

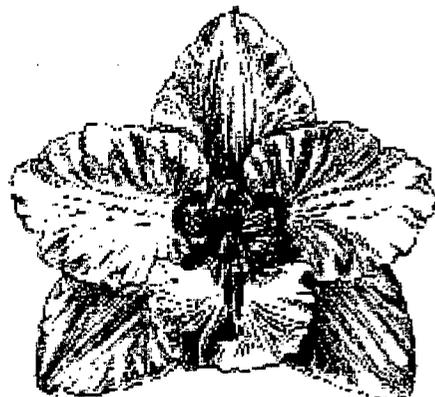
# Odontoglossum Alliance Newsletter

Volume 4

February 2007

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## Odontoglossum Alliance Meeting

The Odontoglossum Alliance meeting will be held in San Francisco during the San Francisco Orchid Show at Fort Mason. The show starts with a preview party on Thursday night 15 February 2007 and ends on Sunday 18 February 2007. The Alliance meeting is scheduled for Saturday 17 February. Events will include a tour of several greenhouses in the local area including Steve Beckendorf and Bob Hamilton. Of special opportunity will be to tour Golden Gate Orchids Seedling house. This is Tom Perlite's business. Tom has agreed that those attendees will be able to purchase plants from the seedling house. There will be a bench set with plants reserved for sale. This is a wonderful opportunity as Tom is one of the hybridizers who consistently produce Odontoglossum alliance plants and flowers that win awards for Tom and his customers. In addition to beautiful displays the show has a huge area devoted to plant sales. The vendors, of which there are many, are both domestic and foreign. For anyone interested in acquiring plant material, the widest possibilities are available.

In the evening we are scheduling a cocktail hour and dinner at the St Francis Yacht Club. The web site is: [www.stfyc.com](http://www.stfyc.com) and it contains directions to the club, which is close to the show location at Fort Mason. This will be a joint dinner between the Pluerothallid Alliance and the Odontoglossum Alliance. We will have two speakers and our usual auction of fine Odontoglossum alliance plants and associated material. The latter has included some original watercolor prints by Nellie Roberts. The Pleurothallid Alliance will also be auctioning some of their fine material.

The speaker is Juan Felipe Posada and his topic is 'Odontoglossum HBK'. He writes: "This presentation will show a short history of the genus Odontoglossum as was originally described by Humboldt, Bonpland and Kunth. A review of the early culture of the recently arrived Odontoglossum plants to Europe will be followed with description of the most outstanding species of the genus that are the basis of our actual Odontoglossum hybrids. How were these species flowering for the first time around the year 1900? This question will be answered by showing paintings and records of that time to see the "beautiful species that we once had". Some primary hybrids will also be shown."

“To complement the talk I have been asked by Bob Hamilton to prepare an overview of my nursery, Colomborquideas, showing the great variety of species that we grow, with emphasis on Plurothallids, due to the fact that both alliances will be combined for dinner. This will be prepared and can be shown or not according to your plans.”

Walter Teague will be the speaker for the Pleurothallid Alliance

We look forward to a good crowd. In this February newsletter are more details on the meeting. This includes suggestions as to hotel locations close to the show.

The San Francisco Orchid Show is the best show in North America to see Odontoglossum alliance material in the show. The sales area is huge with many opportunities to acquire high quality material.

A good web site to look for hotels is: [www.sfravel.com](http://www.sfravel.com). The specific page is <http://www.sanfranciscovisitor.com/bgt.html>. A selection of hotels picked from the web site follows.

Travelodge by the Bay (415) 673-0691  
1450 Lombard St. San Francisco, CA 94123

Lombard Motor Inn (415) 441-6000  
1475 Lombard St.

Francisco Bay Motel (415) 474-3030  
1501 Lombard St.

Redwood Inn (415) 776-3800  
1530 Lombard St.

Town House Motel (415) 885-5163  
1650 Lombard St.

Star Motel (415) 346-8250  
1727 Lombard St.

Cow Hollow Motor Inn\* (415)-921-5800  
Lombard Street

S F Motor Inn (415) 921-1842  
1750 Lombard St.

Coventry Motor Inn (415) 567-1200  
1901 Lombard St.

Ramada Limited (415) 775-8116  
1940 Lombard St.

Buena Vista Motor Inn\* (415) 923-9600  
PO Box 475517 San Francisco, CA 94147

Chelsea Motor Inn (415) 563-5600  
2095 Lombard St San Francisco, CA 94123

Motel Capri (415) 346-4667  
2015 Greenwich St.

Hotel Del Sol (415) 921-5520  
3100 Webster St.

Best Inn (415) 776-3220  
2850 Van Ness Ave San Francisco, CA 94109

These hotels are within a couple of blocks of Fort Mason. These appear to be clean and comfortable, but not elegant. The web site offers reviews of the hotels. The ones marked with an \* I have stayed at for previous meetings and shows. They are clean, neat, not elegant; reasonably priced and with parking. I often walked to the show from these hotels.

Please note the article by Steve Beckendorf in the November 06 newsletter. "How I ended up with 100 species *Odontoglossum* plants at the San Francisco Show". Steve will be making available of number of these *Odontoglossum* species available at the auction to be held following the dinner. This meeting should be lots of fun and you are urged to attend and meet up with our fellow *Odontoglossum* alliance friends.

### ***Registration and Dinner Reservation***

The dinner and event location is the St Francis Yacht Club

#### **Schedule**

- 6:15PM      Cocktails (Cash bar)
- 6:45PM      Dinner
- 7:45PM      Juan Felipe Posada and Walter Teague
- 9:00PM      Auction of Fine Pleurothallid and *Odontoglossum* Alliance material
- 10:15 PM    Depart
- The Yacht Club has a four-hour limit; there is a very significant charge if we exceed it.

#### **Dinner Menu**

Soup or Salad

Butter lettuce with a wedge of blue cheese, croutons, tomatoes and house dressing

Or

Butternut squash soup

## Entrée

Tenderloin en croûte roast loin of pork with dried fruit compote, au gratin potatoes, buttery carrots, Swiss chard, and brown butter sage sauce

Or

Dungeness crab cakes with ravigote sauce, wild mushroom ragu, potatoes and fresh seasonal vegetables

## Dessert

Tiramisu with strawberries and crème anglaise

**Very Important Dinner Reservation**

**\$35.00/person**

**If you are planning on attending the dinner you must send in your reservation to be received by 14 February along with a check for \$35.00 per person to:**

**Robert Hamilton  
2439 Woolsey Street  
Berkeley, CA 94705**

**Make the check payable to: Robert Hamilton**

**We are required to give the St Francis Yacht Club a count of the number of attendees on 14 February 2007. In your response please state your entrée choice:**

**Roast Pork or Dungeness crab cakes  
For each reservation**

**The St Francis Yacht Club may not accommodate reservations and checks received after 12 February. Also we have a seating capacity limit we cannot exceed. We will do our best to accommodate late reservations, but we cannot guarantee they will be honored.**

**The message is: If you are coming send in your reservation NOW**

**St Francis Yacht Club Directions**

**From Fort Mason proceed along the waterfront towards the Golden Gate Bridge on Bay Street and then to Marina Blvd to the Yacht Club.**

**St Francis Yacht Club**

**99 Yacht Road  
San Francisco, CA 94123**

**Use the above address for either Google or Map quest directions**

**It is reasonable walking distance from either Fort Mason or Lombard Street. Parking is available at the Yacht Club or along the waterfront.**

**Here is a Google map address for you:**

**<http://www.google.com/maps?ie=UTF-8&hl=en&tab=wl&q=99%20Yacht%20rd.%2C%20San%20Francisco>**

**Tour Locations**  
Saturday 17 February 2007

**Steve and Cindy Beckendorf's Greenhouse**

They have requested we tour their greenhouse on Saturday morning starting no earlier than 9:30 AM and be completed by noon. A map to their greenhouse is enclosed with this material. This is the last page of the newsletter and also contains the written directions. This is so you can tear off the sheet to take with you.

**Bob Hamilton, John Leathers, Tim Brydon and Tom Perlite Greenhouses.**

These greenhouses are located in Pacifica. It is suggested you tour here commencing about 11:00 AM and plan to depart no later than 5:00 PM. Both of these greenhouses are in the same location. Tom Perlite's is just up the hill from those of Bob, John and Tim. Tom Perlite (Golden Gate Orchids) has set aside one bench from which you may purchase plants. These plants are priced. Tom asks: If you see something other than on this bench, you will need to contact him after the orchid show.

**Directions to Pacifica from Fort Mason**

Whether one begins on Lombard St. or Fort Mason, the directions to Pacifica are virtually the same.

If you start on Lombard St. proceed west toward the Golden Gate Bridge. Lombard will become Doyle Drive, which is the roadway to the bridge.

If you start at Fort Mason, turn right after leaving the parking lot and proceed west on Marina Blvd. Marina will merge with Doyle Drive, which is the roadway to the bridge.

Once on Doyle Drive stay in the right-hand line and prepare to exit onto CA-1 (Hwy 1) south. If you miss this exit you will be on the Golden Gate Bridge on your way to Canada.

Proceed south on CA-1. CA-1 is Park Presidio Drive for this part of the trip. Travel about 1.7 miles. Move to the right-hand lane and turn right at Geary St. Once on Geary St. you will be heading due West toward the Pacific Ocean.

Follow Geary 1.7 miles. Geary's right lanes will flow into Point Lobos. Take Point Lobos to the Cliff House. Point Lobos will turn left and become The Great Highway, which runs North. to S. along the ocean.

Follow the great Highway for about 3.5 miles. The Great Highway will

end at Skyline Blvd (route 35). Turn right and proceed to the Hwy. 1/Pacifica exit (right-turn).

Head down the hill into Pacifica. (WARNING - the speed limit throughout Pacifica is 55 mph not 65 mph and the Pacifica police make a living on their radar traps).

Follow Hwy. 1 (Cabrillo Highway) until you reach the first stop light at Reina Del Mar. Make a U-turn at Reina del Mar and proceed north on Hwy 1 about 1/5 mile. Turn sharply at the driveway up a steep hill. There is a large green sign, which reads ORCHIDS at this driveway.

The first pair of greenhouses you come to are Hawk Hill and Joe & Kathy Parker's. The next set up the hill belong to Golden Gate Orchids and are Tom Perlite's cool houses on the Coast.

The cell phone number for Bob Hamilton and John Leathers is 510-325-7557. Greenhouses will be open from 11 - 5PM.

### **To get to the Pacifica Greenhouses from Berkeley**

As you leave Berkeley on either Buchanan or Gilman turn left on I-80 and cross the Bay Bridge toward San Francisco. After the bridge, continue on I-80 toward San Jose. The highway becomes US-101, stay on it until you see signs for I-280.

Take a right exit onto I-280 toward Daly City and continue for 6.4 miles.

Take a right exit onto CA-1, south toward Pacifica. At 5.6 miles you come to the first stoplight at Reina del Mar.

Make a U-turn at Reina del Mar and proceed north on Hwy 1 about 1/5 mile. Turn sharply at the driveway up a steep hill. There is a large green sign, which reads ORCHIDS at this driveway.

The first pair of greenhouses you come to are Hawk Hill and Joe & Kathy Parker's. The next set up the hill belong to Golden Gate Orchids and are Tom Perlite's cool houses on the Coast.

### **San Francisco Orchid Show**

#### **Fort Mason**

Preview Party Thursday, 15 February; tickets may be purchased ahead of time over the Internet. They also may be purchased at the door at the time of the show Web Address: <http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org/poe.html> There are links at this web site to purchase both preview party and show tickets.

## Presidents Message

The San Francisco meeting of the Odontoglossum Alliance is almost here. It looks to be an exciting event. I would like to thank John Miller as the force behind this event along with help from the members in the bay area that have helped in arranging the dinner and tours. This is what an Alliance or Society is all about where we all can be count on when it is our turn to help our dream advance. I am eagerly awaiting the presentation by Juan Felipe Posada.

The fact that the Pleurothallid Alliance members in the area are joining us makes it even more delightful for me as I can meet old friends and make new ones in my "other" favourite group.

The Odontoglossum members that are attending should come with ideas and be prepared to make plans for Colombia 2008. Also hopefully we can discuss where we want to take the Odontoglossum Alliance. Winter has finally come to Southern Ontario and with a vengeance, lows of 0 and freezing rain that caused many trees to fall and power lines to snap. I was without power for a 3 hour stretch and then another hour later as hydro crews repaired downed lines. Thankfully the generator worked like a charm and all treasured plants were safe.

I am always afraid to be away in the months of Jan. and Feb., this event just enforces that thought.

Until the meetings good growing to all.

Mario Ferrusi

## Material for Auction at the Odontoglossum Alliance Meeting

The Odontoglossum Alliance meeting being held on Saturday, 17 February will have a dinner in the evening. A highlight of our previous dinner meetings has been the auction of fine Odontoglossum Alliance material. We already have some interesting contributions for this auction. We will be auctioning off two sets of 6 wine glasses that were engraved with the Odontoglossum Alliance seal and the WOC99 emblem. Larry Sanford is sending a division of Oda. Leysa. Chris Purver of the Eric Young Orchid Foundation is planning on donating a couple of flasks.

We urge everyone to think what he or she could donate to the auction that will make it exciting and unusual. If you are coming to the meeting, bring your donation to the dinner. If you are donating and cannot come to the meeting, send the material to Bob Hamilton whose address is in the previous article. We will have three watercolors of awarded plants that were done by Nellie Roberts working for the Royal Horticultural Society.

There will be two copies of the Leon Duval book 'The Odontoglossums' re-published by the Odontoglossum Alliance with an English translation, the original French and some biographical material. The original book was published, in French, in 1900. Howard Liebman is donating a division of *Brassochilum Rustic Goliath* 'Rustic Canyon' HCC/AOS and a piece of Oda. Leysa 'Rustic Canyon' AM/AOS (86 points). Marion Ferrusi is bringing *Cochlioda mixtura* 'Definitely Conni' HCC/AOS, *Odm. Ascania* 'Jester' AM/AOS and *Masdevallia Paul Martinod* 'Super Nova' AM/AOS.

And I am sure there will be many more things show up at the time of the auction.

## Viva Colombia, Viva Pereira

by Bob Hamilton

### Part 1 of 2

Colombia is an odontoglossum-lovers dream. It is the origin of the many of our finest species such as *crispum* and *nobile* and some of the finest forms of *Odm. harryanum*. When I received an e-mail from Jim Rassmann inquiring if John Leathers and I would like to join a group to visit the 2006 Pereira, Colombian Orchid Show I, at first, dismissed the idea. John and I had spent almost a month in Dijon, France the year before which was a long time off from our hectic work schedules. Our last trip to Colombia was in 1996, part of an Andean trip that included Ecuador. Our stay in Ecuador was three weeks and our stay in Colombia was for only three days ? all too brief. We had a terrific time in 1996 and often spoke of a desire to revisit Colombia, Colomborquideas, the Posadas and their cousins, Carlos and Olga Lucia Arangoi. They had all treated us with tremendous hospitality and they are outstanding orchid growers.

It did not take long to decide to take the opportunity and make this trip. Jim Rassmann's organizational skill added confidence. We proceeded to book our flights through a contact Jim provided. The travel route was via Dallas/Fort Worth where we converged with the Oregonian's of the group. These included Jim and Julie Rassmann, Gerald and Marcia Romick, Nadine and Richard Gindhart and Donna Parker. Dr. Howard Liebman, of Pacific Palisades flew into Dallas/Ft Worth from Los Angeles. We proceeded to Miami and then to Medellin, Colombia. In Medellin, Dana and Terry Kennedy of Canada met us. Our flights and coordination went without a hitch. This left one member of our group to still connect.

In Medellin we met up with our English speaking driver and a mini-bus that Jim had arranged ahead of time. This would be our transportation to Pereira and for the duration of our visit to Pereira. In addition to our driver, there was a surprise. Aurelio Botero, a veterinarian, Colombian orchid grower and expert on *Cattleya quadricolor* came to Medellin to accompany us from Medellin to Pereira, a drive of about 6 hours. He made this trip on our behalf as an act of hospitality. Aurelio did his college studies in the United States so his English was excellent and he provided us with knowledge and history as we traveled.

An interesting part of our journey was a road that followed the Cauca River. I had read about orchid exploration along the Cauca in Plant Hunter's of the Andes, a wonderful, early 20th biography. I was thrilled to see this notable river. The Cauca received its name because of its brown color; it contains a large amount of soil. We made five stops on this trip, one for a coffee break, one at a fruit stand for fruit and photos, another unscheduled 45 minute stop while an overturned 55' trailer was pulled onto a trailer, one for lunch at a truck-stop and finally the last and most memorable stop before we reached Pereira.

Medellin is in the Department of Antioquia. Colombia is a unitary republic conformed by 32 departments (Spanish: departamentos, sing. departamento). To get to Pereira one travels through the Department of Caldas and ultimately to the Department of Risaralda. Colombians are patriotic both to their country and to their department like us Yankees. Aurelio's Department is Risaralda. Aurelio insisted we observe a Colombian custom of toasting our arrival to Risaralda. He stopped the bus, disappeared into a store and returned with some high-proof libation. This was white lightning, i.e. potent stuff. The only limitation on the number of toasts up his sleeve was the size of the bottle.

The scenery of Colombia, and particularly Risaralda, is stunning. The country is well kept, the roads we traveled were excellent and the Colombian people very friendly. The elevation of Pereira is about 1600 meters. At tropical latitudes this means day temperatures in the mid 80's with comfortable, mid 70's nights. We arrived at our lodging and met our final companion, Marguerite Webb of J&L Orchids. Marguerite flew in a few days prior as J&L exhibited at this show.

Jim had arranged the rental of a vacation home, which was built on an old coffee plantation. This gated-home was sighted on five acres, with stunning architecture, lots of open decks, manicured gardens, a pool and an exceptionally welcoming staff. We split up, taking various rooms. We agreed to meet later at the pool for a snack. The cook prepared us plantains which were extraordinary wonderful (we would have these many times for the duration of our stay) and pitchers of Mandarin orange and guava juice made of fruit from trees in the garden.

That evening, we traveled to the show grounds where setup was taking place. The 2006 Pereira Show was also a national show increasing its importance and its scope. The organizer for this event was Thomas Toulemonde, an exceptionally good natured and capable events organizer. Thomas worked with Jim Rassmann to facilitate our visit. Time after time we would learn more about this extraordinary man's capabilities. While we were there, Thomas operated with grace, patience and vigor while sustaining the pulse of the show while and sorting out details. He still had time to treat us foreign guests like royalty.

The show's venue was at a recently constructed exhibition and sports complex on the edge of the city. This location proved a great sight for an exhibition. When we arrived at the show Colombian exhibitors were busy completing their displays. Jim Rassmann went about the business of coordinating AOS judging which would occur the next day. John and I are not participants in the AOS judging system; however, we were invited to judge the exhibits.

Exhibits were well staged and good numbers of extraordinary plants were displayed. I was stunned by a *Bollea coelestis* of solid, vibrant blue color (it would receive an FCC - AOS). This *coelestes* surpassed any I had seen including the clone "San Carlos", AM-AOS that I grow. The odonts displayed were terrific including a batch of very fine yellow hybrids. Colomborquideas had a wonderful exhibit (Best in Show) and displayed a superb *Odm. harryanum*, which, like the *bollea* was one of the best I've seen. Socrates Ferrero, of Bogota displayed a large number of species including many stunning *Odm. crispums*.

The most dramatic odont displayed was an unforgettable *Odm. gloriossum*, a species found in the Department of Risaralda. This plant was superbly grown in a basket and had a dozen spikes with hundreds (maybe a thousand) flowers. It was stunning. It went on to receive its due: Best Plant In Show.

Opening Night was held in the evening after judging. Being given traditional woven hats to wear identified invited guests. These were in the colors of the national flag. South American's tend to the formal. Before guests were allowed entry to the show we were ushered into an auditorium for a ceremony of speeches, national and departmental anthems and a moment of silence. The speeches were South American, emotional, somewhat lengthy (longer when your Spanish is *muy poco*) and almost liturgical. There was the traditional moment of silence. The caper to this event was a terrific performance by a folk dance troupe made up of beautiful women. During the performance I noticed, across the isle, AOS Past President, Robert Griesbach and

Andy Easton both slackened jaws and nearly motionless. They appeared captivated by these performing beauties.

We made many pilgrimages to the show over the next few days. There were excellent talks, which were translated into English. Patricia Harding, of Oregon presented an excellent talk on revisions to members of the subtribe ZYGOPETILINAE. Such talks seem to upset many growers who don't like to rethink the names of the orchids they grow. A Colombian hobbyist who had shot footage of insects pollinating various orchids presented one of the most remarkable orchid talks. He had cross-sectioned the lips so their activity could be documented. This was extraordinary footage, which obviously had clearly taken incredible time, dedication and patience to capture. Juan Felipe Posada presented an excellent overview of the genus *odontoglossum*. The quality of these presentations was better than most orchid events I have attended including World Orchid Conferences.

John and I both like adventure. We decided to take a day off from the orchids and hired a taxi driver for a day to take us into downtown Pereira. This driver spoke no English. John and I cannot brag about our Spanish. The day turned into a great adventure and a really fun time. The population of Pereira and its environs is about 900,000 people. The town is sited on interesting geography with hills and a river. Pereira has a stately central square with lovely modern statuary with several bronzes as we walked about town. We asked our driver where we could eat "tipico" which is the way we like to travel. He took us to a café where he eats and there we had one of the best meals of our travels. Of note was a sauce made from cilantro used to for meats.

We did a lot of walking around the city. As is often the case in South America boutique stores which cater to tourists were few, their goods relatively pricey. The locals had no particular taste for folk art, probably mundane to them. Better arts and crafts could be had from the vendors at the Show. At the end of the day our driver insisted he take us somewhere special. He drove us up into the mountains at the edge of town. This ride took us to a grand overlook of the valley. There was a mountain top restaurant at this location and we walked through it and took their card. At the end of the day we met up with our group back at the house. We mentioned the day's events and our enthusiasm to try this restaurant. It was agreed; we made reservations for the group that evening.

When one travels there are certain events that become iconic. This dinner was one of those. The view proved incredible and the food excellent. We were seated at a large table on the balcony overlooking Pereira and valleys of the Andes. We noted another large setup adjacent to our table. Soon Easton, Griesbach and their party showed up for that table (Andy Easton's wife is Colombian; we had obviously chosen the right Pereira restaurant). This great evening drew to a close with a lightening storm over the valley.

There were several tours planned during the show. One was to a rum producer. Colombian rum was served several times including the preview night. This is world-class liquor and quite a different drink from the traditional Caribbean-rums I am used to. Regrettably, we did not make this tour. Another trip was a trip into the forest to see *Cattleya quadricolor* in bloom. *Quadricolor* is a spectacular flower. I feel privileged to have seen it in nature. This was a full day's outing. A commercial bus was hired to take about 25 of us on this trip. The drive was scenic. It is always a thrill to see orchids in the wild; however, besides the orchids there are the birds, insects, sounds, trees and the people you meet.

When we arrived at the *quadricolor* site about ten armed, uniformed soldiers from the Colombian Special

Forces greeted us. They were our chaperones arranged to insure our safety. It proved really fun having these soldiers along with us. Before long we were joking and laughing. They joined us for a box lunch. When they learned Jim Rassmann had been in the US Special Forces a group lined up with Jim for a photo.

Another event was a dinner sponsored for foreign guests and Colombian participants. This was held at a Country Club. An auction/fund raiser was held. Juan Felipe Posada was one of the auctioneers. A lot of very fine plants were donated for this auction. There were a number of Japanese visitors and they paid big bucks for many of these plants. For instance, a division of the FCC *Bollea coelestes* went for \$700 (which I deem was a bargain)! I was surprised given their gusto; the auctioneers did not lose their voices.

A second dinner was held at a private hotel located within a private estate. This was a lavish event. This hotel had just opened. It was a personable, very much like a grand tropical home. It was posh with great art and décor. The dinner was held under tents and the food was excellent. Victoria Fisher Duque, born in the United States and a Colombian citizen for most of her adult life spoke to us foreign guests and particularly us Americans. She invited us to participate and visit the next Colombian International Show, to be held in Medellin in 2008. This is an established show, "Birds, Butterflies and Orchids". Like so many of the events at this Pereira Show this dinner was memorable.

The final and ultimate Pereira event was a horseback ride up a canyon in a Colombian national park in Quindío, an amazing place in the Central Cordillera (mountain range) of the Andes. In Colombia, the Andes split into three ranges, the Oriente, Central and Occidente. This park is a mountainous rain forest and home to a unique, tall, beautiful statuesque palm, the Quindío wax palm. The weather in this area is quite variable, controlled by Pacific currents and can change quickly.

Our destination was a popular tourist location, well organized with a staging area, a folk-art store, a restaurant and a horse coral. We were assigned horses for a trip up a canyon into the mountains. The trip up the canyon began with a gentle climb with beautiful views of the Quindio palms gracing the hills. The path soon became quite steep and treacherous. I admired the horses for their skill in navigating the path and climbing over slippery rocks. John's horse went down in a stream giving him a dunking. Along the way there were majestic views, lots of fauna including orchids in bloom and finally, at the last stop on the trip a cabin with hot drinks. The caretakers of this rest station had set up bird feeders. Several species of hummingbirds, including split-tailed and an extraordinarily long beaked species used these feeders. There was also a covered area with an orchid collection.

Our return trip proved more difficult and more frightening for me than up. My shoes (read 12 EEE) proved to be too wide to fit into the stirrups so I spent the hours with my legs dangling. I occasionally used my toes to support myself but this is not easy on a horse that moves. Our horses became progressively more and more enthusiastic as we got closer to the staging area. What began as a leisurely ride up became a gallop at the end with horses competing for lead. The final insult for me was my horse quite purposefully ran my leg into a fence post as we approached the coral - touché. Having ridden horses when younger I am aware of their sense of humor and how deliberate they can be. I was very happy to get out of the saddle and so were my aching legs. We ended the trip as a group and dined at the restaurant on trout from a local trout farm. This was a grand and memorable day well worth the pain.

We ended our visit to Pereira by reconciling our bills, saying goodbye to the wonderful staff at our house. The next morning flight was early and we had to be organized by four AM for our trip to the airport. A lightning strike during the night caused a power outage. With an emergency generator running sleeping was out of the

question, anyway. We paid and thanked our driver for his wonderful support and patience and headed off for the airport. Our next stop, a return to Medellin and a visit to some nurseries.

(To be continued in Part 2)

## Update Your E-Mail Addresses

I attempted to send out to all our members with e-mail addresses some plant lists in December 2006. I had about half of them being unable to be delivered. Whether this because the addresses were out of date, I entered them into my database incorrectly or some other reason is beside the point. I order to quickly communicate with the members of the Odontoglossum Alliance. I need accurate e-mail addresses. Also sending information via e-mail is very cost effective. We do not make as much use of it as we could. Here is what I would like to ask everyone to do:

Send e-mail to John Miller, the editor at

[Jemiller49@aol.com](mailto:Jemiller49@aol.com)

Use the Subject: OA Address

Include in the body

Your name and your e-mail address.

This with your cooperation will produce an accurate e-mail address for all those that have addresses. If you don't have one I urge you to get one. Thanks for your cooperation.

John Miller  
Editor, Secretary, Treasurer

## Historical Material

The following article was generously supplied by Dr. Howard Liebman, copied from a 1920's publication. We are pleased to have such information and others are encouraged to forward this kind of material to your editor. We are grateful to Howard for his keen observance.

*Colour Factors in Albinos*

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The different kinds of dilution found in most species suggest that more than one factor is concerned in the typical dense form. This application of Genetics to Orchid breeding explains a good many apparent mysteries. For instance, it explains why the false albino *Cypripedium insigne* *Sanderæ* breeds true to its special dilute form or throws true albinos when selfed, and yet behaves as if it were an ordinary *C. insigne* when crossed with the true albinos *C. × Maudiae*, *C. Lawrenceanum Hyeanum*, and *C. callosum Sanderæ*. These true albinos arose originally by the loss of a colour factor (C), but the factor for dense coloration (D) would still be present in those albinos, though not manifested on account of the albinism. When this factor for dense coloration (D) is brought in by the cross, it naturally causes the parent *C. insigne Sanderæ* to behave as if it were an ordinary *C. insigne*.

If these so-called "reversionary" forms were to be self-fertilised or crossed *inter se*, both the recessive dilute coloration (dd) and the albinism (cc) would appear in certain individuals. On the average, the dilute forms would be expected to appear in three out of sixteen plants, and the albino forms in four out of sixteen plants. The recent cases reported in which the true albino *Cypripedium Lawrenceanum Hyeanum*, crossed with the false albino *C. niveum*, gave typical coloured plants of *C. × Aphrodite*, and in which the false albino *C. niveum*, crossed with the false albino *C. Lawrenceanum Gratrixianum*, gave the false albino *C. × Aphrodite album*, are of course easily explained in the same way. To the student of Genetics such cases as these present no difficulty, as numbers of similar cases are well known in other plants and in animals.

THE RE-MAKING OF A BLOTCHED *CRISPUM*.

In 1909 (see p. 357) the author showed that the "blotched" character in *Odontoglossums* behaves as a Mendelian dominant to the "plain" character, which is recessive. Since then further evidence has given ample confirmation. The logical consequences of this application of Genetics to Orchid breeding lead one to support Mr de Barri Crawshay's idea, expressed many years ago, that blotched crispums first appeared in a wild state through natural hybridisation with other species.

From the point of view of Genetics, a dominant character is due to the addition of a factor, while a recessive character is due to the subtraction of a factor. A blotched *crispum* therefore consists in the addition of a factor to the ordinary typical plain *crispum*. The question arises, How was this dominant blotched character added to the typical

plain *crispum*? In order to illustrate the point we will take in hand the re-making of a blotched *crispum* by crossing an ordinary white plain *crispum* with one of the yellow blotched species that grows with *O. crispum* in Colombia—say, *O. luteopurpureum* (fig. 142); the result will be, of course, the  $F_1$  yellow blotched hybrid known as *O. × Wilckeanum*<sup>1</sup>, yellow being dominant to white, and blotched to plain. This natural hybrid appeared in importations before it was first raised in gardens.

Next we will re-cross this yellow blotched hybrid with another white plain *crispum*. The expected result, so far as these two characters are concerned, will be that in  $F_2$ , out of four plants, we shall get on the average one yellow blotched, one yellow plain, one white blotched, and one white plain. Among the white blotched forms will be found blotched crispums. There can be little doubt that is how the blotched crispums originated in a wild state by natural hybridisation, e.g. *O. crispum Franz Masereel* (fig. 141).

Other crossings might, of course, give the blotched *crispum*, but it seems more likely that it should originate from this particular cross than any other on account of the natural distribution of these forms, as estimated by their frequency in importations (cf. figs. 141—144). Further confirmation may be found in the fact that so far all the imported blotched crispums that have been bred from have proved to be heterozygous, or impure to the blotched character, giving plain forms when mated together.

For instance, the blotched *O. crispum Franz Masereel*, *O. crispum Leonard Perfect*, *O. crispum Lindeni*, *O. crispum Victoria-Regina*, *O. crispum Rossendale*, *O. crispum Mariae*, *O. crispum Luciana*, *O. crispum Crawshayanum*, and *O. crispum Alphonso* all give some plain forms when mated with blotched and plain forms, showing that each has only a single dose of the blotching factor (figs. 145—147). This indicates that one of their parents was a plain *crispum*, otherwise some homozygous blotched forms would surely have turned up amongst them.

The next step for Orchid breeders to take, therefore, is to breed these heterozygous, or impure, blotched forms *inter se*. On the average, one out of three of the blotched forms produced in this way should be homozygous, or pure, with a double dose of the blotching factor. These when bred from will give *all* blotched forms, whether mated with other blotched forms or with plain forms. The interesting blotched forms recently raised by Messrs W. Bull from *O. crispum Franz Masereel* × *O. crispum Alphonso* would provide excellent material for such an experiment (fig. 145).

<sup>1</sup> × *Odontoglossum Denisonae* Londesborough ex Rolfe et Hurst.

*Breeding a Scarlet Crispum*

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It will, of course, be understood that the blotched character in *Odontoglossums* is a very variable one, the blotches vary in size, form, and number, while the pattern varies with the species used (figs. 148 and 149). It would be an interesting study to work out the several factors that are no-doubt concerned in the different kinds of blotching. The plain form of *O. crispum* is usually slightly spotted, especially on the lip. The yellow ground colour in *Odontoglossums* varies considerably in shade according to the species and variety used. Some of the bright yellow species are evidently heterozygous, or impure, carrying cream recessive, as may be seen in some of the  $F_1$  results of yellow  $\times$  white in certain primary hybrids where segregation into the two distinct shades, cream and canary-yellow, is evident. When a pure white ground appears in  $F_1$  results of yellow  $\times$  white, it is evidently due to the impure nature of the wild yellow form used as a parent.

THE MAKING OF A SCARLET *CRISPUM*.

A large number of interesting problems have already been taken in hand by Orchid breeders, some of which bid fair soon to be successful, though to the student of Genetics the results seem to be slow in coming to hand.

The question, for instance, of the making of a scarlet *crispum* by combining the scarlet self-colour of *Cochlioda Noezliana* with the large size of *Odontoglossum crispum*. The making of a scarlet *Cattleya* by combining the scarlet self-colour of *Sophronitis grandiflora* with the large size and broad segments of the species of the *labiata* group of *Cattleya*. The making of a yellow *Cattleya* by combining the yellow self-colour of *Laelia Cowanii* with the large size and broad segments of the *Cattleya*. These and other problems equally interesting to Orchid breeders are, judging by the results recently presented, now well on the way to a solution.

There is no doubt that the application of the principles of Genetics to these problems would not only help to hasten their solution, but would also save much wastage of mistaken matings. In the three particular problems noted above the first crossings in  $F_1$  all show a more or less incomplete dominance, both of the desired colour and size characters. In other words, the *single* dose of each factor present in the primary hybrid gives a different result from the *double* dose of each factor present in the pure parents. Thus the *double* dose of the factor present in the *Cochlioda*, *Sophronitis*, and *Laelia* parents produces the scarlet or yellow colour to perfection, whereas the *single* dose of the

*Avoidance of Back-Crosses*

factor present in the primary hybrids reproduces the scarlet or yellow colour more or less imperfectly (cf. figs. 150 and 154).

The same thing happens in regard to the factor for size. The *double* dose of the factor present in the *Odontoglossum* and the *Cattleya* parents produces the large size desired, whereas the *single* dose of the factor present in the primary hybrids does not. The simple solution of the problem, therefore, lies in choosing the particular matings that will give a *double* dose of each of the two characters that the Orchid breeder wishes to combine, in these cases the scarlet or yellow colour and the large size. It is obvious that this can be done by mating two of the  $F_1$  hybrids together, and if the case is a simple one, as it appears to be, the desired result should be secured in  $F_2$ , on the average in one plant out of every sixteen raised of the cross  $O. \times Vuylstekeae \times O. \times Bradshawiae$  (figs. 150 and 154).

From this it will be seen that the common practice of mating the primary hybrid back to one of its parents cannot be expected to succeed, because such a mating implies the presence of a *single* dose only of one of the two characters concerned. By such a mating one of the characters is secured by a *double* dose at the expense of the other, which can only have a *single* dose (see fig. 153). Further, the many attempts that have been made to secure the result by breeding from secondary and more complex hybrids only lead to unnecessary complications, because owing to segregation it is quite possible to lose the desired factor altogether in the second generation  $F_2$ , and the securing of a double dose of it by means of such matings is a matter of considerable uncertainty, with the chances very much against the breeder.

In passing, it may perhaps be useful to point out that the common practice of analysing Orchid hybrids of complex parentage in terms of fractions of their parents and ancestors is to be deprecated. In Orchid literature we often see it stated, for instance, that a certain hybrid is made up of  $\frac{1}{8}A$ ,  $\frac{1}{8}B$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}C$ , and  $\frac{1}{2}D$ . In the modern light of Genetics such statements are not only misleading, but in most cases they must of necessity be erroneous. The simple fact of the segregation of characters in the second generation altogether upsets such a calculation. It is the *pedigree* that may be said to be so constituted, not the individual hybrid.

So far, we have dealt with the three particular problems by applying the principles of Genetics in a general way to enable the breeder to secure a definite result in the shortest possible time. Space will not allow one to deal with the interesting mass of minor details concerned

*Breeding a Scarlet Cattleya*

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in these three problems. One or two special points however may be noted. Judging from the F<sub>1</sub> results recently produced it would appear that in order to get a true scarlet *crispum*, *Cochlioda Nætzliana* should be crossed with an *Odontoglossum* with a white ground colour—e.g., *O. crispum* or *O. nobile*; and in order to avoid, if possible, the presence of purple sap in the segments it would seem advisable to use the albino *O. crispum xanthotes* or *O. nobile album* in preference to the tinged, blotched, or plain forms, using, if possible, Charlesworth's individual R forms of these albinos, which breed true when crossed.

In order to get a crimson *crispum* it would appear that *Cochlioda Nætzliana* should be crossed with an *Odontoglossum* with a yellow ground—e.g., *O. triumphans* or *O. luteopurpureum*; and to avoid the dull purple tint in the crimson, the xanthic albinos *O. triumphans Ajax* and *O. luteopurpureum Vuykstekeanum* might perhaps be used to advantage. The presence of some purple sap in the column of *Cochlioda Nætzliana* may or may not complicate matters. It all depends whether the column colour is inherited independently of the rest of the flower or not; if a form can be secured in which the usual purple colour in the column is absent, this possible complication might be avoided.

In the making of a scarlet *Cattleya* the elimination of the rose-purple sap of the *Cattleya* is equally important in order to get the true colour, and it would therefore seem advisable to use with the *Sophronitis* the albino form—e.g., *Cattleya Mossiae Wageneri* and *C. Gaskelliana alba*. If the (C) albinos of *C. Warneri* and *C. Sthraederæ* are used, care must be taken not to put them in the same experiment in which the (R) albinos of *C. Mossiae* and *C. Gaskelliana* are used, otherwise the sap-colour will appear.

In place of *Sophronitis grandiflora*, the species *Laelia harpophylla* or *L. cinnabarina* might be used, but the result would be a lighter and more orange shade of scarlet.

In the making of a self-yellow *Cattleya*, the species *Laelia Cowanii* or *L. flava* would appear to be the best to use. *C. Dowiana aurea* and *L. xanthina*, being bi-colors, would be unsuitable for breeding selfs. It is rather curious that, while the yellow colour of *C. Dowiana aurea* is completely recessive to the rose-purple colour of the *Cattleyas*, the yellow colours of *L. Cowanii*, *L. flava*, and *L. xanthina* are dominant, though in most cases the dominance is incomplete. The F<sub>1</sub> results suggest that the colour of the front lobe of the lip may be

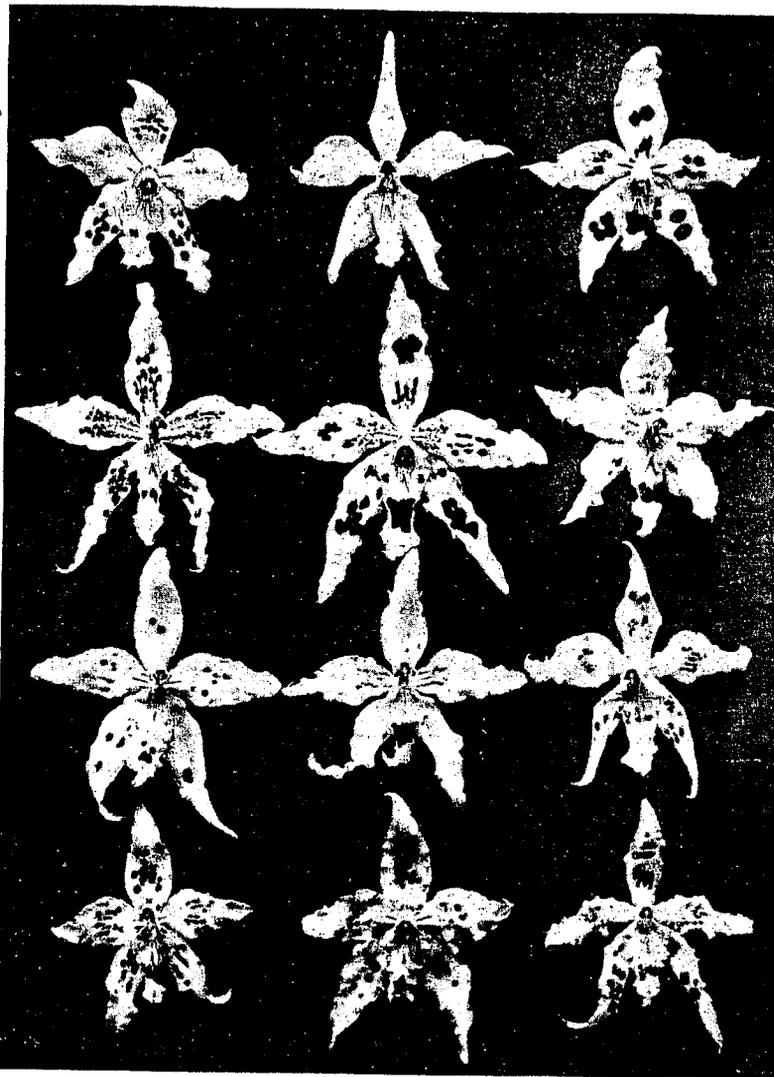


Fig. 57. × *Odontoglossum Andersonianum* Rehb. f.

Showing 12 forms of the Natural Hybrid from *O. gloriosum* Rehb. and *O. crispum* Lindl. from the Cordilleras of Colombia, and illustrating the variability of natural hybrids. The top row have clear white grounds, the second row have cream grounds suffused with rose, the third row have clear yellow grounds, and the bottom row have yellow grounds suffused with rose. The parent *O. gloriosum* has small, yellow, densely spotted flowers. The parent *O. crispum* has large, white flowers suffused with rose and lightly spotted.

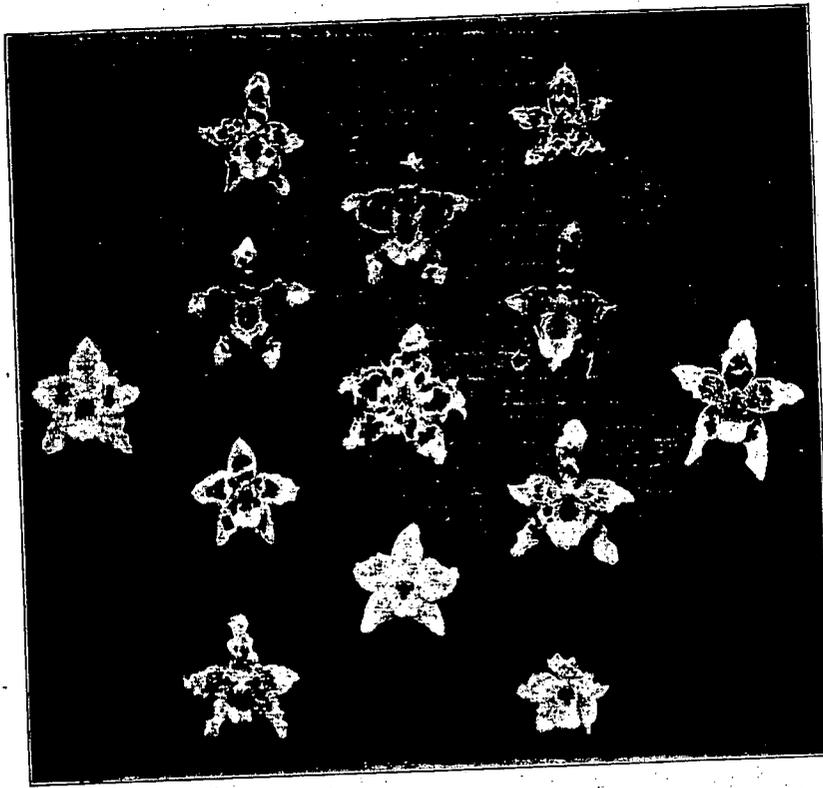


Fig. 141.  $\times$  *Odontoglossum percultum* (see fig. 144).  
 (The white form and the central flower above it represent respectively two of the individual grandparents  
*O. nobile* and *O. crispum* Frans Masereel.)  
 (*Orchiid Review*)



Fig. 142. *Odontoglossum*  
*luteopurpureum* Lindl.

Fig. 143. *Odontoglossum*  
*Harryanum* Rehb. f.

(Two ancestral species of  $\times$  *O. percultum*.)

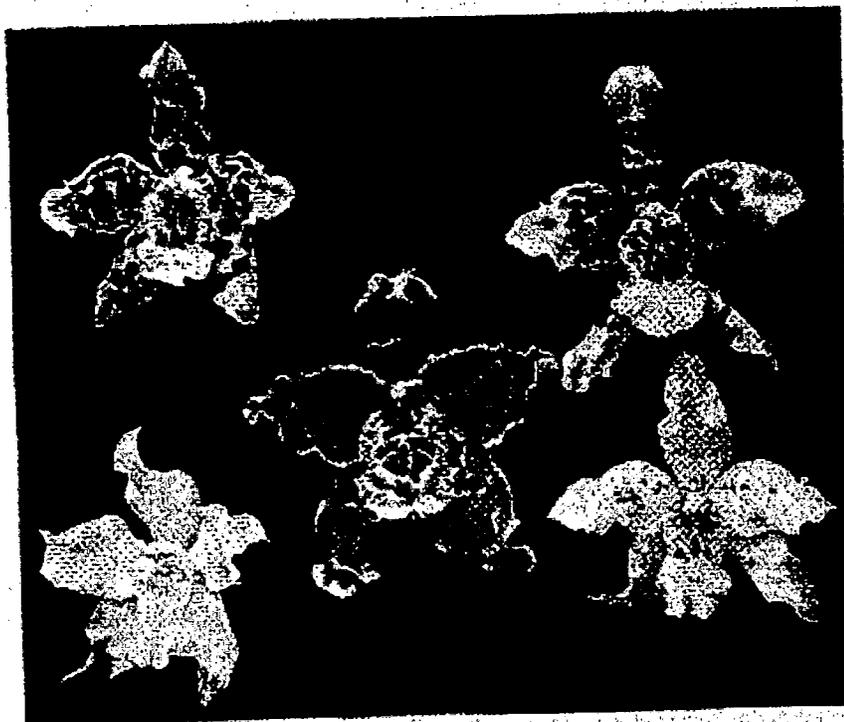


Fig. 144. \**Odontoglossum porcellum* Vayl. & C. R. Allen. (See also fig. 141.)  
 Sixteen  $F_2$  hybrids raised from one capsule by Mr H. J. Chapman. Four species are concerned in the  
 pedigree—*O. crispum* Lindl. (fig. 141), *O. latifolium* Lindl. (fig. 142), *O. mobile* Rehb. f.  
 (fig. 143) and *O. macranthum* Rehb. f. (fig. 144).

(*Orchid Review*.)

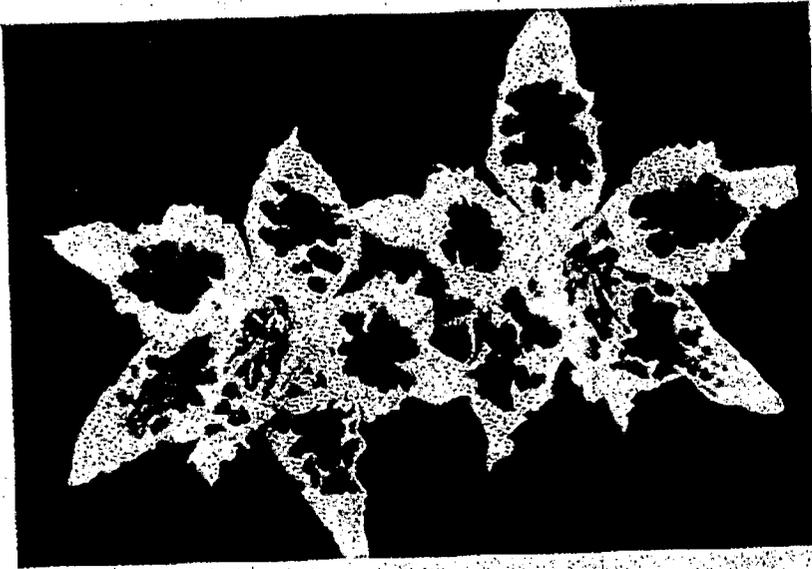


Fig. 146. The *Blotched* *Odontoglossum crispum* Lindl. var. *Crawshayanum* Causley ex Rolfe.  
A parent of the Plain Scuffling below (fig. 147).  
(*Orchid Review*.)

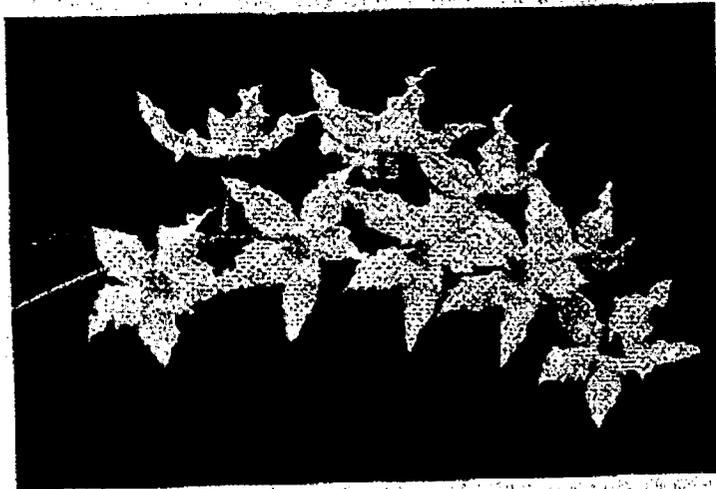
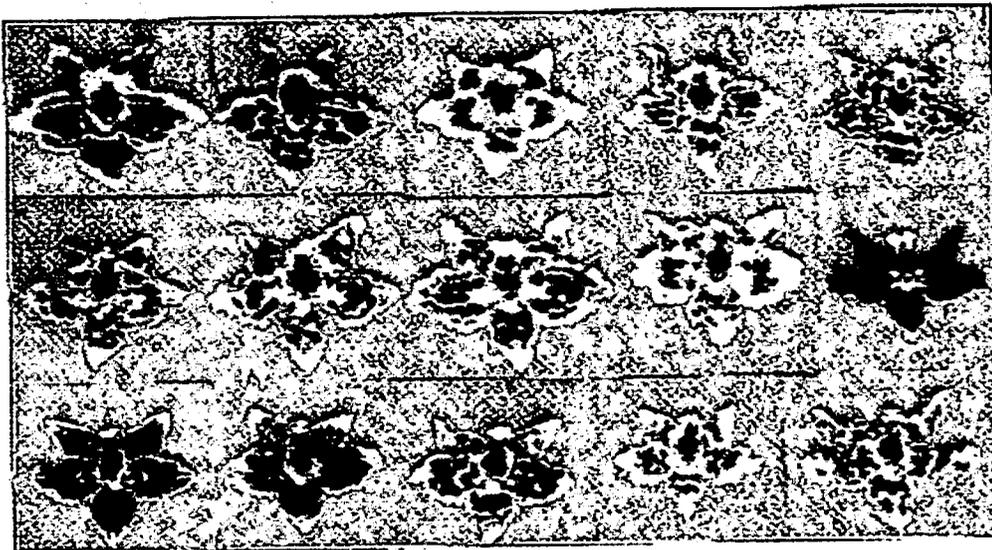


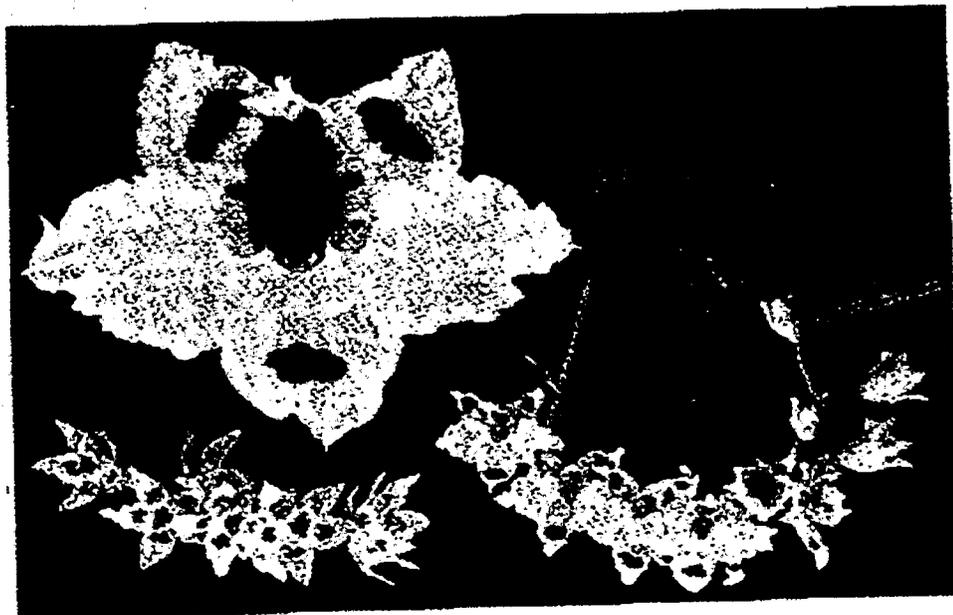
Fig. 147. The *Plain Scuffling* *Odontoglossum crispum* Lindl.  
From the Blotched *O. s. Crawshayanum* & above (fig. 146).  
(*Orchid Review*.)

Fig. 149. A Group of *Odontoglossum* Seedlings, showing range of variation in blotching.



(Orchid Review)

Fig. 148 a. The *Dwarf* *O. c. Bonnyannum* Thwaites ex Rolfe.  
Fig. 148 b. *O. c. Klotched var. a.*  
Fig. 148 c. *O. c. Bonnyannum* Seottus.



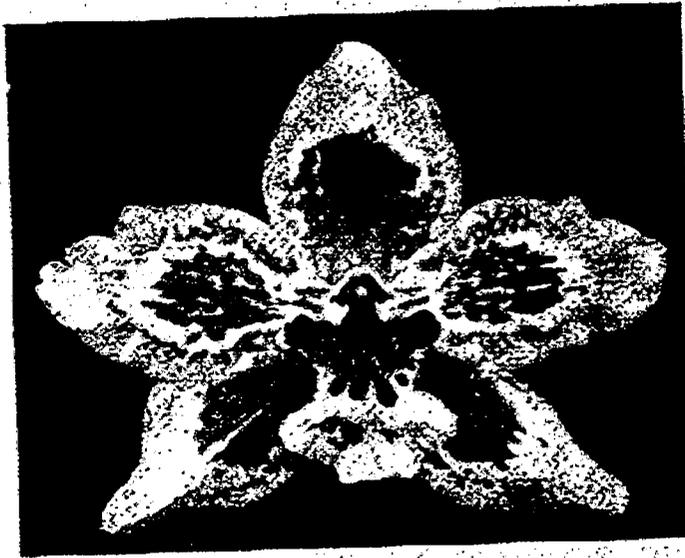


Fig. 153 x Odontioda Sensation Vaylzehe ex Kulte  
(x *Odontioda Vaylzehe* v (fig. 150) x *Adiantum v. crispum* 2 (fig. 148)  
black cross same size but loses colour.  
(Optical Section.)



Fig. 145 Six seedlings out of the *Bicolor* *Odontoglossum crispum* Lindl. var. *Alphonso Bull* ex Rolfe :  
 by the *Bicolor* *O. c.* Franz Massereel Varieg. ex Rolfe & Fig. 141b  
 Showing Segregation of *Vain* from *Blotch* and the Recessive Nature of *Vain*.  
 (Orchid Review)

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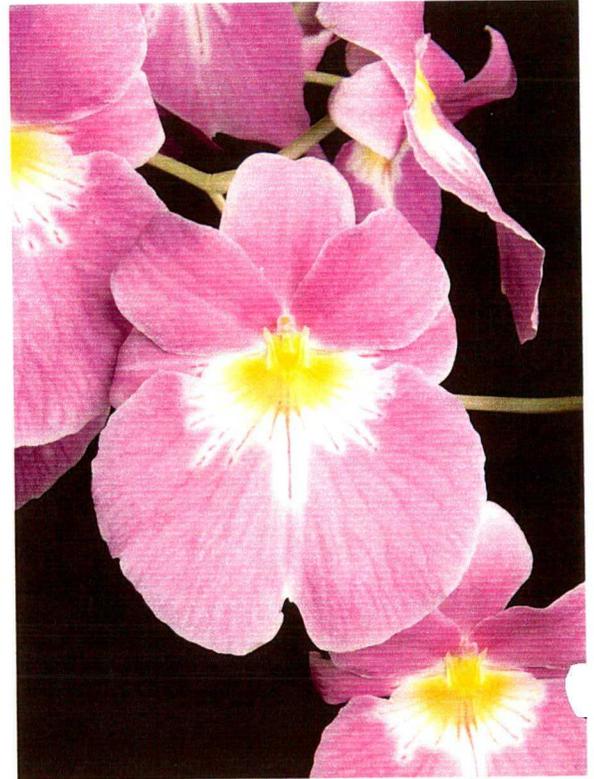
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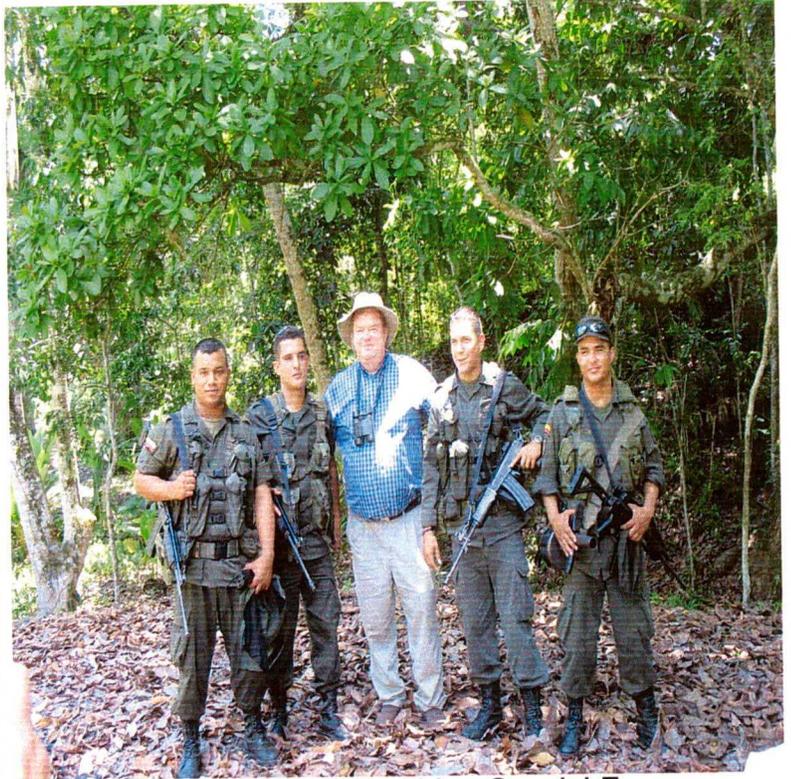


Odm. crispum AM/AOS

Awarded Plants from the Pereira Orchid Show, Colombia 2006



Map of Colombia



Jim Rassmann/Colombian Special Forces



Colomborquideas Exhibit



Odm. Ross Newman



View From the restaurant



Unknown cyrtorchilums



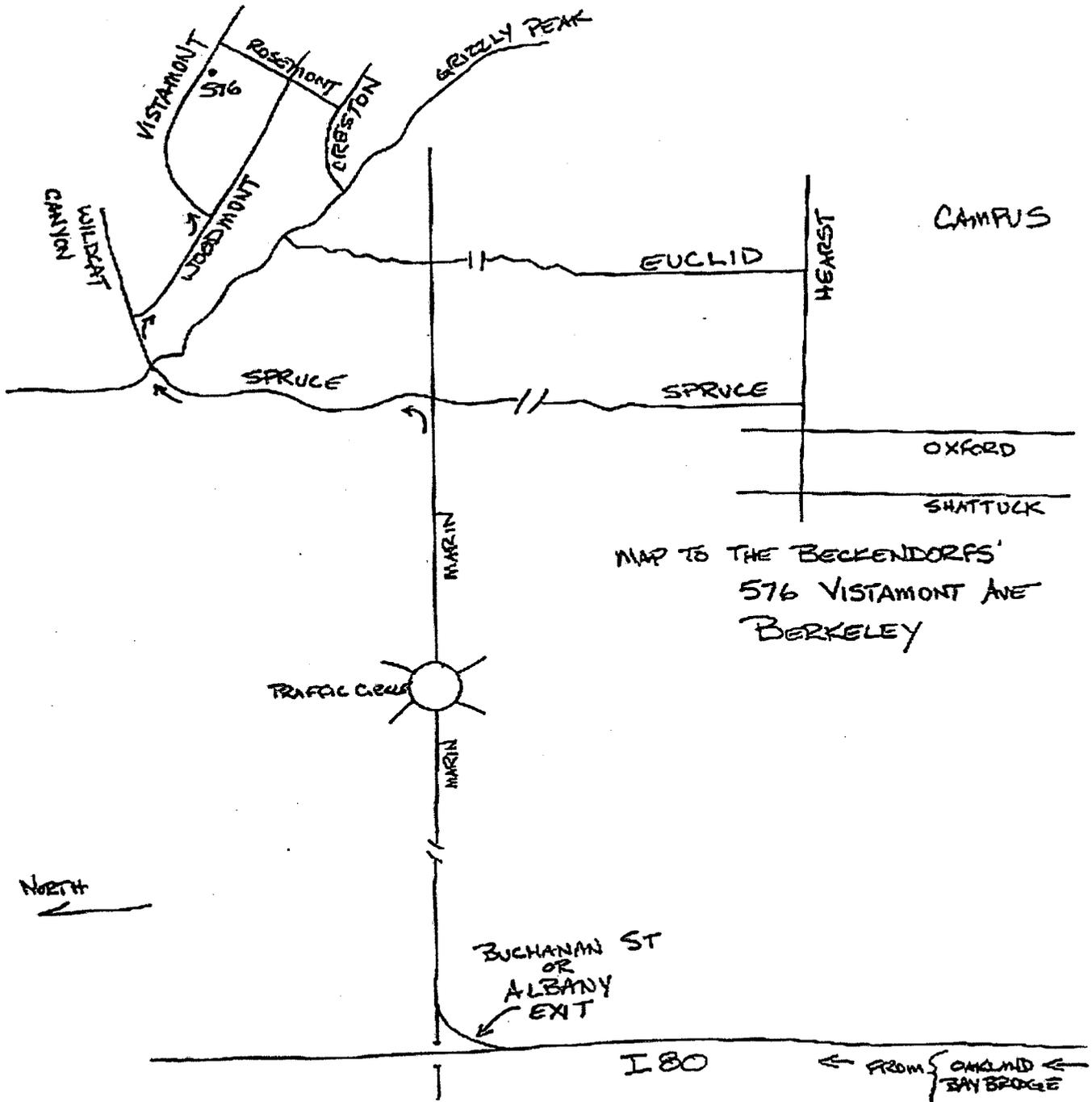
**Brassochilum Rustic Goliath**  
**'Rusric Canyon HCC/AOS**

This plant has been donated to the  
auction by  
Howard Liebman



Oda. Harry Baldwin 'Orange King'

# Map To The Beckendorfs'



From San Francisco, get on I 80 and cross the Bay Bridge. Stay on I 80 as it turns north toward Berkeley and Sacramento. Take the Buchanan off ramp and head east, towards the hills. Buchanan soon becomes Marin; stay on Marin to the traffic circle. Go halfway around the circle and continue on Marin as it goes up the hill. At the first stop sign, turn left on Spruce to the top of the hill at Grizzly Peak Blvd. Go straight across Grizzly Peak (road becomes Wildcat Canyon) and take the first right on Woodmont Ave. Take the first left on Vistamont Avenue. We are 576 Vistamont, the ninth (9) house on the right hand side.