

Cymbidium Chatter



Cym. Memoria Pat Procter, courtesy of Pierre Pujol.

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Latest News

Welcome to the fourth issue of *Cymbidium Chatter* for 2021. Unfortunately, COVID has continued to disrupt life across Australia as the Delta variant has taken hold, triggering restrictions and lockdowns. This has impacted on many clubs and societies, especially in the eastern states.

Here in Victoria, the Melbourne Orchid Spectacular has been cancelled for the second year in a row, whilst it remains unclear whether the COSV Show in September will occur this year. The show season in New South Wales is effectively a write-off as the state struggles with its worst outbreak of the pandemic so far. Interstate travel is heavily restricted as well to protect other states from outbreaks.

Edited by Joshua White. Please send all contributions to jwhite88@gmail.com.

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The COSV was able to hold its July meeting and a selection of flowering plants, including a couple of species that are not commonly grown, were displayed by members. I have included a selection here for the reader to enjoy.



Cym. whiteae still in bloom after almost two months. There are no registered hybrids with this species, despite it first being described in 1898.



The spotted lip form of Cym. seidenfadenii showing its age after two months in bloom. This species was split out of Cym. insigne in 2014, a move that has been contested by some.



Cym. ((Teddy Roosevelt x Beaconfire) X Champagne Robin) 'Perfecto'



Cym. Skye Khan 'Tee Pee'



Cym. (Valley Torch 'The Lip' X Lunar Blaze 'Dural')



Cym. Chanson D'Amour 'Kiss'



Cym. Jimbo Blaze

It is shaping up to being a reasonable flowering season. Quite a few of my plants are more productive than last year (some are shown below), whilst a few plants that were divided last year are in spike this season. I attribute this to the mild 2020-2021 summer, which also seems to have resulted in some (not all) plants spiking earlier than normal too. A few other growers I spoke to in the eastern states also saw this behaviour, whilst WA did not. Melbourne is currently experiencing an early start to spring as well, so hopefully the normal spring-flowering plants aren't too early for the spring shows!



Cym. erythraeum var. erythraeum f. album



Cym. That's Outrageous



First flowering of a seedling of Cym. (Death Wish 'Underbelly' X Toni Benton 'Royale')



Cym. Pywacket 'Royale', the parent of Death Wish and grandparent of Arachnid and That's Outrageous

You may notice that this issue and the next one are more photo-centric than earlier ones this year. My wife and I are currently in the process of moving, so I don't have as much time to research and collate the articles that I would normally like to include. Fortunately, this has coincided with the main flowering season here, so there are plenty of blooms to photograph and share with the readers.

Unfortunately, I **accidentally deleted an email requesting to be added to the *Cymbidium Chatter* mailing list in mid-July and lost the sender's details**, so if you (or someone you know) asked to be added to the mailing list and did not hear back from me, please try again!

Also, if you've just started receiving *Cymbidium Chatter*, you can also access all the back issues on the COSV website at <https://www.cosv.com.au/>. Some of the larger issues are heavily compressed for email, so if the image quality doesn't look great, check out the version on the website, as I upload the highest quality version there.

Nursery Profile: Kimberley Orchids

Editor: *It is my hope to feature an interview with a grower, enthusiast, hybridiser, or nursery operator in each issue. For this issue, Jenifer Robertson of Kimberley Orchids has kindly agreed to share the story of her family's nursery to go with some photos I took on a recent visit.*

Kimberley Orchids started as a hobby by Peter Sunderland, with Cymbidium plants being grown in a suburban backyard. As with most orchid growers, it became a collection that outgrew the area, so in 1991, a larger property was purchased in Devon Meadows, Victoria. The new property was operating as an orchid nursery called The Lazy Possum, and although there was an existing growing area, this was soon expanded upon to accommodate the ever-increasing Cymbidium collection (currently there is approx. 1 acre undercover).



The decision to sell on a commercial basis wasn't planned but evolved over a period of time. Peter started doing his own hybridising to improve the Cymbidiums on a commercial and show bench level. Through his breeding, many new hybrids were introduced into the Cymbidium orchid scene in Victoria.

Even though I grew up around Cymbidiums, my involvement into the world of Cymbidium growing didn't fully happen until I shifted to Devon Meadows with my family in 1993. I became actively involved in the day-to-day operations of cultivating Cymbidiums and the Cymbidium orchid scene through the Cymbidium Orchid Society of Victoria (COSV), which has been a wealth of information on growing from experienced growers (commercial and hobbyists alike).

When Dad passed away in 2019, I decided to continue with the breeding of large-flowered Cymbidiums and Kimberley Orchids. I have also been breeding with intermediate and miniature Cymbidiums (the earliest of these crossings are yet to flower, maybe next year).

The number of orchid nurseries has greatly declined over the past few years, as has the interest of the younger age groups in growing orchids, but I am sure that there will always be a place for Cymbidium orchids in the years to come.



Editor: *What challenges (pests, disease, culture, etc.) have you encountered whilst growing your Cyms and how did you overcome them?*

There are many pests that can affect the growth, flowering and look of Cymbidium plants. The main pest I have a continual battle with is scale, which I combat with Eco Oil – this seems to keep it under control to a certain degree, but you have to be diligent and consistent with spraying. The downside with spraying is that it cannot be done when plants are in flower. I have learnt to live with it to a certain degree, as I will not use any chemicals.



Cym. Pebble Beach
(*floribundum* X *Tethys*)

Aphids can be an issue during the flowering season and get out of hand quickly. Red Spider Mite can be a problem in high light intensity; I try to reduce the instance of this by watering underneath the plant foliage, and with all plants sitting on saucers maybe the humidity around the plant helps.

There are many more pests that attack our orchids; the ones listed above give me the most problems. If plants are kept healthy, they can be less prone to attack by pests and disease. Virus is a disease that cannot be cured, so the plant is thrown away no matter how good it may be.

Editor: Jenny also explained in conversation with me that she does not like to move plants around to avoid spreading pests and diseases through the collection. Suspect plants are often just thrown out, although valuable ones are tested. Occasionally she finds plants that look virused but test negative! Tools are sterilised in a saturated solution of trisodium phosphate (TSP) and she rotates through multiple tools to allow adequate time for disinfection.



First flowering of a seedling of
Cym. (Red Beauty 'Netty' X Kimberley Pass 'Victoria')



A mature mericlone of Cym. Flaming Vulcan 'Monarch'

Editor: What prompted you and your family to start making your own hybrids?

The main motivation to start breeding was to introduce new hybrids for the show bench and cut flower trade, colour, and variations of colour – a multipurpose flower that can be used for different applications.



A seedling of Cym. (Kuranulla 'Maestro' X Spring Flame) undergoing evaluation

Editor: *How do you select your crosses and what do you look for in the seedlings?*

Breeding is done for the best possible outcome using good-shaped flowers with high flower count (I am happy with 10-20 blooms for large Cymbidiums), strong spike habit, colour, good growth (which also has a lot to do with culture) and multi-spiking.

With seedlings it can be hit and miss in the flowering department, so what is not suitable can often be sold as a pot plant.

Plants are also virus tested before being used in breeding.

Editor: *What is your favourite hybrid from your own work?*

I really have no favourite hybrid, but more a sentimental favourite called Kimberley Splash 'Mr. Patrick' named after one of my horses. It is a good-shaped creamy-coloured large flower, with a red tinge and red coloured spots.

Editor: *During my visit, I also asked Jenny about what styles and colours tended to sell. She explained that whites and greens were often the most in demand, whilst brown was the least. She also noted a key trait needed in a plant for the cut flower market was a good, strong spike and that spikes that were too tall can be an issue for florists.*



A seedling of Cym. (Joan's Era 'Mikasa' X Kimberley Queen 'Blush') undergoing evaluation



Cym. Foxfire Veridian 'Devon Lady'
Whilst standards are the focus, Jenny also grows a smaller selection of intermediates and miniatures.



Cym. Nightflight 'Sydney'



A few older cultivars can be seen at Kimberley Orchids, such as Cym. Thanksgiving 'Nativity' (left) and Peter Dawson 'Grenadier' (right). Jenny noted that the colouration on 'Grenadier' varies depending on the light levels.



Not all seedlings are a success – these two will probably be culled.



Jenny also has a few of the more unusual Cyms. Here are the two feathered selections of Cym. Winter Fire – 'Splash' (left) and 'Frosty Tips' (right).

Photos from Pierre Pujol

Once again Pierre has kindly provided a selection of photos from his collection. First up is Pierre's cross of Cym. Mini-Me (Vogel's Magic 'Waikanae' X Kirby Lesh 'Cinnabar'), which he described as a "risky but rewarding cross." He has observed it over the last two seasons and noted the impact of light levels on the intensity of the flowers' colour:

"The shading aggregates the red pigments resulting in stronger markings/contrast over a paler background whereas the sun exposure sprays the red pigments over the flower segments giving it a redder tinge, which then fades over a few weeks if left in the sun."



Two different flowerings of Cym. Mini-Me 'En colère'.

The cultivar 'En colère' features 15-18 intermediate flowers on arching spikes. Pierre considers it to be a "red" version of 'Woodside' but notes that it is close to a standard in plant size. This is balanced by the double-spiking habit (2 spikes per bulb) inherited from Kirby Lesh.



*Cym. Mini-Me 'Woodside' AM/AOS
On the left is the 2020 flowering (when it was awarded) and on the right is the 2021 flowering.*

The cultivar 'Woodside' exceeded Pierre's expectations for the cross. It is a small, *devonianum*-sized plant with 19 novelty-sized flowers well-arranged on pendant spikes. The 2021 flowering had fewer, but larger, flowers due to differences in the growing conditions.



The pendulous spike of Cym. Mini-Me 'Woodside' AM/AOS.



Cym. Darrel Wong 'Dos Amigos'

Pierre still enjoys his first cross, Cym. Darrel Wong (Lambert Day 'Tangerine Glaze' X Karen Hawaiian 'Hatfield'), reg. 2017, shown above, right. He considers it an example of how lucky an amateur hybridiser can be on his/her first attempt and describes the cultivar 'Dos Amigos' as "shining with its sunset colours and delightful fragrance," even at dusk.



A seedling of Cym. Pamela Larson on its first flowering.

For Pierre's birthday this year, he was gifted a special surprise with the flowering of a seedling of his cross of Cym. Pamela Larson (So Bold X Karen Hawaiian). The blooms are feathered with a full shape; usually this trait only occurs due to mutations in the cloning process and is not always stable, so Pierre will closely observe it on subsequent flowerings to see if it is. He also observed that it is one of the last seedlings to bloom from the cross; perhaps there is a correlation between the feathering mutation and slower maturation, as well as a lesson: do not discard these slower growers too hastily!

The ventral (sepal) peloric flower shown on the next page is an example of Pierre's cross of Cym. Golden Dragon (Psychotic 'Cream Puff' X Highland Advent 'Trinity'). The goal was to achieve vibrant colour, strong contrast between the lip markings and segments, good form for a peloric flower, and a good flower count.



Cym. Golden Dragon 'Tartarian'



Cym. Ruby & Gold 'Woodside'
(*Ruby Lips 'Erika' X James Toya 'Ohana'*)

Cym. Ruby & Gold 'Woodside' results from another Loren Bachman cross. Pierre was very pleased with the intensity of the red colour in the cross and considers 'Woodside' one of the best seedlings from the flask. He notes that it is a "good grower, [has] good flower size, [but the] flowers are a bit bunchy on the spikes."



Cym. Memoria Pat Procter 'Woodside'



Cym. Pearl Dawson 'Procyon' BM/CSA
(*Miretta X devonianum*)

Cym. Memoria Pat Procter (Tower of Gold 'Jill' X Tower of Fire 'Sunset Flame') is a cross that Pierre and Pat made together. Sadly, she passed away before she could see it bloom, but Pierre has grown the cross to flowering. The cultivar 'Woodside' features 4.5-5" flowers on tall spikes.

Finally, there is Pierre's specimen plant of *Cym. Pearl Dawson 'Procyon'*, which produced 9 spikes for the 2021 flowering but sadly there were no shows for it to be displayed at!

COCSA Winter Show 2021 Report

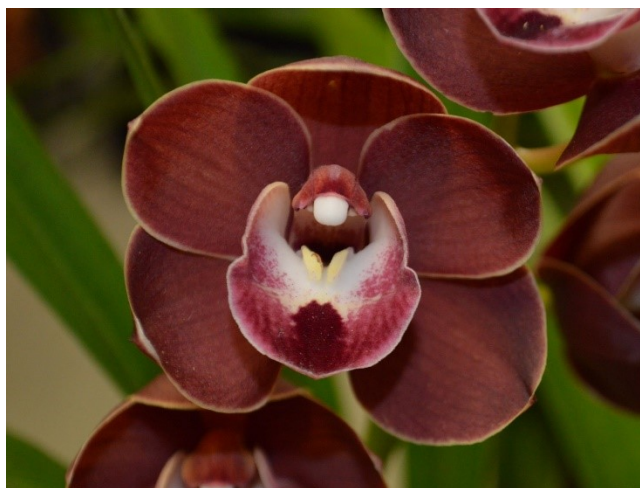
Editor: *Graham Morris has kindly provided a show report and photos from the Cymbidium Orchid Club of South Australia's Winter Show and Port Adelaide display.*

In 2020, Cymbidium growing in South Australia was badly affected by COVID restrictions, but we still managed to hold some meetings and had three shows. We could not have meetings in March, April, and May, and we were not allowed to show plants in June. However, we managed to stage our usual Winter Show at the Munno Para Shopping Centre in July, and our Spring Show at The West Lakes Shopping Centre at the end of August. We even managed a display for the first time in a Port Adelaide shopping centre. Our committee did a great job to be able to function during a really tough year.

The flower of the year was a magnificent flowering of *Cym. Toltrice Dana*, grown (and hybridized) by Malcolm and Gay Hall. Seedling of the year was *Cym. (Khanebono X Last Tango) 'JoJo'*, a very shapely intermediate with a beautiful lip, grown by Graham Morris. It was growing on a very small plant.



Cym. Toltrice Dana,
grown by Malcom & Gay Hall



Cym. (Khanebono X Last Tango) 'JoJo',
grown by Graham Morris

Meetings were held starting with the AGM in February 2021 right through to June. The July meeting could not go ahead due to COVID restrictions. There was a very successful Winter Show at the Munno Para Shopping Centre in July. There was also a display at the Port Adelaide Plaza in early August, and the plants were judged because they could not be judged at the abandoned July meeting. Normally there would be no judging at the Port Adelaide display, but this gave anyone with a quality plant at the time the chance to enter in the flower and seedling of the year competition and we saw some quality plants presented.

Early indications are that it is a good year for flowering. There are many plants flowering well for the first time, probably due to the relatively mild summer we experienced. We had virtually no long, extremely hot periods during the summer, a very unusual occurrence.

We have seen some really nice seedlings presented, some coming from local hybridizing efforts. We look forward to seeing many more quality plants shown, later in the year.



Judging, sales tables, and main display from the COCSA Winter Show at Munno Para Shopping Centre.



Cym. (Dural Dream X Pepper Blaze)
 Grand Champion, Champion Large Standard and Best in Show (Specimen). Exhibited by John Moon.



Cym. (Templestowe's Charm X Little Sarah)
 Best in Show (Miniature Seedling). Exhibited by Shane Moeller.



Cym. ((Foxfire Amber x Dural Gold) X Prized)
 Champion Seedling, Champion Small Standard and Best in Show (Small Standard Seedling). Exhibited by Chee Ng.



Cym. (Amelia Earhart X Pacific Sparkle)
 Champion Miniature. Exhibited by John Moon.



*Cym. (Amigos Orange X (Willunga Royal x Kalahari Fury))
Champion Intermediate and Best in Show (Intermediate
Seedling). Exhibited by Shane Moeller.*



*Cym. ((Trace's Bullion x Intense Gold) X Harbour City)
Best in Show (Large Standard Seedling).
Exhibited by Ben Knobben.*



*Cym. Little Sarah 'Knockout'
Champion First Division. Exhibited by Terry Honor.*



Cym. Kuranulla 'Maestro'
Champion Second Division.
Exhibited by Susan & G. Hollands.



Cym. (erythraeum var. flavum 'Paradise'
X Vanguard 'Mas Beauty')
Exhibited by Susan & G. Hollands.



Cym. (Kellys Winter X Chokolada) 'Pink Lips'



Cym. Sikkim Charm
Exhibited by Bill Jayne.

Due to limited space and time at Port Adelaide, the judging was very brief and only major winners were chosen. Judging was very different to normal, as the plants were judged in the display. Photographs were also taken of most of the plants as they were in the display, rather than using our portable photographic studio as we normally do at meetings and shows.



One of the multiple sales tables at the Port Adelaide Plaza in early August.



*Cym. (Anna Dragon X Blazing Pepper)
Best Overall, Best in Open Division and Best Large
Standard Seedling. Exhibited by Chee Ng.*



*Cym. Coraki Glowing 'Kentlyn'
Best in First Division.
Exhibited by Graham Fear.*



Cym. Sundaani's Treasure 'Orange Crush'
Best in Second Division.
Exhibited by Greg Wallace.



Cym. Valley Olympic 'Pink Perfection'
Best Specimen.
Exhibited by Michael Willoughby & Oui Ju.



Left: *Cym. Arachnid 'Highly Perfumed'*
Above: *Cym. Mad Rush 'To Nowhere'*
Below: *Cym. Olympic Flame 'Ai Tee'*



Research Tools

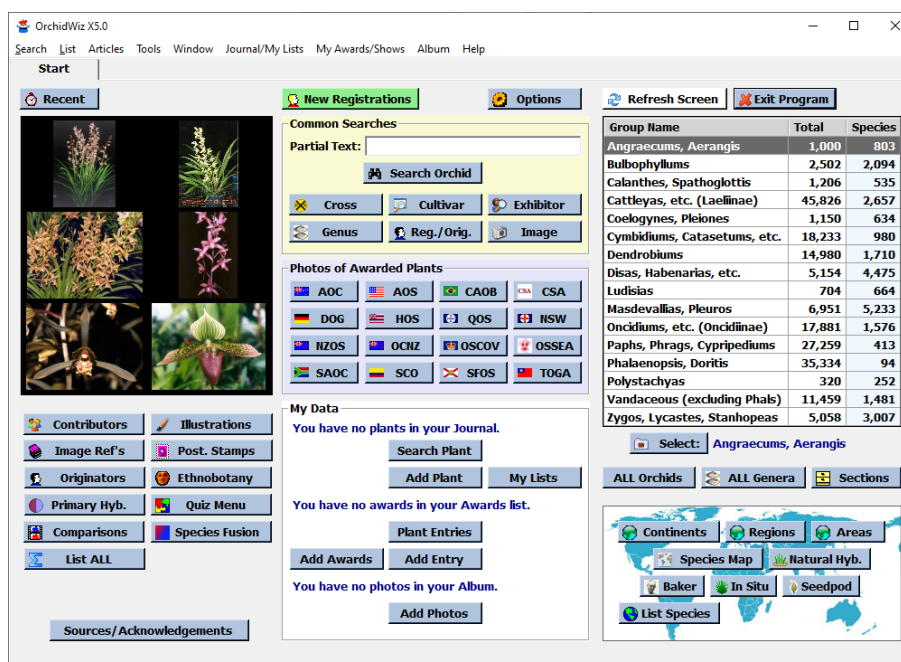
In the previous issue I mentioned the importance of selecting parents wisely when making hybrids. To that end, I have compiled a list of resources that may be useful to the grower looking to find out more about a particular plant (as well as a few more general resources).

All-in-One Tools

OrchidWiz

One cannot go past [OrchidWiz](#) as the premier orchid research tool. It is the only paid product on this list, but if you find yourself regularly researching the ancestry, awards, and cultural requirements of orchids, it can be an invaluable tool. Full details are available on the website, but some of the key features are:

- Family tree diagrams for orchid hybrids
- Species composition of hybrids
- Awards, often with detailed information such as flower and spike count
- Cultural information for species and suggested cultural conditions for hybrids
- Progeny lists for every plant
- Comparison tool for comparing different hybrids and their ancestry
- Hundreds of thousands of photos
- Journal and plant lists for your own plants



Licences for OrchidWiz do not expire, but to obtain the quarterly updates with new registrations, awards, and photos it is necessary to subscribe to the annual maintenance plan.

OrchidWiz has only a couple of limitations: 1) it currently only supports the Windows operating system (it will not run on Mac OS or Linux natively) and 2) the user interface still looks like it is from Windows 98/2000 (and as a result, has a fixed size and cannot be maximised to take advantage of larger screens).

The National Gardening Association's Plant Database

Located at <https://garden.org>, the National Gardening Association site was formerly known as All Things Plants until the owners acquired the NGA as well. The site features many active forums, including one dedicated to [Orchids](#).

A particularly useful tool is the site's [Plant Database](#), which is managed by several volunteer admins for different families or genera (for full disclosure, I am the admin for the orchid family). The data is predominantly crowd-sourced, and any member of the site can propose the addition of comments, plant-specific data (awards, flower count, etc.), photos or a new plant entry. Species are validated against the Catalogue of Life, whilst all orchid hybrids are validated against the RHS Orchid Register (more on this later). Each genus has its own section, such as the one for the *Cymbidium* genus:

<https://garden.org/plants/browse/plants/genus/Cymbidium/>

The database does not contain every orchid hybrid at present, but does contain a wealth of photos, parentage data and comments in an easy-to-navigate format. It can be a useful reference if you do not have access to OrchidWiz or other comprehensive tools. Like OrchidWiz, members can also create their own plant lists and add notes, events, etc. for their entries. Membership is free and only requires an email address.

The screenshot shows the 'Cymbidium' page on the National Gardening Association's Plant Database. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Learn', 'Plants DB', 'Tools', and 'Community'. Below this is a banner image of yellow flowers. The main content area is titled 'Browsing by genus: Cymbidium' and includes a search bar. Below the search bar, there is a list of plants sorted by 'Alphabetically | Popular'. The list shows 3,327 plants found. The first few entries are:

- Orchid (*Cymbidium*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium acuminatum*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium aliciae*)
- Aloe-Leaved Cymbidium Orchid (*Cymbidium aloifolium*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium atropurpureum*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium banaense*)
- Two-Colored Cymbidium Orchid (*Cymbidium bicolor*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium bicolor* subsp. *bicolor*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium bicolor* subsp. *pubescens*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium borneense*)
- Tiger Orchid (*Cymbidium canaliculatum*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium changningense*)
- Green-Flowered Cymbidium Orchid (*Cymbidium chloranthum*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium cochleare*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium concinnum*)
- Orchid (*Cymbidium crassifolium*)

 On the right side, there is a sidebar with search filters: '+ Add a plant', 'Search by name', 'Search by type', and 'Plant Combinations'.

Researching Hybrids

RHS Orchid Register

Probably the most well-known resource is the RHS Orchid Register. This is the current iteration of Sander's List of Orchid Hybrids, which was first published in 1906 and transferred to the RHS in 1960. Since then, they have maintained the authoritative list of orchid hybrids and are the only International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for the orchid family.

The orchid register is available to [search online](#), but the interface is dated and lacks the functionality of many modern websites. Unfortunately, there are a few bugs in the interface to be aware of:

- Make sure there is no whitespace before your search term. The system does not trim whitespace, so if you have a space or tab in front of the name you are trying to search for, it will result in hundreds of pages of incorrect results being returned.
- Avoid special characters. The system has incomplete support for non-ASCII characters and sometimes will not handle accented characters properly. In this case the use of the wildcard symbol (%) may be necessary. For example, searching for Cymbidium Piñata may require the use of "%ata" in the grex field.

Some tips for working with the RHS register:

- If you only know the parents, try searching for both combinations of seed and pollen parent.
- If the name may have an apostrophe in it, try searching both with and without the apostrophe. Registered names are highly inconsistent in this respect!

Work is currently underway to modernise the database and search engine.

OrchidRoots

[OrchidRoots](#) (and its subsidiary project BlueNanta) is another online site with a database of orchids. Unlike the NGA database, however, it is predominantly photographic in nature and does not include cultural or plant specifics. However, it does have a few useful features not available elsewhere online:

- Species composition
- Progeny lists
- Family trees

Search The International Orchid Register

Find orchids by parentage or grex name searches

- 1 Parentage Search can be used to identify any grexes from particular seed and pollen parents.
- 2 Grex Name Search can be used to find the parentage of particular grexes.

Parentage search

Seed parent

Genus

Grex

Pollen parent

Genus

Grex

Search »

Reset »

[Notes on searching by parentage](#)

Grex name search

Genus

Grex

Exact match

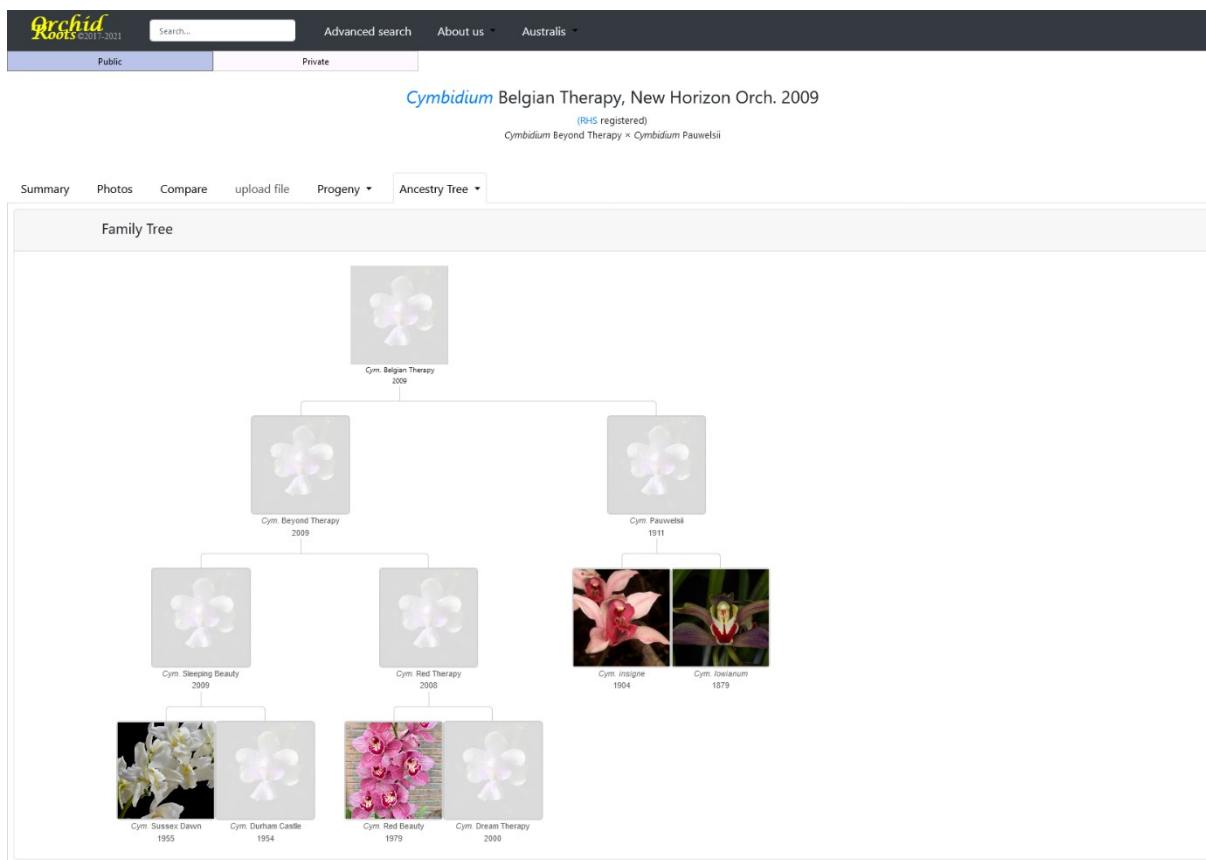
Search »

Reset »

[Notes on searching by grex name](#)

If you have a further inquiry about the names of orchid hybrids and/or their parents, it should be made to the International Orchid Registrar, at the following email address orcereg@rhs.org.uk

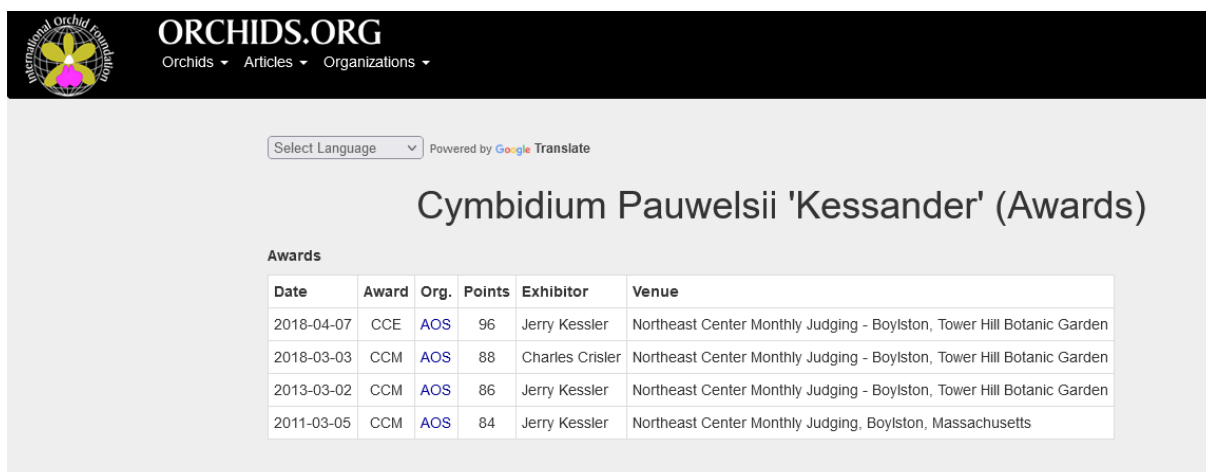
These features require a free account (you just need to sign up with an email address and your name) to use but can be particularly useful if you are researching the parentage of a hybrid without a tool like OrchidWiz.



It is worth noting that all the photos are crowd-sourced and so occasionally the photos will not be correctly identified.

International Orchid Foundation

The IOF hosts its own site dedicated to orchids at <https://www.orchids.org/> and, like the NGA and OrchidRoots, includes parentage information for hybrids and sometimes photos. Its distinguishing feature is the relatively comprehensive award information included in its database. Whilst not complete, it can be a useful first step when looking to see if a plant has been awarded (especially if you don't know which society may have awarded it).



Researching Species

Stephen Early's Cymbidium Site

Enthusiast Stephen Early lives in Melbourne, Australia, and grows many Cymbidium species. He maintains a website at <https://cymspecies.com/> where he includes a brief description of each species as well as his growing conditions (where applicable), photos and lists of the registered primary hybrids made with each species.


Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia (IOSPE)

The [IOSPE](#) is an ambitious project to compile a photographic record of every orchid species. Each record includes a formal description of the species and references where additional information may be found. If known, traits such as fragrance and flowering time are included. Many photos have been provided by contributors to the site.

KEW WCSP and POWO

Both [KEW Plants of the World Online](#) (POWO) and [KEW World Checklist of Selected Plant Families](#) (WCSP) are useful references for checking the current taxonomical status of species. The WCSP is also the first port of call when seeking to clarify any taxonomical classification, as KEW are the taxonomical authority for the orchid family. Any changes to WCSP are also reflected in the related the International Plant Names Index (IPNI), a collaboration between the [Royal Botanic Gardens, KEW](#), [Harvard University Herbaria](#) and the [Australian National Herbarium](#).

Plants of the World Online is probably the more useful reference for the enthusiast, however, as it includes distribution maps, photos (such as samples held in the KEW Herbarium), early artwork depicting species for publication (where available) and a detailed bibliography. For some species, additional information is available in the form of a description and cultivation notes.




Plants of the World Online

HOME ABOUT HELP

Family: *Orchidaceae* Juss.
Genus: *Cymbidium* Sw.

Cymbidium hookerianum Rchb.f.

Cymbidium hookerianum was first described in 1851 under the name *C. grandiflorum*, based on a specimen collected in 1848 in Bhutan by William Griffith (a botanist from Ham in Surrey) while serving with a British diplomatic mission. Unfortunately the name *C. grandiflorum* had previously been used for a distinct species now placed in *Pogonia*. The next available and legitimate name for the species was *C. hookerianum*, based on living material collected by the British botanist Thomas Lobb in the early 1850s.



Descriptions
Uses
Images
Distribution
Synonyms
Other Data
Bibliography
Sources

▼ Descriptions

▼ According to Kew Species Profiles

[\[KSP\]](#)
Kew Species Profiles

General Description

The large-flowered *Cymbidium hookerianum* was named in honour of Sir Joseph Hooker, the second Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Cymbidium hookerianum was first described in 1851 under the name *C. grandiflorum*, based on a specimen collected in 1848 in Bhutan by William Griffith (a botanist from Ham in Surrey) while serving with a British diplomatic mission. Unfortunately the name *C. grandiflorum* had previously been used for a distinct species now placed in *Pogonia*. The next available and legitimate name for the species was *C. hookerianum*, based on living material collected by the British botanist Thomas Lobb in the early 1850s.

World Orchids

The [Orchid List at World Plants](#) is another useful reference tool. Like other resources mentioned, it includes photos for some species as well as their common names, synonyms, and natural distribution.

Other Resources

There are many orchid websites and blogs available online. Quite a few have interesting and useful articles or posts, and a few are mentioned below (this is by no means an exhaustive list!).

Little or Nothing About Orchids

[Little or Nothing About Orchids](#) is a website created by Grieg Russell, an enthusiast who has written several articles on Cymbidiums. There are some useful insights on hybridisation, inheritance, and fertility in his articles, which may be of interest to the reader.

An Essence of Orchids

[An Essence of Orchids](#) is another enthusiast's website, this time Californian grower A'na Sa'tara and her husband Paul. They grow a range of genera and A'na produces both interesting articles and some wonderful photo series of plants in their collection, such as [this article series on light](#).

Orchid Societies

Finally, orchid clubs and societies often have a wealth of information and experience to share. Sometimes this is made available online, such as the [large collection of articles](#) hosted by the Orchid Societies Council of Victoria (OSCOV). The [St. Augustine Orchid Society](#) features many articles on their website as well, covering a range of topics and genera. It is worth checking out the groups and organisations in your area (and abroad) that may have additional information relevant to you.

Acknowledgements and Contributions

I hope you have enjoyed this issue. If you have any feedback or would like to contribute (whether it be just one or two photos, an idea for an article, or to volunteer for an interview), please get in touch! I can be reached at jwhite88@gmail.com.

Previous issues are available at <https://www.cosv.com.au/publications-and-resources>. All material is copyright © the original owners and used with permission. Thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue, including Graham Morris, Jenifer Robertson, and Pierre Pujol.

The next issue is planned for October 2021.