



news

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Cycnoides James Davidson (Morm. Virgen del Valle 'Dark Horse' x Cyc. warscewiczii 'SVO Widest Petals') blooming for the first time.

Photo: Bernie Butts, [COOS](#), [COOS on Facebook](#)

Essex County OS Travel Grant

The Essex County Orchid Society wishes to thank the COC for the 2014 Travel Grant received this year as this allowed us to travel to annual Summerfest in Toronto on Aug. 10th.

The 24 members and of which 5 were from the London Society enjoyed their day. Arriving a little earlier and bringing a bagged lunch by most gave extra time to visit the beautiful manicured lawns and gardens.

For the photography buffs this allowed time to take pictures. Most enjoyed strolling through the grounds. A great experience travelling with such a wonderful group from two Societies who love nature and orchids.

Enjoyed listening to Roy Tokunaga's excellent talk where most returned with more orchids than they had planned made the trip worth while. Thanks again for granting us this opportunity of the COC Travel Grant.



Juliette St. Pierre Secretary, Essex County Orchid Society

2015 COC Travel Grant

We will be accepting applications for the 2015 Travel Grant from January 1/15 to June 1/15. Preference will be given to societies who didn't receive the grant in 2014. The instructions and application form are on the COC website and you can e-mail the application to me. No signature is required.

Gail Schwarz rschwarz@eastlink.ca

Treasurer's Report

The current financial year will come to a close on December 31. Again, we are having a successful year with a forecast profit of about \$2,400, excluding potential unexpected expenses. The surplus is due in great part in substantial donations coming from the Orchid Society of Alberta, the Southern Ontario Orchid Society and the Society of Victoria. The expenses have been under control with the major outlays being, as usual, for the insurance plan and the travel subsidy program. The insurance plan is still viable with revenues being slightly ahead of cost; so no increase in dues for this purpose is envisaged at this point for the foreseeable future.

Eastern Canada OS Travel Grant

On Tuesday, October 21, 2014, world renown speaker Olaf Gruss, from Germany, visited the Eastern Canada Orchid Society (ECOS), thanks in part to the COC travel grant it received. Mr. Gruss gave a fascinating lecture, "News of the Slipper Orchids", which included old favorites as well as newly found and rarely seen plants from the genera Paphiopedilum, Phragmipedium, Selenipedium and Cypripedium. The lecture was very much enjoyed and very much appreciated by all who attended.

Thank you to the COC for the travel grant that helped make this visit possible.



President's Message

What a privilege it is to start the New Year by wishing all my orchid friends across the country a wonderful year ahead filled with joy, happiness, healthy roots and abundance of blooms!

The COC Executive Team continues to forge ahead in delivering our core mandate the last few months. In November, the Executive Team met virtually and discussed a number of priority action items, we also had the distinct opportunity to explore, review and deliberate potential collaborations on Education and Outreach with the [Orchid Species Preservation Foundation](#) (OSPF) in Alberta. The Web Modernization Team embarked on the infrastructure and content enhancements of the COC website, which some of you may have already noticed. Once completed, the COC website will be more responsive, mobile-friendly, and require less manual intervention when updating. The team is also reviewing existing contents, exploring further partnerships with other organizations such as the [American Orchid Society](#) (AOS), the [Royal Horticultural Society](#) (RHS) and the Japanese Orchid Growers Association (JOGA) on sharing of key information related to orchids. Our goal is to take full advantage of available technologies, provide our member societies and growers with accurate, up-to-date and user-friendly orchid information on-line. If you have contents that you would like to contribute to the COC for inclusion, I encourage you to write to me directly. The Web Modernization project is a medium-term project as the behind the scene work can be quite daunting (think of it as cleaning and organizing an old house with 25+ years' worth of "stuff" in it AND doing renovation at the same time!)

Each non-profit organization has a different set of opportunities by virtue of its mandate, history, size, geography, character of its board and leadership. With the sheer size and geographical diversity of our membership, I have always believed that COC is best served by having a diverse group of volunteers to assist the delivery of our mandate. The Executive Team and the Board of Directors are only handful of people, and there is no way we can possibly do everything the COC needs to achieve on an ongoing basis. In my last message, I reminded everyone of the [role of the COC Representatives](#), this is my plea to the member societies to ensure this role is being carried out in your respective society.

Organizations evolve and change overtime, and one must remain nimble and proactive in order to react to new sets of realities and limitations. With that in mind, the Membership Needs Assessment Survey is now on-line and I encourage you to spread the words within your society and invite all your members to participate this short online survey. [Link to Survey is here](#) This survey is open to everyone who belongs to a COC affiliated orchid society, response are collected on an individual basis. The purpose of this online survey are three fold:

1. identify the real needs of our membership so that the COC remain nimble and relevant as a service organization;
2. strengthen our relationship with member societies and the COC Representatives; and
3. the outcome of the survey will provide the executive team with critical intelligence in establishing and prioritizing a concrete yet attainable work plan for the next year.

Lastly, I am happy to report that I will represent the COC at the Japan Grand Prix International Orchid Festival at Tokyo Dome in February 2015. Also, Marlene Young, First VP, accepted an invitation from the European Orchid Congress to represent the COC in London, U.K. in April, 2015. With her experience as the editor and moderator of the COC's [Orchid Journal on Facebook](#), Marlene will participate at the Editor's Forum along with other key editors from the RHS and other orchid publications around the world. Both Marlene and I will report back to the membership in the very near future of progress and connections we made during these visits.

Last but definitely not least, may the New Year 2015 be as fresh as a half open Paphiopedilum flower bud, as vibrant as the colors on a Cattleya, and as blissful and exciting as the first big orchid order you received.

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Happy Growing!

Calvin Wong

President@canadianorchidcongress.ca

The Orchid Journal

Another exciting year for Orchid Journal and its fans!

The end of a fabulous, exhilarating year with you and Orchid Journal. We've doubled our fan base in less than 6 months with over 2,000 fans and continue to get feedback on what it is you want to follow.

It's quite clear that many of you are interested in terrestrials and our series on terrestrials, their locations with maps and news on endangered species continue to be favorites. Many of you wish to grow terrestrials either as potted plants or have them in your gardens. We'll try to provide even more information in the coming year.

Judging guidelines for ribbons or for shows is another area that many have followed and some are even surprised at the work being done with the AOS' SITF - Species Identification Task Force.

Cites guidelines have provided key points and references for many and links to our COC website remain a valuable and informative source for travellers and anyone importing orchids.

Our show display series contained some basic 'how to' information to get you started and our postings of awarded displays get oh so many comments.

And of course, our very very popular Halloween series is not to be missed!

We are extremely pleased and excited to accept an invitation to sit on the Editorial Forum of the next European Orchid Conference next spring in London, England and we promise to share some of the exciting directions that editors of magazines, including virtuals like OJ, are taking to expand and educate hobbyists around the world.

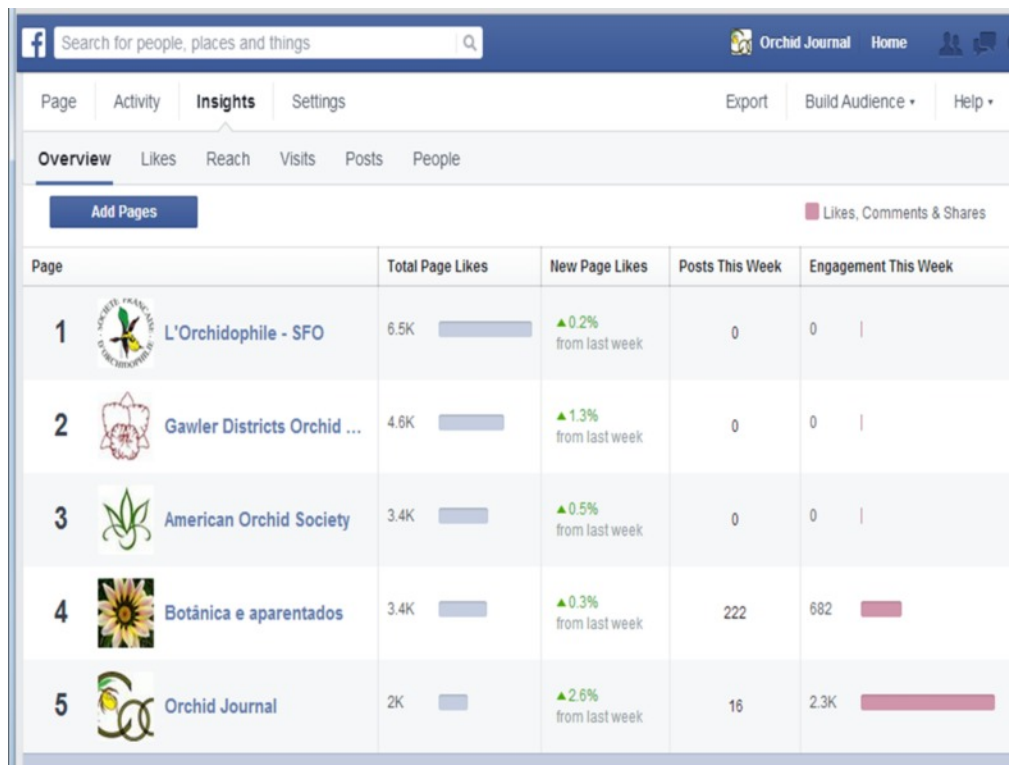
OJ leads the 'big' five in engagement! And yes, we continue to expand in Canada and the U.S. Take a look at our graph that shows the more popular Facebook sites in France, Australia and North America. It really isn't about the number of 'likes' but whether people actually follow, participate and share their views and comments and Orchid Journal certainly gets feedback with consistently more engagement than any of the others by a large margin regardless of the number of 'likes'.

We continue to receive comments/messages from around the world congratulating us on our quality of postings, many of them by our Canadian photographers, hobbyists and society FB administrators and publicity chairs.

Again, thank you to our fans. You never cease to amaze and educate us!

Have a wonderful holiday, Merry Christmas and we look forward to another fabulous year with all of you.

Happy postings, Marlene



Four Pairs, Eight of a Kind - The Confused Bifoliate Cattleyas

Notes by Greg Allikas

Pictures from Orchids Plus, by Greg Allikas or unknown

It is surprising to think that these orchids that have been such a part of the history of cultivated orchids are not better known. Yet *Cattleya walkeriana* and *C. nobilior*, *Cattleya loddigesii* and *C. harrisoniana*, *Cattleya granulosa* and *C. schofieldiana*, and *Cattleya guttata* and *C. tigrina* are still not clearly known by many orchid growers. In the past few years I have seen *Cattleya granulosa* exhibited as *C. schofieldiana*, *Cattleya tigrina* as *C. guttata*, and even some confusion regarding *Cattleya walkeriana*.

I have grown Brazil's bifoliate cattleyas for thirty years and had the opportunity to observe their growth patterns and their differences and similarities. I also own standard reference works on these orchids. This presentation will not deal with culture, judging or hybridizing. It will be focused on the identifiable characteristics that define the two species in each pair.

These eight orchids are grouped into pairs because at one time they were known as four species with four varieties. That is where their mistaken identities stem from. Today, we will set the record straight. I will offer just enough history to show where the confusion began then show you the differences between the species.

I will be offering identifying traits as "rules", but with orchids, there are always exceptions to the rule. As with all living things there is variation within a species and especially with orchids, there are hybrid "intergrades" and "swarms" that make these plants seem as if they are evolving before our very eyes. So each statement can be prefaced with "usually" or "generally"...but certainly not "always".

I will use photos of different flowers to illustrate the identifying characteristics.

Blooming season is the easiest way to identify an orchid species, and also the most unreliable. For any given plant; overall health and vigour, growing conditions and weather in any given year, genetic introgression from another species, or being recently imported from the southern hemisphere can all affect bloom time.



Cattleya walkeriana 2n and 4n *alba*



Cattleya nobilior

Cattleya walkeriana and *Cattleya nobilior*

Cattleya walkeriana flowers from December into March in the northern hemisphere, more in the fall in its native habitat. While our plants have always bloomed in January, looking through *AQ Plus* shows awards in every month except July through October. Like *Cattleya nobilior* it blooms from the base of the previous growth rather than the top of the pseudobulb. It is this similarity that probably caused early taxonomists to regard the two as the same species. *C. walkeriana* was described by Gardner in 1843 from a collection made a few years earlier near the Rio Sao Francisco in Minas Gerais, Brazil. The species is found in several different habitats in Minas Gerais down to its border with Sao Paulo state. Near the type locality, plants are found growing on branches of small streamside trees. Plants have a crawling habit with relatively long rhizomes. Pseudobulbs are short and squat, usually less than four inches tall and *bear a single leaf*. One or two 3-4" flowers are produced from the base of the pseudobulb on what amounts to an aborted new growth. There are some plants that flower occasionally or regularly from the apex of the pseudobulb. These probably represent some genetic influence from *Cattleya loddigesii* where their ranges overlap or from man-made hybrids between the two. There are also probably many more complex hybrids offered for sale as *C. walkeriana*. Flowers are typically rose lavender with a deeper-colored lip that has a *small patch of cream or yellow extending slightly beyond the base of the column. The side lobes of the*

lip are mere remnants and rolled back to fully expose the column. Blooming plants can be overpowering with their sweet fragrance. There are a number of named varieties including *bulbosa*, *alba*, *coerulea*, *semi-alba* and *concolor*.

Like *C. walkeriana*, *Cattleya nobilior* flowers from the base of a pseudobulb. For us, plants have always flowered a month or two after the previous species, in March or April. It was published several times in the *Gardner's Chronicle* in the late 19th century as *Cattleya walkeriana* var. *nobilior*. However Linden's plate which Reichenbach used for his type publication in 1883 clearly shows a distinct *species with two leaves*. *C. nobilior* is a species of the hot interior of Brazil and is found growing on stunted trees in Goias and Mato Grosso states. This is an extreme climate with a prolonged winter without rain. Francisco Miranda has told me that the region is virtually desert-dry for two or three months. Plants in cultivation seem to flower best if given a definite winter rest. The orchid has short, squat pseudobulbs like *C. walkeriana* but they bear two leaves instead of one. Two or three 3-4" rose-lavender flowers are borne on a basal stalk. Flower color is usually paler than *C. walkeriana* and *the side lobes of the lip fold over to conceal part or all of the column. Lip color is the same as petals or slightly darker and there is a distinct cream-yellow reniform or rhomboidal patch on the center of the mid lobe.* There are several named varieties including *huguenei*, *coerulea* and *amaliae*. The latter has become popular in collections in recent years and is described as a blush lavender-pink flower with a yellow patch on the mid lobe veined in deep reddish lavender.



Cattleya loddigesii, type 2



Cattleya harrisoniana

Cattleya loddigesii and *Cattleya harrisoniana*

Cattleya loddigesii is a popular and beautiful species that for us usually blooms from January through March and sometimes April. Before going further, I will mention that over the years I have observed two "types" of *C. loddigesii*. The first type has greater numbers of smaller flowers with narrower segments and a tubular lip that is closer to perpendicular to the petals and sepals. The second type has only a few larger flowers with fuller segments and a lip that is downturned and closer to parallel to the petals and sepals. The first type is more commonly encountered in older literature and collections. The second type is more commonly seen today. This newer type seems to have begun in the trade with the clone 'Carina' which received an 89pt AM for Jones & Scully in 1987. The plant came from their then new partnership with Equilab in Brazil. I have spoken with several knowledgeable individuals regarding these two types and nobody seems to be able to offer a definitive explanation. The possibilities include:

1. Type 1 is an intergrade with *C. harrisoniana*.
2. There are two distinct races of the species.
3. Type 2 is the result of line breeding of select parents.

I favour the third explanation because these plants are often shorter which can be a characteristic of colchicine-treated tetraploids that might have been used in a line breeding program. All other identifying factors of both types are consistent with *C. loddigesii*.

Cattleya loddigesii was discovered in the early part of the nineteenth century around Sao Paulo. It was first described by Loddiges as *Epidendrum violaceum* in 1819. It was later appropriately transferred to *Cattleya* and republished in honor of its first author by Lindley in *Collectanea Botanica* for 1826. It is a species of riverside forests of Sao Paulo, Minas Gerais and extreme western Rio de Janeiro, usually found at elevations of 500-1000m. Pseudobulbs are 15-40cm tall, narrower at the bottom than the top and carry a pair of thick elliptic leaves. Leaf color is medium green, sometimes tinged or spotted with purple. Three to six (or two or three) 3-½-4" flowers are produced from a **dried sheath on a growth matured the previous season**. Flower color is uniform light rose-lavender. Labellum is distinctly three lobed with the exterior of the side lobes the same color as the segments or lighter. Interior of the labellum is a pale cream-yellow with the distal half of the mid lobe overlaid medium lavender. This lip coloration is very dominant and *C. loddigesii* hybrids can be easily identified by the cream-yellow lip with a lavender splotch at the tip. There are **six moderately deep keels that begin at the base of the midlobe and extend to just beyond the tip of the column. Sepals and petals have slight to heavy spotting on the backs and sometimes the front**. There is a horticultural variety known as *punctata* that has flowers covered in fine lavender-red spots. There are also *coerulea* and *alba* varieties, the latter of which was important in the breeding of multifloral "cocktail" corsage orchids of the post-war years. There is a natural hybrid with *C. guttata* called *C. x hybrida* that is somewhat common in orchid collections.

Cattleya harrisoniana was never formally published as a variety of *C. loddigesii* although it had been grown as such in mid-nineteenth century England. Lindley published the species as *Cattleya harrisoniana* as a short entry without illustration in the *Botanical Register* of 1836. Two years later Bateman republished the species as *C. harrisoniae* in his *Magazine of Botany*. An illustration accompanied his arguments why it should be a distinct species. Of course Lindley's earlier name has precedence so the species is correctly, *C. harrisoniana*. The species is found in low elevation streamside or swampy forests in Rio de Janeiro and Espirito Santo states. At one time it was fairly common in the swamps just outside of Rio de Janeiro city. While superficially similar to the previous species, the differences are quite evident. *C. harrisoniana* flowers at Christmas time in Brazil, and usually toward the **end**

of May and into June here in the US. It **flowers from a green sheath shortly after the new growth hardens off its two grass-green leaves**, producing 3-5 **dark rose-lavender flowers** measuring 3-4". **The midlobe of the labellum has six or seven deeply corrugated ridges that run from the base of the column to beyond the tip of the column. These keels are of very thick substance. The lip encircles the column and the distal portions of the side lobes are deeply reflexed backwards. Lateral sepals are often falcate or bow legged in appearance. Petals and sepals do not show any spotting on the front or back.** There is an *alba* variety of *C. harrisoniana* as well as natural hybrids with *C. forbesii* (*C. x venosa*), *C. leopoldii* (*C. x duveenii*) and *C. schilleriana* (*C. x lucieniana*).

There are known natural intergrades between the two species, the clone "Impassionata" being a well known example.



Cattleya granulosa



Cattleya schofieldiana

Cattleya granulosa* and *Cattleya schofieldiana

Confusing *Cattleya granulosa* and *Cattleya schofieldiana* is probably the most drastic mistake that can be made among these eight species. The two really have very little in common other than a textured spade lip.

There had been some confusion with the original imports from the Organ Mountains in Brazil and a few erroneous descriptions including one as *C. guttata*. Some authorities even went so far as referring to this orchid's origins as being Guatemala. Often this kind of misinformation was promulgated to send would-be collectors way off course thereby preserving an exclusive source of product for the original finder. In the end, Lindley's publication in the *Botanical Register* of 1842 as *Cattleya granulosa* stands. This orchid is **found in the state of Pernambuco** near the "hump" of Brazil. There it grows on trees in coastal swamps at sea level. A mature *C. granulosa* in bloom is a majestic orchid that commands attention in much the same way as *C. amethystoglossa*. **Plants are 10-30" tall** depending on clone and culture and are topped by two or three thick elliptic leaves. Five to nine flowers are produced **from a green or dried sheath in May or June shortly after the leaves of the new growth harden off. Strong plants can produce up to 15 or more flowers per inflorescence. Flower size is between 10-14 cm and flowers can be taller than wide. Flowers have a thick waxy texture and are usually olive green with or without maroon-red spots.** Like *C. forbesii* the brilliance of the green color can depend on the amount of light the developing inflorescence receives. Lower light will suppress anthocyanin and produce purer green color. Lateral sepals are sharply falcate giving the flowers a bow-legged appearance. The labellum is three-lobed and distinctly isthmus, or a "spade lip". This trait is dominant in hybrids and carries through for several generations. The side lobes of the lip fold over the column to conceal it except where they don't quite join along the midline revealing a narrow slice of the column. **The apex of the midlobe is reniform (kidney shaped) and the upper surface is covered with granular protrusions giving the species its name.** The base color of the lip is cream and the spade part varying degrees of red magenta, sometimes as stripes along the raised protrusions. Often the distal margin of the midlobe is white. In bright light under magnification, the lip can look like it is sprinkled with tiny rubies. Flowers usually have a sweet spicy

fragrance. There are several named varieties including *buyssoniana*, *russelliana* and *Souvenir de Raymond Storms*. The first of these varieties is often used to designate plants with albino flowers.

Reichenbach described *Cattleya schofieldiana* in the *Gardner's Chronicle* in 1882 from a plant flowered by Mr. G. Law Schofield in Manchester that same year. While he recognized the similarities to *C. granulosa*, he also noted the differences and gave it species rank of its own. Subsequent botanists including Veitch and Rolfe relegated it to being a variety of *C. granulosa* and this trend persists through misinformation. *C. schofieldiana* is found far to the south of *C. granulosa* in a small area of Espirito Santo above 800m. There it can be found growing not high up in small guava trees. While the flowers may resemble *C. granulosa* at first glance, the differences are distinct. Most significantly, **it flowers from a dried sheath in the summer**, sometimes as late as Early September. *C. schofieldiana* **never produces the number of flowers** that *C. granulosa* does with 3-6 being the average. **The flowers have a similar olive to brown-olive base color but are always spotted. Often the red-maroon spots are ringed with a lighter color than the base making an attractive spotted cat appearance.** This species has the similar "bow-legged" quality of *C. granulosa* due to the falcate lateral sepals. But where the petals and sepals of *C. granulosa* are all on the same plane, the sepals of *C. schofieldiana* can twist and turn giving the flowers and very ungainly look. **The petals of *C. schofieldiana* are much narrower at the base than at the end and the margins are quite undulated.** Finally, Fowlie refers to **the granulations on the midlobe of the labellum as "hair-like asperities, fuzz"**, that is, longer and raised more.



Cattleya guttata



Cattleya tigrina

Cattleya guttata and *Cattleya tigrina*

Cattleya guttata is the name used indiscriminately to apply to any tall bifoliate *Cattleya* with spotted greenish flowers. As we will see there are easy to diagnose characteristics that separate this species from *Cattleya tigrina*, formerly known as *C. leopoldii*. First, let me say that I was a holdout applying the name *Cattleya tigrina*. When I first read Braem's proposal that this was the correct name for *C. leopoldii* in his book, *Cattleya: The Brazilian Bifoliate Cattleyas* I dismissed it. In this book, which is essentially a paraphrasing of Fowlie's *The Brazilian Bifoliate Cattleyas and Their Color Varieties*, Braem states Fowlie's dismissal of the *C. tigrina* is based partly on the fact that Richard's original type for that species has not been found. Then he goes on to say, "This does not mean that such a type does not exist". That conjecture did not carry much weight with me. Either Braem was psychic, or made a very lucky guess because the type did indeed show up exactly where he suggested it would, in a Paris herbarium. That was enough to convince me and I myself now accept *Cattleya tigrina* as the correct name for the species known as *Cattleya leopoldii*. So does the Kew Monocot Checklist. Now let's look at the differences between *C. guttata* and *C. tigrina*.

Cattleya guttata was described by Lindley in the *Botanical Register* for 1831 from material sent to the Royal Horticultural Society from Brazil. There was some confusion with *Cattleya elatior* which Lindley also published, then reduced to synonymy, but *C. guttata* has been a good name since its original publication. *Cattleya guttata* is found at moderate

elevations in Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Espirito Santo in Brazil. It is primarily a species of the coast but can be found seventy or eighty miles inland and up to 200m elevation. One habitat that is amazing to see in person is the sand dunes at Cabo Frio. There huge plants of *C. guttata* can be found growing in low scrub with roots extending into the dunes. *Cattleya intermedia* shares this habitat. *Cattleya guttata* is the tallest of all the cattleyas with plants sometimes reaching 4ft or even taller. The tall pseudobulbs are topped with two *or often three narrowly elliptic leaves*. Flowers are produced from a dried sheath in late summer. For us, plants bloom in August. An inflorescence can carry as many as 40 flowers but 15 to 30 is more usual. The flowers are 7-8 cm wide but often have a vertical aspect to them. Color can be light olive green to tan to sienna brown but always with fine maroon-red spotting over both petals and sepals. *Lateral sepals are falcate giving a bow legged appearance and the petal margins are slightly undulate*. The lip is three-lobed with the midlobe slightly retuse and furrowed from the base to the apex. The part extending beyond the column is deep orchid-lavender. The side lobes of the labellum are white or blushed with orchid-lavender and *clasp the column tightly concealing it from all but a direct front view*. Plants can be up to 5ft tall and bear 15-30 flowers. Flowers have a witch hazel-like fragrance that is very distinct from that of *C. tigrina*.

Cattleya tigrina was first described by A. Richard in the French publication *Portefeuille des horticulteurs* Vol. II for 1848. That predates Lemaire's official publication as *Cattleya leopoldii* by some seven years and Lemaire's horticultural naming as same by six years. It is unfortunate that in his description Lemaire also referred to the plant as *Cattleya guttata* var. *leopoldii* in the fine print. Because of his remarks, that name has followed this species ever since and was supported by numerous botanists including Veitch, Reichenbach, Rolfe, Sander and Linden to name a few. *Cattleya tigrina* is found in the coastal swamps of Santa Catarina. It is a tall plant, though not as tall as *C. guttata* and plants don't often grow taller than a meter. The pseudobulbs are thicker than the previous species and are topped *by two elliptic leaves*. Typically 10-20 flowers are produced from *a green sheath in the late spring or early summer*. Our plants have always bloomed toward the end of May. Healthy plants can produce forty or more flowers. Flowers measure 8-10cm and have a base color of tan to sienna and are covered with maroon-red spots that can

coalesce to form dark patches. Lateral sepals are falcate but broader than *C. guttata*. Petal margins are markedly undulate. The labellum is three-lobed with the *side lobes enclose the column but not tightly and are sliced back at an angle to reveal the column when the flower is viewed in profile*. When viewed from the front, the side lobes have *wide sinuses so that there is space between them and the column*. The *midlobe is distinctly reniform* and deeply furrowed. Side lobes can be white but are more often suffused with deep orchid-lavender. The midlobe is deep orchid-lavender.

To the casual observer it may be easy to misidentify any of the two species in these four pairs of bifoliate cattleyas. Hopefully this presentation of the distinguishing characteristics of each, will allow even the casual orchid hobbyist to identify these eight species with reasonable accuracy.

Canadian Native Orchid Preservation - Request for Expertise and Knowledge.

The Orchid Species Preservation Foundation is a non profit charitable organization that manages the Orchid collection at the Muttart conservatory in Edmonton Alberta. We are currently working on the initial stages of a project to harvest, propagate and re-introduce Canadian native orchids into the wild with MacEwan University and the Wagner Natural Area society.

We would like to tap into the collective expertise and knowledge of the Canadian orchid community to compile a repository of collective knowledge on this subject. The University will complete a formal academic literature search, so we are looking for any advice on techniques for collecting seed pods, propagating, transplanting Canadian native species that the non academic world has found to work.

Once collated our hope would be to make this available to all Canadian Orchid Society's for use by their members.

If you would like to share your knowledge on this subject please e-mail Mr Barry Storeshaw at biobs@telus.net “

Orchid Specialist Group

The last issue of the Orchid Specialist Group newsletter has been published with a focus on North American items including the IUCN World Parks Congress and the CCIUCN Youth initiative. Also the COC Certificate Award to the Reddochs was reported in the OSG newsletter.

You can access the OSG Conservation News at the OSG website under Newsletters
<http://www.iucn.org/orchid>

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IMPORTANT NOTICE for SOCIETY FACEBOOK ADMINISTRATORS -

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Thank you and if you have any questions feel free to contact me.

Marlene

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Windsor Orchid Society (WOS) AOS Judged Show held in October 2014

The WOS is very proud and excited to have hosted a very successful, second annual International AOS judged orchid show and sale on October 25th and 26th of 2014. The show was well attended with a count of over 900 people participating during the two day event. People came from all over southwestern Ontario and from Michigan to view the spectacular exhibits and purchase beautiful and rare orchids from the vendors. Vendors have been excited to participate in our show and we hosted many of our favorite vendors from Ontario such as Marsh Hollow, Crystal Star, Ravenvision and Orchids in our Tropics to name a few. We also had the privilege of having Piping Rock Orchids from the United States and Ecuagenera from Ecuador as vendors at the show. Needless to say that there were orchids to satisfy everyone's desire!

The show was hosted at the end of October and, being around the Halloween season, a welcome display was there to greet our guests upon their entrance into the venue. The fun and spooky display featured three witches and a



bubbling cauldron accompanied by bats, cats and crows! Beyond the welcome display people ventured into the display area. The fragrance and number of orchids was hypnotizing. There were so many outstanding exhibits including one by Marsh Hollow Orchids that won the AOS Show Trophy. Congratulations Mario Ferrusi! The show also featured an art and photography exhibit that was even larger than the one the prior year with many paintings and photographs displayed. The vendor area was a flurry of activity as orchid enthusiasts searched for their favorite orchids. Certainly people were not disappointed in the variety of vendors and orchids alike.

One of the mandates of the WOS is to promote and educate the public about orchid culture and preservation. This show allowed us the opportunity to promote

awareness of the beauty of orchids and the need to foster the culture and preservation of these unique plants. To advance this mandate, free seminars were presented for the public on the Sunday afternoon which received great reviews in the feedback from the attendees.

We would like to thank all our presenters for their time, expertise and their passion to promote orchid culture and express our appreciation to the vendors, exhibitors and of course the public for their interest and participation in the WOS show.

For show results and additional photos, please visit our website: <http://www.windsororchidsociety.ca/>

The Windsor Orchid Society – 2014 Travel Grant

Many would think that, being so close to the US border, the Windsor Orchid Society (WOS) would have access to an array of speakers and programs unique to most Ontario societies. Unfortunately, border crossing for our American friends is now a much more involved process and it dissuades many potential speakers from coming to talk to us. This is especially true if they would like to sell plants to our members to make it a financially viable trip.

As a result, we call upon our Ontario retailers and growers to travel the distance to Windsor and speak to our membership on a more frequent basis. The travel costs can add up and the Travel Grant awarded to our Society for 2014 helped to offset some of these costs. This year, the WOS used the grant toward the cost of having three noted orchidists speak at our Orchid Show on October 25th & 26th. Not only did our membership benefit from their lectures but the general public attending the show appreciated learning from them and gained a better appreciation for the hobby. The lectures were all well attended and a lot of questions were put to our panel of lecturers – Doug Kennedy, Jay Norris and Mario Ferrusi. In addition, John Marcotte, of Hamilton, came to speak to us at a General Membership Meeting on an earlier date.

The members of the WOS would like to thank the Canadian Orchid Congress for their financial assistance in procuring the talents and knowledge of these speakers.

*A Special Invitation to Attend the 28.
Annual COC Hosted by the
Saskatchewan Orchid Society in
Saskatoon in 2015*

The Saskatchewan Orchid Society (SOS) is proud to host **The Canadian Orchid Congress Show March 27 - 29, 2015 in Saskatoon, SK.** The theme of the Show is **"For the Love of Orchids."** This AOS judged show will be held in conjunction with Gardenscape which is the number one rated garden show in Western Canada. Plans for the event are progressing well with **ten educational presentations** already scheduled for the show. **Nine vendors** have taken advantage of the 'Early Bird Special' and have registered for the show. Check the SOS website for the schedule of speakers and the list of vendors. The **COC Annual Meeting** will be held at Prairieland Park in Hall A on Sunday morning, March 29th. We are expecting to have a great show attended by both orchid experts, new enthusiasts and the general public.

So, why not consider being a **delegate**? You will have the privilege of having first chance to buy orchids from vendors from around the world on Thursday evening prior to Gardenscape and the COC being open to the general public.

After the shopping spree, you can relax and enjoy socializing with your orchid friends at the **Wine and Cheese** right in the COC show area. **The Wine and Cheese social event, including the pre shopping will be open only to delegates and AOS judges.**

Being a delegate also entitles you to a **3-day pass to Gardenscape** (\$26 value). With this comes the opportunity to listen to experts speak on orchid topics. Come to one talk or come to them all. (Non-delegates will be charged \$5 admission at the door).

An **orchid seedling** will also be supplied to delegates at the **potting demonstration**. The general public will also be able to partake in this event at a cost of \$10. Delegates will also receive a **banquet ticket**. Extra banquet tickets can be purchased at a cost of \$40. The food at Prairieland promises to be fabulous and during the evening we will be treated to a power point with great photos of the prize winning orchids from the 2015 COC.

Last, but not least will be the **silent auction** table. This is always a favorite of all delegates.

This is your chance to be a delegate at the 2nd COC that Saskatoon has hosted.

So, what does it **cost to be a delegate**? The price for delegates who register and make payment **prior to**

For the Love of Orchids

28th Annual Canadian Orchid Congress Show

proudly hosted by
The Saskatchewan Orchid Society

March 27 to 29, 2015

during
Gardenscape 2015
at

Prairieland Park
503 Ruth Street West
Saskatoon, Sask.

More information at: www.saskorchids.com
www.gardenscapeshow.ca



January 31, 2015 will be \$85. Purchase after that date, the cost will be **\$100** (Purchased individually, the **value of all of the above is over \$120.**)

This is your chance to be a delegate at the 2nd COC. It will truly be a wonderful chance to enjoy orchids and friends. The **delegate registration form is on the SOS website.**

Check the newly reconstructed website (www.saskorchids.com) for more information about the event. If you have any questions please contact one of the following:

Show Co-Chairs:

Cheryl Adamson: orchidcrazy.cheryl@gmail.com

Telephone (306)477-0807 (evenings and weekends).

Heather Anderson: heather.2015coc@gmail.com,

Telephone (306) 343 -1310, Fax. (306) 244-0275.

COMING EVENTS

2015

Feb 14-15: The Southern Ontario Orchid Society at the Toronto Botanical Garden, Edwards Gardens. "<http://www.soos.ca/>"

Feb 28 - Mar 1: Orchid Society of the Royal Botanical Gardens, 680 Plains Rd., Burlington "<http://www.osrbg.ca/>"

March 21-22: London Orchid Society. For show information: "<http://los.lon.imag.net/>"

March 27-29: The Saskatchewan Orchid Society will be hosting the COC Show "For the Love of Orchids" in conjunction with Gardenscape at Pairieland Park, 503 Ruth Street West, Saskatoon, SK. For more information see the website www.saskorchids.com or email Heather Anderson at heather.2015COC@gmail.com

April 11-12: [The Toronto Artistic Orchid Association](#) Show, CICS (Centre for Information and Community Service), 2330 Midland Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario, M1S 5G5, (N.W. Off HWY 401/Midland) For show information: info.taoa@yahoo.ca
Hours: Sat - 11:00-6:00; Sun - Photographers 8:00-10:00, general 10:00-5:00

April 18-19: [The Ottawa Orchid Society](#) 34th Annual Orchid Show and Sale, Nepean Sportplex, 1701 Woodroffe Ave., Ontario. Show Chairman: Dave Cooper, e-mail: david_cooper@storm.ca 613-256-2853.

June 5 - 6: Bruce Peninsula Orchid Festival. Celebrate the diversity and beauty of wild blooming native orchids and wildflowers in their unique natural habitat on the Bruce Peninsula. Naturalist guided hikes, car caravans, photography workshops, celebratory wine & cheese reception and speaker presentations cap this festival, headquartered at Parks Canada Visitor Centre. The events schedule and registration online at www.orchidfest.ca, starting May 2015.

Get your show dates, with details, to the COC editor.

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COCnews

The purpose of COCnews is to inform members of the meetings, policies of the COC, to profile members, and to provide technical information regarding happenings, trends and techniques in orchid cultivation across the country and around the world.

We welcome your suggestions and contributions. Deadline for each issue is one month before the issue dates previously announced.

Recipients of this newsletter are urged to pass a copy on to other members of their society.

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