

# RHS Orchid Awards

CLARE and JOHAN HERMANS describe  
the best plants submitted to the RHS  
Orchid Committee for judging





Left and below: *Anguloa*  
Lorna 'La Ponterrin',  
Award of Merit



Above and below:  
*Paphiopedilum*  
Alois Handlbauer  
'Only Make Believe',  
Award of Merit

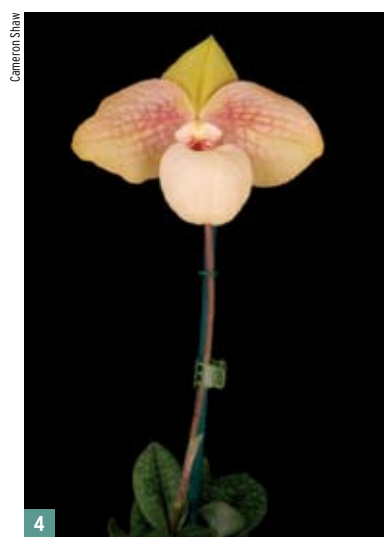
## RHS Awards

**14 June 2008** The RHS Orchid Committee met at the Peterborough International Orchid Show, at the East of England County Show. 31 plants were submitted for judging; four Awards of Merit and seven Certificates of Cultural Commendation were recommended.

At the meeting, the 2007 George Moore Medal was presented to Mr Yuan-Chuan Hsiao of In-Charm Orchids, Taiwan. The medal is awarded to the exhibitor of the best cultivar of a grex of *Paphiopedilum*, *Selenipedium*, *Phragmipedium* or an intergeneric hybrid of these genera awarded during the year. This prestigious medal was awarded for *Paphiopedilum* JEM's Pregnant Lady 'In-Charm' AM/RHS. (*Orch. Rev.* 115: 294–295, and *Orch. Rev.* 116: 53).

### Award of Merit

■ For *Anguloa* Lorna 'La Ponterrin', exhibited by the Eric Young Foundation, Jersey. **1** and **2** The cross was registered by Henry Oakeley in 2002; the parents were *Anguloa eburnea* and *A. Rolfei*. Another



cultivar, *Anguloa* Lorna 'Denise', was awarded an Award of Merit in 2002 (*Orch. Rev.* 110: 328, 330). The cultivar *Anguloa* Lorna 'La Ponterrin' was considerably darker in colour.

The plant exhibited had six open flowers on 27cm tall stems. The attractive flowers were pale pink, spotted darker pink inside, and had a medicinal scent like wintergreen. Overall flower size was 75 x 47mm. The dorsal sepal was 100 x 65mm; ➤

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*Paphiopedilum godefroyae*  
'White Fairy',  
Award of Merit



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Left and right:  
*Renanthera storiei*  
'Jorg', Award of Merit



lateral sepals 75 x 45mm; petals 70 x 35mm; lip pale pink, 30 x 22mm.

#### Award of Merit

■ For *Paphiopedilum* Alois Handlbauer 'Only Make Believe', exhibited by Gillian Benn, Chilton, Oxfordshire.

3 and 4 The cross was registered by Franz Glanz, Germany in 2008; the parents were *Paphiopedilum* x *fanaticum* and *Paphiopedilum bangianum*. The flower was an attractive cream yellow colour and had a fine covering of hairs.

The plant exhibited had one flower on a 20cm tall spike. Overall flower size was 90 x 125mm. The dorsal sepal was creamy-green, 55 x 40mm; synsepal creamy-green, 45 x 45mm; petals creamy-yellow with fine red reticulation, 60 x 50mm; pouch 40 x 40mm, 55mm deep; disc 20mm wide.

#### Award of Merit

■ For *Paphiopedilum godefroyae* 'White Fairy', exhibited by In-Charm Orchids, Taichung, Taiwan. 5

This species comes from Thailand and the cultivar 'White Fairy' was crystalline white with a faint pink edge. The plant was exhibited as

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Below and right: *Anguloa* Lorna 'Trinity', Certificate of Cultural Commendation

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*Papbiopedium godefroyae* f. *album*, which was first described by Gruss in 2002 but is currently not an accepted name according to the Kew Monocot Checklist, <http://apps.kew.org/wcsp>.

The plant exhibited had one open flower on a 7cm tall stem. Overall flower size was 60 x 85mm. The dorsal sepal was 30 x 45mm; synsepal 30 x 35mm; petals 45 x 40mm; pouch 30 x 18mm; disc 10mm wide with a central yellow spot.

### Award of Merit

■ For *Renanthera storiei* 'Jorg', exhibited by Jörg Frehsonke, c/o Orchideen Lucke, Neukirchen-Vluyn, Germany. **6** and **7** This species comes from the Philippines. The cultivar *R. storiei* 'Saint Albans' was awarded a First Class Certificate in 1945 (*Orch. Rev.* 54: 10) and the cultivar *R. storiei* 'Suzanne' had an Award of Merit and a Certificate of Cultural Commendation in 1976 (*Orch. Rev.* 85: 2, 79, 80). The cultivar *Renanthera storiei* 'Jorg' had large flowers and was an attractive deep orange speckled with red.

The plant exhibited had a 37cm long, branching, pendent spike with

approximately 120 open flowers. Overall flower size was 65 x 50mm. The dorsal sepal was 30 x 4mm; lateral sepals 30 x 15mm; petals 25 x 6mm; lip 10 x 8mm, trilobed, red, yellow in the throat.

### Cultural Commendation

■ To the Eric Young Foundation, Jersey, for *Anguloa* Lorna 'Trinity'. **8** and **9** The plant was 53cm across with 11 open flowers and 21 spikes, grown in a 24cm diameter pot.

### Cultural Commendation

■ To Ellis Eyre, North Wheatley, Retford, Nottinghamshire, for *Masdevallia exquisita* 'Eva May'. **10** and **11** The plant was 35cm across with 24 open flowers and 27 spikes, and grown in a 19cm diameter pot. This species comes from Bolivia and has very attractive white flowers suffused with crimson red.

### Cultural Commendation

■ To Reg Harrison, Preston, Lancashire, for *Prosthechea vespa* 'Muriel'. **12** and **13** The plant was 100cm across, with 13 spikes with an average of 20 open flowers on each.

This species comes from Cuba, Costa Rica and south to Brazil and Peru. The cultivar *Prosthechea vespa* 'Muriel' was a magnificent specimen plant.

### Grower's advice

*Prosthechea vespa* 'Muriel', "This plant was purchased in October 2003. It is grown in coarse bark and perlite with polystyrene chips for good drainage. It is kept in warm to intermediate conditions, watered weekly and is fed for two out of every four weeks with diluted Tomorite (a liquid tomato fertiliser with seaweed extract). In summer it has 50–60 percent shade." Reg Harrison

### Cultural Commendation

■ To Roger Russell, Weymouth, Dorset, for *Eulophia guineensis* 'Weymouth Bay'. **14** and **15** The plant was 100cm across, with 12 spikes and an average of 10 open flowers on each, and grown in a 28cm diameter pot. A previous cultivar *E. guineensis* 'Clare' was awarded a Certificate of Cultural Commendation in 1990 (*Orch. Rev.* 98: 267). The cultivar



*Eulophia guineensis* 'Weymouth Bay' was shown as *Eulophia quartiniana* but this name is now considered to be a synonym. This species is widespread in tropical Africa and appears as far north as Yemen and Oman; it grows in riverine forest and in the shade of thicket.

### Grower's advice

*Eulophia guineensis*  
'Weymouth Bay'

“This plant came into my possession as a single ‘bulb’ as part of a raffle prize in the winter of 2002.

I grow it in my unheated conservatory, a lean-to with brick wall ends and a double-glazed roof and front, facing southeast. Shading is used all summer, when the temperature ranges from about 17°C to 30°C; in winter the range is 13°C to 22°C, the heat coming from the adjoining room of the house.

Using a 7cm pot, I inserted the lower third of the pseudobulb into a compost consisting of approximately 70 percent chopped coconut husk (well-soaked in several changes of

rainwater even though it was described as washed), 10 percent perlite and 20 percent compost from a peat-free, general-purpose bag of compost, and did not water it. It dutifully produced a new growth around March, and I then stood the pot in rainwater up to three-quarters of its depth for 15 minutes, taking care nothing floated off. Watering in this way helps to reduce the risk of rotting the new shoot. I watered like this about once a week until the plant was growing well; once



Below and inset: *Masdevallia exquisita*  
'Eva May', Cultural Commendation



Above and below: *Prosthechea vespa* 'Muriel'  
Cultural Commendation



good leaf was showing, a balanced fertiliser was added to the water (fertiliser is omitted every 4–6 weeks). As the temperature rises I water twice a week, then around mid-August I change the feed to one of high potash, which continues until I see the leaves showing signs of changing colour; that is when I stop watering completely. The pot becomes really dry and the leaves fall; by this time it is enjoying unshaded sun.

In February the plant is potted on, to ensure there is enough room for the formation of additional pseudobulbs. In 2004 it produced three spikes, this year 12. When potting on, about two-thirds of the old medium falls away so a good proportion of new is added. It now stands in a 30cm pot.”

Roger Russell

#### Cultural Commendation

■ To Ellis Eyre, North Wheatley, Retford, Nottinghamshire, for *Masdevallia falcata* ‘Eva May’. <sup>16</sup> and <sup>17</sup> The plant was 18cm across with about 45 open flowers, and grown in a 12cm diameter pot. This species comes from Colombia and was first described in 1878 by HG Reichenbach.

#### Cultural Commendation

■ To Akerne Orchids, Schoten, Belgium, for *Vanda cristata* ‘Akerne’. <sup>18</sup> and <sup>19</sup> The plant was 64cm across with approximately 21 spikes with an average of six open flowers on each, and grown in a 12cm diameter basket. The cultivar *Vanda cristata* ‘Pat’ gained an Award of Merit in 1992 (*Orch. Rev.* 100: 255, 258). It was first collected in Bhutan in 1818 and described by John Lindley in 1834. It was transferred to *Trudelia* by Senghas in 1988 but it is still accepted as *Vanda* in the Kew Monocot Checklist.



Above and below: *Eulophia guineensis* ‘Weymouth Bay’, Cultural Commendation





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Above and below: *Masdevallia falcata* 'Eva May', Cultural Commendation

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Above and below: *Vanda cristata* 'Akerne', Cultural Commendation

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### Cultural Commendation

■ To Reg Harrison, Preston, Lancashire, for *Dactylorhiza foliosa* 'Muriel'. <sup>20</sup> and <sup>21</sup> The plant was 49cm across, with nine spikes with an average of 150 open flowers on each. It was grown in a 33cm diameter pot. This species grows in wet meadows in

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Left and below: *Dactylorhiza foliosa* 'Muriel', Cultural Commendation

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Madeira but is hardy in the British Isles. The cultivar *Dactylorhiza foliosa* 'Muriel' was not just beautifully grown but also a particularly dark form.

### Grower's advice

*Dactylorhiza foliosa* 'Muriel',  
“This plant was purchased

from Jeff Hutchings, Laneside Alpines, Garstang, in February 2003. It is grown in a mixture of bulb fibre, general purpose compost and John Innes No3, with a high proportion of grit for drainage. When it is in growth in summer it is watered

every day and after flowering it is given a top dressing of blood, fish and bone. It is kept outside all year round except if there is a very hard frost, when it is brought indoors.” Reg Harrison

## RHS Awards

**15 July 2008** The RHS Orchid Committee met at the Jodrell Laboratory, at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Ten plants were submitted for judging; one Botanical Certificate was recommended.

### Botanical Certificate

■ For *Cochlioda noezliana* ‘Gaytarn’, exhibited by John Gay, Wakefield, Yorkshire. <sup>22</sup> and <sup>23</sup> The Botanical Certificate was awarded for this unusual colour variant of a normally bright red species, it was also thought desirable for it to be brought into cultivation. The yellow variant was re-introduced from Peru in the late 1990s; it may have first been described as var. *aurantiaca* in 1895, in the *Gardeners’ Chronicle*. It was also illustrated as f. *xanthina* in an article written by Eric Christenson in *Orchids* (AOS) 71 (2): 114–116 (2002). Neither of these names are recognised by the Kew Monocot Checklist.

The plant exhibited had one 20cm erect spike with four open flowers and four buds. The flowers were bright lemon yellow with a deep yellow throat and contrasting white column tip. Overall flower size was 35 x 40mm. The dorsal sepal was 20 x 8mm; lateral sepals 18 x 8mm; petals 20 x 10mm; lip 10 x 17mm; and column 10mm long.

### Grower’s advice

*Cochlioda noezliana* ‘Gaytarn’, “*Cochlioda noezliana* is a cool growing species which originates from the high Andes of Peru. I purchased my plant from Peruviflora when I was



Above and below: *Cochlioda noezliana* ‘Gaytarn’, Botanical Certificate

on an orchid expedition in 2003. Just one yellow-flowered plant was in the nursery waiting to be divided. The common form, which is the basis of most *Odontioda* hybridising, has rich orange-scarlet flowers. The rare yellow-flowered form was first described in the *Gardeners’ Chronicle* 17: 763 in 1895.

I grow my plant in a cool, shaded greenhouse alongside all of my *Odontoglossum* species with a minimum night temperature of 10°C. I try to restrict summer temperatures to a maximum of 21°C. Humidity of around 80 percent is perfect for all year round cultivation and I try to maintain this with constant misting in summer, supplemented with ground level misting six or seven times a day in summer, and two or three times a day in winter. The plant needs a good amount of constantly moving air, which is achieved by two oscillating fans running 365 days a year.” John Gay



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### RHS AWARDS

For details about future meetings of the RHS Orchid Committee and entering plants for awards, see Forthcoming events on p300.