Leaflets of the Schlechter Institute

No. 1 June 20, 1994

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The Schlechter Institute has hitherto published Schlechteriana. That Orchid Journal was started with two single (DIN A5) fascicles in 1987 and 1988 and continued by a quartely magazine in larger size (DIN A4) from 1990 (vol 1) through 1993 (vol 4).

Schlechteriana has hitherto been devoted to orchids only.

Schlechteriana is being temporarely discontinued after the publication of Volume 4 No. 4, and the decision, whether, and in what form the journal is to be continued will be taken at a later date. At this time, there seems to be a preference to publish each volume as a single issue at irregular intervals. These intervals will seriously depend on the quantity of type copy available. Authors interested in publishing in Schlechteriana are cordially invited to contact the Director of the Schlechter Institute, Dr. Guido J. Braem, who will send conditions of publication and instructions for the authors upon request.

In the mean time, it has been decided to publish, at irregular intervals, Leaflets of the Schlechter Institute (Leafl. Schltr. Inst.) of which this issue is the first number.

The Leaflets will not be in volumes but numbered continuously, with indication of the publication date. At the date indicated a number of the issues will be sent by courier to the libraries of a number of nearby universities as to eliminate any discussion about the date of valid and effective publication.

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ALL correspondence and review copies of books are to be sent to the Editor-in-chief, Dr. Guido J. Braem, do not send any correspondence directly to the editors.

PRELIMINARY INSTRUCTION FOR AUTHORS

Although the main interest of the Schlechter Institute is in the Orchidaceae, Liliaceae, Iridaceae, and carnivorous plants, articles dealing with other groups of flowering plants will be considered for publication.

The publication language is English. Correspondence and articles may be sent in other languages (addressed to Dr. Braem). The cost for the translation of an article submitted in any language other than English will be calculated and submitted to the author for payment. Articles are to be submitted on $3^{1/2}$ inch diskettes, written in any text program that is capable of generating files that can be read by MS-WORD Version 6.0 for Windows.

The text is to be written without any special configuration. Tables are to be submitted as a separate file. Explanations to illustrations must also be submitted in a separate file. All diskettes are to be accompanied by at least one hardcopy which is to be printed double-spaced and with a right hand margin of 5 cm (2 inches)

All photographs and drawings are to be sent with the manuscript.

The Leaflets will normally be printed without colour. If an author wishes colour in his article, he may request so and will be informed of the additional cost.

Authors will be informed about acceptance or rejection of their manuscripts within 6 weeks after reception of the appropriate materials at the head office.

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STUDIES IN THE GENUS PAPHIOPEDILUM

1. A SPECTACULAR VARIETY OF PAPHIOPEDILUM MICRANTHUM TANG & WANG

Guido J. Braem, Ph.D.

Paphiopedilum micranthum was originally described by Tang & Wang in Acta Phytotaxonomica Sinica, 1: 56 (1951) for the Chinese province Yunnan.

This spectacular plant is a member of the subgenus Parvisepalum Karasawa & Saito, (together with P. armeniacum, P. delenatii, P. emersonii and P. malipoense) and has, since its abundant introduction into European and American cultivation, been regarded as one of the most splendid species of the genus mainly because of the enormous dimensions of its pouch in comparison with the rest of the flower.

Paphiopedilum micranthum Tang & Wang is a membranaceous epiphyte, usually rooting in leafy mould in the cracs and crevices of the rocks. It has a distinctly prolonged rhizome and fleshy roots.

On each growth there are up to five ligulate, obtuse, leathery leaves which are tesselate dark and pale green on the upper side and spotted deep purple underneath, up to about 14 cm (5.5 inches) long and more or less 2.5 cm (1 inch) wide. The inflorescence is erect, densely pilose, usually bearing one single giant flower.

The flower is large for the plant (up to 8.5 cm [3.3 inches] high and up to 6.5 cm [2.5 inches] wide), primarely because of the enormous, pink to whitish-pink labellum.

The petals and the sepals are small in comparison to the lip. The dorsal sepal is broadly ovate, more or less acute, up to about 3 cm (1.2 inches) long and about 2.5 cm (1 inch) across, glabrous on the inside, the outside shortly pilose, the inflexed margins ciliate.

The synsepalum is ovate to suborbicular, more or less acute, up to 3 cm (1.2 inches) long and up to 2.8 (1.1 inches) across.

The petals are ovate, more or less obtuse, up to about 3 cm (1.2 inches) long and up to 3.5 (1.4 inches) across.

The petals as well as the sepals are white, their basal section greenish, entirely covered with a more or less intense pink and with a darker pink to purple venation.

The lip is clearly calceolate, glabrous on the outside, up to 6,5 cm (2.6 inches) long and about 5.5 cm (2.2 inches) across. There is a characteristic triangular indentation on each side of the base. Between these indentations there is a folded staminodal plate which is about 1.5 cm (0.6 inches) high and more or less 0.7 cm (0.3 inches) across. This staminodal plate is white to light pink, the front spotted maroon, with a distinct, triangular, yellow area at the apex.

Some time ago, I received news from Mr. Tom Kalina of Fox Valley Orchids Ltd, Illinois, USA, that an albino of *Paphiopedilum micranthum* was found among their collection. An herbarium specimen was prepared in USA and incorporated into the Herbarium of the Schlechter Institute.

The new variety differs distinctly from the nominal form by the colour of its flower colour. The flowers are pure white, the lateral petals and dorsal sepal with yellow or yellowish veins. The upper half of the petals and the apical half of the dorsal sepal with a distinct yellow hue. The staminode is yellow, unspotted.

Paphiopedilum micranthum Tang & Wang var. albo-flavum Braem, var. nov.

Haec varietas tantum differt a specie typica pro calore florum: Totus flos album, petala lateralia et sepalum dorsale venis flavis vel flavescentibus ornata, dimidia partes superiores petalorum et superfices sepali dorsalis maximam partem flavo suffusa.

Staminodium flavum, non maculatum.

Holotypus: Yunnan, P. R. China, collected March 1992, cultivated by Fox Valley Orchids. Type specimen deposited in the Herbarium of the Schlechter Institute, Lahnau under No. 93/7004. SchleI

Synonyms: Paphiopedilum micranthum var. glanzeanum Gruss & Roeth, nomen nudum, Die Orchidee 45(2): 48 (1994).

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