of the otoglossums.

It is interesting that new species of cyrtochilums continue to be found in Ecuador. Recently several plants of a new cyrtochilum species, discovered by Padre Andretta, have been imported into this country. I saw one plant of this beautiful new species in bloom at Alfonso Pozo's home and now look forward to blooming my three plants of the new species. The flowers have many features similar to cyrto halteratum and could represent a natural hybrid between halteratum and another cyrtochilum. This species does not represent the only population of undescribed cyrtochilums in Ecuador, for I have seen photographs of at least 3 other cyrtochilums that also appear to be previously unrecognized species. I would expect that there may be a similar number of unrecognized cyrtochilums in Peru and Venezuela.

There are another 4 to 6 named cyrtochilum species also reported from Ecuador. Most represent species populations which overlap with Colombia, Venezuela or Peru. Some of these include cyrto falcepetalum, cyrto engelii, cyrto zebrinum and cyrto leopoldianum. Sadly, as the environment in Ecuador continues to deteriorate with rampant habitat destruction and the rapid clearing of forests, all cyrtochilums are endangered. Therefore, the preservation of these beautiful orchids will require repeated sibling and selfings of the plants presently in cultivation. CITES cannot protect the remaining cyrtochilums from habitat destruction, but dedicated orchid lovers can grow and preserve these beautiful orchids.

Editors note:

Part I of Dr. Liebman's article was printed in the February 1995 Odontoglossum Alliance Newsletter

Orchids First at Rippon Lea

The first collection of exotic orchids in Australia was established by Sir Frederick Sargood at Rippon Lea, his garden estate in Elsternwick, during 1883. This fact is based on research by the Australian Orchid Foundation which is collecting information for their future publication "The History of Orchid Growing in Australia".

*Gerald McGraith AM, President of the Foundation, recently visited Rippon Lea to examine the archival documents.

The collection was the result of an 1880 to 1882 visit to England by Sir Frederick with his family following the death of his first wife.. Orchid collecting was all the rage in Victorian Britain and he set about assembling a collection of these exotic plants. The following extract is from an article in the Leader of 1st December 1883.

"Two gardeners-head grower and plantsmanwere also imported at the same time - together with a very large collection of orchids and other plants...This collection of orchids surpasses by far any other in the colony, and we do not doubt, contains a larger number of exotic species than there are in the three neighboring colonies altogether..."

The third owner of Rippon Lea, Mr. Benjamin Nathan, was also an avid collector of orchids and for the second time in the estates history it housed a major collection. Could Rippon Lea's history as the home of exotic orchid collecting in Australia have contributed to Nathan's interest in acquiring the property as a family home and sound property investment?

The Australian Home Beautiful, June 1931 featured Rippon Lea in an article by C.B. Frond entitled: "Rippon Lea: A suburban paradise". The following extract explains the extent of Mr. Nathan's orchid collecting activities. "Mr. Nathan provided a big conservatory and 14 other glasshouses for the finest collection of orchids and exotics in Australia. The conservatory is a miniature Crystal Palace for plants, notably ferns and palms and beautiful-leaved species, from the tropics. It measures 110 feet in length and nearly 60 feet in width, and has a lofty roof. The other glasshouses are each 60 feet by 14 feet. Under glass at 'Rippon Lea' more than 2000 orchids, of several hundred species and varieties are grown, and the collection is constantly receiving additions - novelties from the great orchid nurseries in England and elsewhere.

The orchid collection at Rippon Lea was dispersed after 1949 because of rising costs of wages and maintaining the heated glasshouses which had fallen into disrepair.

Mr. Nathan won many prizes and awards for his orchids and always welcomed fellow collectors and enthusiasts who wished to visit his grand display house.

Today only one conservatory remains on the east side of the entrance to the mansion. A small number of orchids are still displayed here and the National Trust is researching the history of the great orchid collections held at Rippon Lea to that they may be represented in the future.

Newsletter

13

The National Trust is supporting the Australian Orchid Foundation's appeal for information on orchid activities in Australia prior to 1923. If you have any material about orchids during this period please contact Richard Heathcote, Property Manager, Rippon Lea House Museum and Historic Garden. Telephone 03 523 6095.

This article was sent by Gerald McCraith of Australia. Gerald comments " Among the species that were shipped to Australia, were a number of Odontoglossum species. A number were still growing in the collection in the 1930's."

Sources of Supply

This list of sources of supply of Odontoglossum Alliance material was prepared from contributions by a few of the suppliers and mostly from the Editor's knowledge. Interested persons should contact the potential supplier directly.

Cal-Orchids 1251 Orchid Drive Ext. Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Chieri Orchids 2913 N. 9th Street Tacoma, WA 98406

Everglade Orchids 1101 Tabit Road Belle Glade, FL 33430

Dugger's Hybrids 762 North Granados Solana Beach, CA 92075

Keith Andrews Orchids Ltd Plush, Dorchester Dorset, DT2 7RH, England A&P Orchids Peters Road Swansea, MA 02777

Burnham Nurseries Ltd. Forches Cross Newton Abbot Devon, TQ12 6PZ, England

Strawberry Creek Orchids 4373 Central Avenue McKinleyville, CA 94014

Orchids Royale 2360 Foothill Road Santa Barbara, CA 93115

Mansell & Hatcher Ltd Cragg Wood Nurseries Rawdon Leeds, LS19 6LQ England

McBeans Orchids Cooksbridge, Lewes Sussex, BN8 4PR, England

Charles Island Gardens P.O. Box 91471 West Vancouver, B.C. Canada, V7V 3P2

Golden Gate Orchids 225 Velasco Avenue San Francisco, CA 94134

Starbek Farms 7305 Shepard Mesa Road Carpenteria, CA 93013

Colomborquideas Calle 11A No. 43B-68 A.A. 50494 Medellin, Colombia, S.A.

Sunset Orchids 2709 Hillside Drive Burlingame, CA 94010

The Exotic Plant Company Garden Cottage, The Grange Crawley Down, West Sussex RH10 4LB, England

٠

Starbek Farms 7305 Shepard Mesa Road Carpenteria, CA 93013

The Orchid Man P.O. Box 90 Schaghticoke, NY 12154

Rio Verde Orchids Apartado Postal No. 69 Valle de Bravo, Mexico 51300

Rolfe Horticulture General Delivery MTN. View, HI 96771

Plested Orchids 38 Florence Road, Collegetown Cambealey, GU25 40D, England Plans for the August Newsletter

Sandro Cusi's talk on Lemboglossums given at the Portland meeting, with color illustrations.

Part 2 of Robert Hamilton's article on "Treking the Andes"

Color illustrations of native Colombian orchids.

The biography of Lewis Knudsen by Joseph Arditti (Part 1)

Preliminary plans for the 1996 Odontoglossum Alliance meeting in Vancouver



The following Odont seedlings are near flowering size and should bloom on their current growth. They are two bulb & growth plants or larger. Plants are offered subject to being unsold. No substitutions will be made. All plants will be shipped in pot by Priority Mail unless otherwise requested. Payment in the form of check or money order must accompany order and include 10% (\$5 minimum) for packing and shipping in the USA. California residents must add 8.25% sales tax. Overseas customers will be invoiced for required documentation costs and estimated packing and shipping.

167	Odm. bictoniense album		
	A sibling cross. Solid bronze flowers with pure white lips.	\$	12
286	Oda. Queen of Hearts 'Sunset Ruby' HCC x Jan's Pride 'Red Baron'		
	Good quality red flowers.	\$	12
287	Oda. Queen of Hearts 'Sunset Ruby' HCC x Oda. Lippestern 'Red Ruby' AM		
	Good quality red flowers.	\$	15
289	Oda. Lippestern 'Red Ruby' AM x Jan's Pride 'Red Baron'		
	Good quality red flowers.	\$	12
327	Odm. Stropheon 'Pacifica' FCC x Odm. Durham Pursuit 'Snow Leopard'		
	Pristine white flowers with wine spots.	\$	12
397	Odm. Parade 'Goldilocks' AM x Odm. Charles 'Janet' AM		
	Golden yellow flowers with mahogany spots, some have been xanthic.	\$	18
407	Odm. crispum 'Sheila' AM x Odm. crispum 'Sunset Crystal'		
	Pure white flowers with yellow crested lips.	\$	18
409	Odm. crispum 'Sheila' AM x Oda. Lillian Dugger 'Sally Lee'		
	Pinks, lavenders, or whites some with spots.	\$	12
410	Odm. Quistrum 'Lyoth Angelo' FCC x Odm. crispum 'Sheila' AM		
	Pristine whites some with purple spots.	\$	15
414	Oda. Lippestadt 'Sunset Dalmatian' x Odm. Mt. Diablo 'Sunset Dalmatian'		
	Pure whites with marcon spots or patterns.	\$	12
417	Oda. Saint Clement 'Mark Daniel' AM x Oda. Danilo 'SantaBarbara Sunset'HCC		
410	Huge red/purple patterns on lavender or white. (Limit 1 per \$100 of order)	\$	25
418	Oda. Saint Clement 'Mark Daniel' AM x Oda. Strator 'Sunset Giant'		
400	whites some with purple spots.	\$	15
428	Oda. Saint Clement 'Sunset Mist' AM x Odm. Lippestadt 'Sunset Dalmatian'		
420	whites with manogany spots or patterns.	\$	12
432	Oda. (Joe's Drum X Floricon) X Oda. Point Nepean 'Sunset Jaguar' AM		
	Red-purple markings on white background with lavender margins.	\$	12
444	Oda. Point Nepean 'Sunset Jaguar' AM x Oda. Saint Clement 'Mark Daniel' AM		
A A C	heavy rea/purple patterns on lavender.	\$	18
440	Oda. Point Nepean 'Sunset Jaguar' AM X Oda. Lillian Dugger		
	Dod/numple mattering on levender		
450	Red/purpre patterns on ravender.	Ş	18
409	Unit a l'Abbe 'Sunset Orchids'		
160	nuge will us some with spots. 'Ine Mont a l'Abbe is Sunset Orchids' logo.	\$	15
400	Whites with beau and astronomy X Oda. Saint Clement 'Sheila'		
	willes with heavy red patterns.	\$	12

2709 Hillside Drive, Burlingame, California 94010

(415) 342-3092 • (415) 342-3093 Fax

Odontocidium Intergenerics by Helmut Rohr1



Figure 1 Adgm. Wild Kingdom Ada. glumacea x Odm. triumphans



Figure 2 Adgm. Thunderbird



Figure 3 Bcra. Everglades Hunter 'Swan Beauty' HCC/AOS



Figure 4 Oda. Philip Ho Odm. bictonience x Oda. Red Devon



Figure 5

Milt. Miami Moon 'Everglades' HCC/AOS



Figure 6 Odm. Wearside Sunshine 'Golden Gate' HCC



Odcdm. Urhi Rohrl May 1995

News Letter

Figure 7

"Classic Odonts" by Steve Gettel

Oda. Clouds Rest 'Sunset Bullseye'



Oda. Charade 'Golden Sunset'



Oda. Queen of Hearts x Janis Price 'Sunset Ruby'





Oda. Vernal Falls 'Sunset Perfection'

Oda. Gale Gettel 'Sunset Kaliedescope'





Oda. Gene Gettel 'Electric Sunset'

Newsletter

18

May 1995

Cyrtochilum Part II



Cytro. cryptocopis

Cytro. unknown species



Cytro. macranthum 'superb'





Cytro. halteratum 'Cuenca'

Cyrto. trifucatum 'Rustic Canyon'



Cytro. monachicum 'Rustic Canyon'



Cytro. halteratum 'Rustic Canyon'

Newsletter

May 1995

19