SOUTHERN ONTARIO ORCHID SOCIETY NEWS

October 2020, Volume 55, Issue 9 Meeting since 1965

Meeting: Due to the continuing Covid 19 regulations the regular in person Meeting scheduled for October at the TBG will not take place. Instead we will have a virtual (internet meeting) featuring Cordelia Head from J&L Orchids in Connecticut. She will speak on Masdevallias and their culture. Below is an invitation to join the 'Go to Meeting' event for Sunday, October 4th at 1:00pm.

It is really very easy. Try it! All you have to do it is to follow the instructions. Log in 15 minutes early to make sure that you are ready when the meeting starts. Once you join the meeting there will be a short tutorial on how to participate fully. Please note that because this meeting is being produced via an internet program the participation capacity is limited to SOOS members only. Be sure to check that you have renewed your membership for 2020.

Virtual Show Table. This virtual meeting will also again feature a virtual show table

We want you to send photos of the orchids that you might have brought to the meeting if we were able to meet in person on October 4th at the TBG. Since we need time to organize them, photos have to be received by Wednesday September 30. Photos taken from September 20 to September 30 are eligible.

This is how to participate:

- 1. Take a photo of your orchid flowers between September 20 and September 30. Multiple orchids may be entered. Be sure to clean and arrange your plant for a good picture.
- 2. Write a short note stating the a) name of the plant, b) where you grow it, c) a little about it, and why you love it. If possible include a picture of yourself so we can all get to know you.
- 3. Send the photo and the write up to Cathy Dunn at her email address on or before Wednesday, September 30. File too big to email? Contact Cathy for alternate arrangements.
- 4. Join us Sunday, October 4th at 12:45pm to enjoy the meeting.

Cathy will put the pictures into a PowerPoint presentation to be shared with all who attend the meeting. You will not only see everyone's treasures but you will be able to ask questions to learn more about them.

Send your best photos. Points will be given in the usual manner towards the 'Orchid Grower of the Year' program for participation and winning. The flowers will be judged and awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category and the 'Plant of the Month'. The winners will be posted on the SOOS website and SOOS Facebook.

Looking forward to lots of great photos. Don't forget to send yours.

As this is a virtual over internet meeting with limited capacity it is limited to **SOOS members only**.

Sun, October 4, 2020 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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President's Remarks Welcome Orchid Enthusiasts,

I hope that this message finds you safe, and in good health. The global COVID-19 pandemic continues to dramatically impact our daily lives including our orchid related activities. SOOS has adjusted to this new normal by hosting virtual monthly meetings, and many of our local orchid vendors have moved their sales online.

Planning for the SOOS Annual Show held in February has been ongoing by the Show Committee since early summer, including a survey recently sent to SOOS members. One of the questions was whether members would be willing to volunteer at the Show. It quickly became clear that based upon what our members knew at the time, that there was reluctance by many members to volunteer at the Show. With the Ontario government once again restricting gatherings to a maximum of 10 due to a resurgence in COVID cases, your SOOS Executive concluded that it would be almost impossible to hold an in person Show in February 2021 given the months of advanced planning required. It is therefore with great sadness that we have unanimously decided to cancel the Show.

We have already hosted virtual monthly meetings in August (virtual Showtable test run) and September (Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids). In conjunction with our September meeting, a group order of plants with Sunset Valley Orchids was coordinated by Terry and Doug Kennedy of Orchids in Our Tropics and I want to thank them for all of their hard work in organizing the order and the delivery of the plants.

Our upcoming virtual meetings include;

- October 4, Cordelia Head, J&L Orchids (Connecticut), Masdevalia's and their culture
- November 1, Taras (Terry) Kowalczuk, <u>Flora Peculia</u> (Toronto), Japanese orchids

Normally in December we would hold our annual Auction and Pot Luck lunch. We have cancelled this in person meeting and are looking to hold a virtual meeting with a speaker (to be determined). We suspect that we will continue to host virtual meetings in early 2021 and are in the process of seeking guest speakers for those dates. We are also contemplating a potential "special event" in lieu of our annual Show, however much planning would still be required if this is to transpire. We will keep you posted through email , notifications on the SOOS website https://soos.ca/, and on the SOOS Facebook sites, and of course through this newsletter for those without electronic access.

While we cannot meet in person to share our blooming beauties, we have been encouraged by the member participation in our monthly meeting virtual Showtables and encourage you to participate by submitting your photos. Many of you have joined and participated with others on the SOOS Facebook Group page https://www.facebook.com/groups/SOOSOrchid/, sharing your growing successes and experiences or to ask for advice. Please continue to post photos of your flowers and plants, and feel free to comment or ask questions.

My orchids were moved outdoors in early May, and once the temperatures warmed up, the new growth started, and the plants began to thrive. I'm now seeing a lot of flower buds on my Cattleyas as the new growths have matured, and I hope to be able to share the flowers with you, virtually. Some of our members have already brought their plants back indoors. I'm probably one of the last people to bring their plants back inside but depending upon where you live you may have to do it earlier, as we have already had frost just north of Toronto by mid-September.

Stay safe and healthy, and I hope to see you and your orchids at our upcoming monthly meeting (virtually).

John Vermeer.

Annual Show Committee

We have had a glitch with our Survey. I was only able to view the first 40 responses. If you indicated that you would be willing to help with a Virtual Show, please send me an email. Thank you.

I think that the 40 responses do give us a fair approximation of what people think:

- 1. Members do not want to see the Show cancelled.
- 2. There is a 15% drop in the number of members willing to volunteer at the Show from past years.
- 3. Members are ambivalent about a virtual show, though there are a few willing to help to make it work.

I would like to address a few of the suggestions:

- 1. Find a bigger location. The issue at the moment is that the City of Toronto has set the maximum number of people who can be at an event to 50 (which includes the organizers). If you know of a building that is bigger, has more parking, on a bus route and central to drive to, please let us know because we were bursting at the seams last year.
- 2. Postpone cancelling until the last possible moment. This is unfair to our vendors who often bring in extra stock just for the show(s). It is only right to give them as much notice as possible that the Show will be cancelled so that they do not incur additional financial losses.
- 3. The public is lured by orchid sales is this vital aspect of the show to be jettisoned? I have no idea how we could do this virtually. Most of our vendors have an online presence and I would encourage everyone to visit their websites and to buy direct. Visit https://soos.ca/annual-show/vendors/ for a list of those who attended last year's show. Please note that importing orchids can be very expensive.
- 4. Presumption that virtual meetings will be the norm. Unfortunately, the decision whether to have in-person events is not ours to make. The City of Toronto and the Province of Ontario keep changing the limits and the time frames.
- 5. Online auctions. The Windsor Orchid Society is holding one from September 21st to 26th. Check it out at https://www.32auctions.com/BizarreBazaarTake3. They have lots of nice things to bid on. Given the logistics involved, SOOS is NOT going to have an auction in 2020.

Finally, I am sad to report the Executive has decided to cancel the February 13th and 14th, 2021 Show and Sale.

Sincerely, Cathy Dunn Show Chair

Toronto Judging Centre News. Due to the Covid 19 restrictions the centre has only judged once since the shutdown. We met and judged out of doors with social distancing in accordance with the regulations on September 12 at the Jean Allen-Ikeson home. The judges considered 15 plants and awarded the following:

Paphiopedilum Leeanum (insigne x spicerianum) 'Linda Will' HCC 77 owned by Linda Will

Pleurothallis tribuloides sp 'Pat's Persistence' CCM 83 owned by Pat and Lynda Vuurman

Pomatocalpa angustifolium sp CHM 83 (provisional) owned by Rob Vaderheyden

Perreiraara Rapeepath (Prra Bangkok Sunset x Van Pine Rivers) 'Passion Fruit' AM 83 owned by Doug and Terry Kennedy

The centre has continued to meet through Go To Meeting for regular and supplemental education of its judges and students. The next such virtual meeting is scheduled for October 10 at 10 am. This meeting due to limited capacity is open to others by invitation only. Anyone interested should contact Jean Ikeson by email her

The Centre is hoping to continue judging service at an outdoor setting as follows:

Tentative date: October 3, 2020, 12.30 pm. Any changes will be posted on the Toronto Judging Centre Facebook page.

Guidelines for Submitting a Plant for AOS Judging

This may change in the future, but here is what we need you to do!! We want to judge your plants, so please help us stay safe and respect the guidelines.

- Only judges or prospective judges will be allowed at the judging table or surrounding area
- Everyone else will need to either drop their plants off to a judge who is attending (you must contact that person in advance and make arrangement for you to drop the plant off with that person the day before judging) or bring them to the site below and leave them in the designated place by 12:30 pm on the day of judging.
- For September and likely October, judging will be at Jean Ikeson's house outdoors.
- if you drop a plant off there, you will not be allowed to walk around, go in the house for any reason or greenhouse: you drop your plant off and either sit in your car or leave. We will call you when we have finished with your plant(s) unless you have sent them with a judge.
- There will **not** be an entry book open for you to fill out. Therefore please write on a sheet of paper the following information: your name, your address, your phone number, your email; the name of the plant, its parents if a hybrid, a clonal name if it has one and if not, what you would like to use if it is awarded (you cannot change an original clonal name on a plant however!!), how long you have owned the plant (important for cultural awards), and any previous awards to your plant. You must do this <u>before</u> you drop your plant off anywhere. Pen and paper will not be available on site.

Jean Allen-Ikeson

From the intersection of Highway 5 (Dundas St) and Highway 6 North (like you would take to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington), go west (left if you come up highway 6 from the 403) at the Petro Canada gas station onto Highway 5 (Dundas St) at the top of the escarpment and drive 3 km to Sydenham Rd (on the left just past the Pioneer gas station on your right).

Turn left on Sydenham. After about a km, Sydenham will take a sharp turn to the right. Follow that. Shortly thereafter, Sydenham takes a sharp turn to the left. **Instead of following that turn**, slow down and go over the hump without turning left at all and go straight onto Harvest Rd. (there is a small sign showing the curve with a straight line for Harvest just before the curve). Jean's house is about 1.5 km on Harvest on the right side of Harvest and the third house past the gravel road that goes back to the dairy farm. There is a sign about the size of a speed limit sign with red letters saying 'Ikeson 483' just beyond her driveway. This is a rural property so the driveway is large. You *cannot park on the road and there is a fine for doing that--- it is dangerous!* So please pull into the driveway or onto the grass. There is easily room for 20 cars.



If you use GPS, sometimes I am listed as Dundas, Hamilton or even Flamborough!

Plant of the Month grown by Synea Tan, Cycnoches cooperi

Synea keeps the plant watered with very weak MSU fertilizer water all year. She also adds slow release fertilizer to the pot. She summers it outdoors on a north veranda and overwinters it under 4 LED lights in the winter. If the leaves do fall off, because the plant got chilled she will keep it dry until new growth is well on its way. Marvelous job with a difficult to grow species Synea!

About SOOS

Web site: www.soos.ca; SOOS Facebook group:

<u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/298874747302722/</u> Member of the Canadian Orchid Congress; Affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest and the International Phalaenopsis Alliance.

Membership: Annual Dues \$30 per calendar year (January 1 to December 31). Surcharge \$15 for newsletter by postal service Membership secretary: Liz Mc Alpine, renew or join on line at soos.ca/members.

Executive: President John Vermeer, Vice-President ? Treasurer, Cathy Dunn, Secretary, Sue Loftus; Past President Laura Liebgott,

Other Positions of Responsibility: Program, Terry Kennedy; Plant Doctor, Doug Kennedy; Meeting Set up, Yvonne Schreiber; Vendor and Sales table coordinator, Lynda Satchwell; Membership and Library, Liz Mc Alpine; Web Master, Eric Tai and Max Wilson; Newsletter, Peter and Inge Poot; Annual Show, Cathy Dunn; Refreshments, Joe O'Regan. Conservation Committee, various C.C. members; Show table, Synea Tan, Cultural snapshots, Alexsi Antanaitis, Directors at large Marion Curry, Jay Norris, Eric Tai, Anne Antanaitis .Honorary Life Members: Terry Kennedy, Doug Kennedy, Inge Poot, Peter Poot, Joe O'Regan, Diane Ryley, Wayne Hingston.

We are on facebook at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/298874747302722/

And www.facebook.com/SOOSOrchid/

on Instagram at instagram.com/soosorchid/

Toronto Judging Centre:

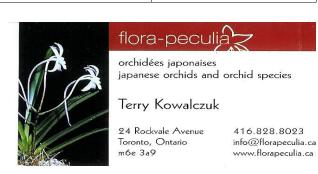
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Sept 6 2020 Show Table Ribbons

Class	First	Second	Third
Class 1 Cattleya Alliance	RLC King of Taiwan 'Wilson's Choice' AM/AOS Synea Tan	Cattlianthe Memoria Alicia Aguilar Elena Chilova Enanthleya Middleburg x Encyclia alata 'Early Bird' Sue Loftus Potinara Fran Jesel 'Rosy Cheeks' John Vermeer	Cattleya araguaiensis Leslie Ee Cattleya Cariad's Mini- Quinee 'Angel Kiss' Yvan Richard Potinara Mark's Valentine 'Peach Kiss' John Vermeer RLC Sung Ya Green Connie & Milton Charlton
Class 2 Paphiopedilium	Paphiopedilum Magic Lantern Elena Chilova	Phragmipedium schlimii Syvia Porter	Paphiopedilum Saint Swithin Synea Tan
Class 3 Phalaenopis and Vanda Alliance	Phalaenopsis violacea f. coerulea Leslie Ee	Phalaenopsis Elena Chilova Renanthera monachica Synea Tan	Phalaenopsis Diamond Beauty Elena Chilova
Class 4 Oncidium and related	Zelemnia Midas 'Synea' HCC/AOS Synea Tan	Oncostele Catatante Peter & Inge Poot	Psychopsis Mariposa Three Lip Elena Chilova

		Brascidostele Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze' Peter & Inge Poot Oncostele Wildcat 'Bloodshots' Synea Tan	Brassia Peter & Inge Poot
Class 6 Dendrobium	Dendrobium Hibiki Eugene McSweeny	Bulbophyllum dentiferum Brenda Aarts Bulbophyllum Lovely Elizabeth Ken Hendry & Carol Wilson	Dendrobium trinervium Elena Chilova
Class 7 All Others	Cycnoches cooperi Synea Tan	Stanhopea wardii Inge & Peter Poot Lepanthes Joyce Medcalf	Angulocaste Olympus 'Sundown' AM/AOS Synea Tan Catasetum Orchidglade 'Davie Ranches' AM/AOS Synea Tan Lepanthes sijmii 'Hill Island' CCM/AOS Joyce Medcalf









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Ching Hua Orchids, In Charm, Krull Smith, and Sunset Valley.

Mini Cattleya Breeding by Fred Clarke, transcribed and slightly added to by Inge Poot. Fred has allowed me to use his pictures. When I used another source for the transcript pictures, I named the source. Fred also still uses the old generic designations of the species in the talk because he has about 10,000 pictures in his library on the subject and simply lacks the time to re-label them all!! And the old names are still

valid just not as up to date as his breeding programme with them!

On September 6th 2020, SOOS had its second virtual meeting in an effort to provide our members with entertaining education while eliminating the danger of Covid 19 infection. Our speaker Fred Clarke, owner of Gold Country Orchids (SVO) met the bill beautifully and provided you had reliable high-speed internet, you could enjoy his expertise as he showed us how far he has come in producing the ideal windowsill cattleya that flowers freely, more than once a year and has well-shaped, large colourful flowers.

Why grow mini-cattleyas rather than standard cattleyas? We have limited space in a house or apartment and one standard Cattleya takes up at least as much space as 4-8 mini-cattleyas. Their colours are just wonderful, many do not need full cattleya light but can be grown with phalaenopsis and they have been bred to grow vigorously and bloom several times a year.

Standard cattleyas were bred for the cut flower trade, but mini cattleyas are bred for the hobby grower.



Cattleya coccinea 'Jeshua' HCC/AOS Photo: Maurice Marietti, O+ v. 1.4

this characteristic on to its progeny.

The species: We know when the various species bloom and which characteristics of the flowers are dominant (will be expressed) in crosses. It helps to know where the desirable traits come from when choosing a seedling to add to your collection.

Cattleya (Sophronites) coccinea is perhaps the most important species for quality flowers in the progeny. It also has very small (up to 3"/7.5cm tall) plants and passes

The flowers are very large –almost 3 inches (7cm) compared to the size of the plant. Their red, flat flowers with their flat, wide petals provide the backbone for good shape. Yellow forms have been found and are used in yellow breeding.

Many judges do not like frilled edges on petals, because the ruffles are usually asymmetric - and *C. coccinea* solves that problem by flattening petal edges and widening the petals reliably.

The faults that have to be overcome by the other parent are a tendency to a single flower per inflorescence, small narrow lips, weak floral stems and a requirement for 20 Celsius degrees cooling during the night.

The red colour is recessive and has to be present in both parents to show in the progeny.

Doubling the number of chromosomes and doing a lot of line breeding (selfing or sibbing the best of a bench of seedlings through several generations) has improved all of the parental species used in this breeding.

Cattleya (Laelia) walkeriana has

small, 6 to 7 inches(15-18cm) tall plants, but with flowers produced in January and up to 5" (12.5cm) across, an upward lift to the petals, (giving it a happy look) an exposed column with the side lobes of the lip fanning out and a spade-shaped mid-lobe of the lip. The usual wild form of the species has light purple flowers with a darker lip, but selection and line breeding has widened the available colour palette to



Cattleya walkeriana 'Hija Del Faisan' AM/AOS Photo: Irma Saldana, O+ v.1.4

include dark purple, white, semi-alba (white with a purple lip), blue and a flamea variety which has a red lip and red shading along the mid-veins of the other segments. This plant caught the eye of a Japanese collector who wanted to be the sole owner of this plant and was willing to pay an outrageous price for the privilege. Fred finally succumbed but not until after collecting a selfed seed pod from the plant. The seedlings are in flask and hopefully some of them at least will look something like the parent and can be used in breeding colourful mini-catts.



Cattleya pumila 'Super Nova' HCC/AOS Photo: Glen Barfield. O+ v.1.4

are not fussy.

Cattleya luteola is another true miniature sized species with yellow flowers. It grows in Amazonia near the bottom of trees and therefore does best when grown shady, moist and very warm! So grow it with phalaenopsis.

Cattleya (Laelia) pumila has large flowers on a small plant. The flowers are light to very dark purple and the lip is darker. The petals are fairly wide and they droop or look sad! It blooms in the middle of summer to September and then often again in December. The latter character is very valuable in hybridizing floriferous hybrids. It is not easy to grow, but luckily its hybrids



Cattleya luteola 'Best Ever' HCC/AO Photo: James Osen, O+ v. 1.4

The yellow colour comes through in many hybrids and the two red eyes, composed of short veins, in the tubular lip are very dominant. The lateral

sepals are curved into bow legs, but treating seed flasks with colchicine to convert them to tetraploids (4n) straightens out the sepals. This 4n version of the species is a great parent.



2n and 4n Cattleya luteola





Cattleya intermedia is a bifoliate cattleya with the typical long skinny pseudobulbs topped by a pair of leaves. Luckily it is one of the smaller bifoliates and can therefore be used in mini-catt breeding. It can produce several flowers per inflorescence -one of its useful traits. However the flowers have narrow petals, the lateral sepals are bow-legged and the lip is relatively small....

However the variety aquinii is peloric and in this case has petals that mimic the lip. Since the lip when opened is relatively much wider than the petals, we end up with flowers that have guite wide petals that have nice lip colour on them. But since the lip sticks out of the plane of the sepals and petals, the peloric petals do too. Line breeding reduced the severity of this fault, but still it is prudent that in hybrids a species such as Cattleya

coccinea should be the other parent - to flatten the petals and maybe make them wider vet.

The coerulea form of Cattleya intermedia aquinii is very pretty, as well as being useful in breeding because of its good unusual colour. All the pink and red in the normal form is purple blue in the coerulea form.

The Primary Hybrids:

Because primary hybrids have the genomes from 2 different species that grow under different conditions they usually will be much easier to grow. Tetraploids of species tend to be harder to grow than their diploid counterparts. However if the parents of a primary hybrid are both tetraploids then the progeny will have two complete genomes from two different species and will be even more vigorous because there is also more variation present than in the progeny of a primary hybrid of diploid parents. Doubling the chromosomes of a primary hybrid of diploid parents will not be as diverse genetically and therefore not as vigorous as a primary hybrid made from tetraploid species.

In the primary hybrids you set the breeding traits you wish to endow the next generation with and they are therefore the backbone of any breeding programme. They ensure predictable results and hybrid vigour.

The four most important primary hybrids for mini-catts are Cattleya (Sc)Beaufort, Cattleya Mini Purple, Cattleya Orpettii and Cattleya Batemaniana

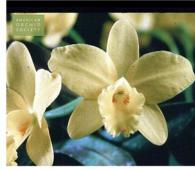
Cattleya (Sc) Beaufort is a hybrid of Cattleyas coccinea and luteola. It can be red or yellow and most have the red veined dots in the lip from the luteola parent and smooth petals and flat form from the coccinea parent. The red forms are usually triploids formed by crossing a diploid luteola with a

tetraploid coccinea. The red gene will be present in a double dose and be therefore expressed. The 'Elmwood' is 2n and relatively easy to grow. The 4n version has heavy full flowers with the eyes much reduced, but is harder to grow.

Another interesting feature of C Beaufort is that the lip tends to be slightly more flared open than



Cattleya Mini Purple 'Small Florett' AM/AOS, Orchids Plus 1.4



Cattleya Beaufort 'Elmwood' AM/AOS

either parent. The flaring is more pronounced in the 4n clones used for breeding.

Cattleya Mini Purple is a cross of Cattleya pumila and Cattleya walkeriana. In the picture shown, note the uplifted petals and spread lip side lobes as inherited from Cattleya walkeriana

Cattleya Orpetii is a

pumila and Cattleya

coccinea. Most clones

have Cattleya coccinea

shape and Cattleya pumila colour.

hybrid of Cattleya



Cattleya Orpetii 'Orchidheights' CCM/AOS Photo: Ken Lister, O+ v1.4



Cattleya Batemaniana (Cattleya intermedia x Cattleya coccinea) has flat petal edges from Cattleya coccinea and the colour mostly from Cattleya intermedia with the most spectacular using the variety aguinii. There are no awards for that Grex but Orchid Wiz shows lots of nicely coloured clones. Most look like improved Cattleya intermedia aquinii, but the most spectacular clone had some of the red and yellow Cattleya coccinea colour and is pictured



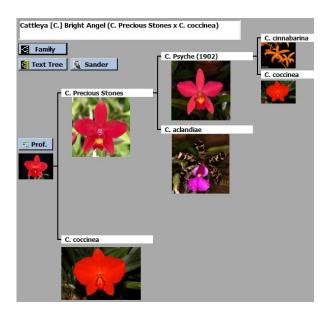
Cattleya Batemaniana Photo: Mauro Rosim, OW 5.3

here.

More Complex Hybrids:

To get red hybrids with the C. coccinea shape and colour but greater ease of culture, the C. coccinea has to be present in both parents so that a double dose of the recessive red

gene gets into the progeny. An example would be Cattleya Bright Angel. Below is the generation tree as found in Orchid Wiz 5.3:



Cattleya Beaufort Hybrids:

Cattleya (SIc) Beau's Apricot Gem (Beaufort X Seagull's Apricot) where the Beaufort added substance, a golden central glow and the luteola eyes to an improved coccinea.





Cattleya Mini-Cat Heaven 'SVO' (4n) with its 4n parents C. Beaufort and C. Tangerine Jewel 'Vi' Photos: Fred Clarke, OW 5.3



Crossing Bright Angel with Beaufort gives a mostly bright red cross of C. Dream Catcher. Some have lovely form, like the one shown below, but most of the clones also have only a single flower per inflorescence like the C. coccinea in the background of both parents. A good percentage also has the striking spread lip from Cattleya aclandiae. Check out the

pictures in Orchid Wiz for that.

Another Beaufort cross is Cattleva Mini-Cat Heaven, Cattleya Beaufort x Cattleya Tangerine Jewel. The clone shown had a beautifully striped wide

Another thing to note is that red and yellow Cattleyas rarely have a scent, because they come from the hummingbird pollinated parents. Hummingbirds are not interested in scent, only in colour.

Cattleya Beau's Apricot Gem (Cattleya Seagulls Apricot x Cattleya Beaufort)

has produced some lovely progeny. Pictured is the perhaps most spectacular one. It has gold, full round flowers, overlaid and veined apricot and with a wide flat golden lip ornamented with red near the tip.



Cattleya Million Kiss (Cattleya pumila x Cattleya Beaufort)

The best clones shown had round full pink flowers with a darker frill-edged lip. Just lovely and very feminine! But some even were white with a purple lip, some were pink with a red lip and some were pale pink with a pumila lip. Lots of variety!

Rhyncholaeliocattleya Little Toshie (Cattleya Beaufort x Rhyncholaeliocattleya Toshie Aoki) is a cross of the tiny C. Beaufort with a standard sized, yellow with red lip Cattleya. The clones shown in Orchid Wiz seem to vary quite a bit in colour depending on who grew them. For instance the clone 'H&R' seems to be able to bloom with yellow flowers with a red lip to flowers overlaid with very little to all over with light orange. But dull is

not an option!



Going to the next generation by crossing Little Toshie with Rth. Izumi Charm results in the cross named Rhyncattleanth e [Rth.] Toshie's Charm. Rth Izumi Charm does have the miniature rupiculous

Cattleya (Laelia) briegeri in its background which probably helps in reducing size. The clones shown all had cream to yellow flowers with coloured lips in a shape to rival the best standard yellow cattleyas. But of course the plants were much smaller and the flowers larger in proportion to the plant size.



Rhyncholaeliocattleya Little Circle 'Memoria Tom Larkin' AM/AOS Photo: Craig J Plahn, OW 5.3

Another lovely Little Toshie cross is with the Rhyncholaeliocattleya Golden Circle, resulting in Rhyncholaeliocattleva Little Circle. The clones shown varied from yellow with a red lip to clones with various overlays of light red and even all red clones and one pink clone with an orange and red lip.



Ric Mark's Valentine, Photo: Fred Clarke OW 5.3

RIc Mark's Valentine (RIc Little Toshie X C. Circle of Life) produced a flower every bit as well-shaped as Circle of Life but much easier to grow.



Cattleya Mini Purple Breeding: 15 years of selective breeding has resulted in much better Mini Purples to work with. The petals are now much wider and the lip is no longer spade shaped.

The first cross shown using Mini Purple as a parent, was C. (Lc) Aloha Case (Mini Purple X walkeriana). It was intermediate between the purple parents, while the lip was better than the spade lip of walkeriana it was not nearly as nice as the lip of the

line-bred clone of Mini Purple shown. A modern remake of the cross might result in some lovely surprises!

Cattleya Garrett Collins (Cattleya Little Dipper x Cattleya Mini Purple)

The most colourful clones of this cross have *C. intermedia aguinii* in their C. Little Dipper background.





Cattleva Garrett Collins 'Somerset' AM/AOS Photo: Ramon de los Santos, Orchids Plus v 1.4



Cattleya Sacramento Rose 'Emiliana' AM/AOS, Photo: Jay Norris, Orchids plus v.1.4

Cattleya Sacramento Rose (Cattleya Mini Purple x Cattleya alaorii)

The nice thing about this cross is that it flowers 2 to 3 times per year like the alaorii parent.



Going to the next generation: Wow!

Cattleya Pretty Pet (Cattleya Sacramento Rose x Cattleya Minipet)

The Minipet is a deep red and the resulting rose-red is lovely! A huge rose-red flower on a small plant! If the plant were increased to the size of a standard Cattleya, the flower would be 10 inches (25cm) across.

Cattleya Purple Doll (Cattleya Pink Doll x Cattleya Mini Purple)

is another rose-red cross with red lips in the clones shown . They have nice wide lips and a perky fairly full shape.

Another Purple Doll cross is with cross is with C. (Pot) Rubescence, the latter parent being a coccinea like red parent. The progeny shown was a dark rosered flower with a darker lip and seemingly quite heavy substance. Also the pair of flowers was held on strong petioles.

Cattleya Arctic Moon (C Mini Purple x C Janet) produced mostly nice reds, but also a few white progeny which will form the basis of a white mini-cat breeding programme by crossing it with Cattleya Jose Marti, a lovely



standard white. The progeny shown was a really wellshaped white flower.

Blue Mini-cat breeding is also also well under way:

Cattleya Mini **Blue Star**

(Cornelia X Mini Purple) was illustrated in OW with the clone 'S Miyoko' a small plant bearing two huge pale blue flowers with a deep purple tipped,



A most intriguing colour combination was achieved by crossing C Mini Purple with C (Slc)Angel Jack giving the cross named C Lysye Sentiasa. The clone shown had full deep rose red petals and lip and light purple sepals. Contrast was provided by the white exposed column.

To be continued with Orpetii and Batemaniana breeding, advanced hybrids and culture in a future issue..