

## THINK SMALL

### ...and discover the might of miniature Cattleyas

FRANK FORDYCE

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In beginning our hybridizing program of miniatures I naturally turned to the *sophronitis* line of breeding because of its diminutive plant size, fine form, and brilliant red color. Another obvious species to use was *C. luteola*. Because of its multiple blooms (up to 9 per stem), ease of bloom, small plant size, and yellow coloring and past performance, this was "a must." *C. aelandiae* was not to be overlooked as a valuable dwarfing influence. *L. milleri* for its dwarfness, bright color and long stem influence. From these backgrounds came such beautiful hybrids as *Sl. Psyche*, *Slc. Yellow Doll*, *Slc. Yum Yum*, *Sc. Doris*, *Slc. Precious Stones*, *Slc. Dixie Jewels*, and scores more. Can you imagine such crosses as (*Slc. Hazel Boyd* x *Slc. Yellow Doll*), (*Slc. Madge Fordyce* x *Sl. Gratrixiae*), (*L. milleri* x *C. luteola*)? These are just a beginning for we cannot overlook *C. walkeriana*, *C. schilleriana*, *C. violacea*, *C. superba*, *C. nobilior*, many of the 28 valid species of the rupicolous (rock growing) laelias, *L. breigeri*, *L. esalqueana*, *L. flava* and *L. long-*



*ipes*, *L. lundii*, *L. dayana* and other possibilities. And what of *Leptotes bicolor*? The many small-bulbed encyclia *Epidendrums*, *Broughtonias*, and of course, the myriad of exciting combinations possible by the use of these plants. Until now only a few have observed combinations such as the following interesting genera:

Brassophronitis (Bnts.) Brassavola x Sophronitis  
 Cattleyopsis (Ctps.) Natural genus  
 Cattleyopsistonia (Ctpsta.) Broughtonia x Cattleyopsis  
 Cattletonia (Ctna.) Broughtonia x Cattleya  
 Epitonia (Eptn.) Broughtonia x Epidendrum  
 Fujiwarara (Fjw.) Brassavola x Cattleya x Laeliopsis  
 Gauntlettara (Gtra.) Broughtonia x Cattleyopsis x Laeliopsis  
 Hartara (Hart.) Broughtonia x Laelia x Sophronitis  
 Laelonia (Lna.) Broughtonia x Laelia  
 Stanfieldara (Stdra.) Epicattleya x Sophrolaelia  
 Rolfeara (Rolf.) Brassavola x Cattleya x Sophronitis  
 Leptolaelia (Lptl.) Leptolaelia  
 Jimenzaree (Jmzra.) Broughtonia x Laelia x Laeliopsis

These are but a few of the imaginative hybrids possible. Do they stimulate your minds to even new combinations? As you can readily see, there are many directions to follow in the "miniature cattleya-type" breeding line.

If you appreciate the saving of money, increasing the quantity and variety of your collection while retaining the square footage, for a small effort you too can discover the might of the miniatures.

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*Orch. Dig.*, Jan.-Feb. 1982

## Programs Available from the Orchid Digest Corporation

Please reserve the programs you desire well in advance of the time you wish them and return them together with the script within two (2) days after your presentation, by priority mail, insured for \$100.

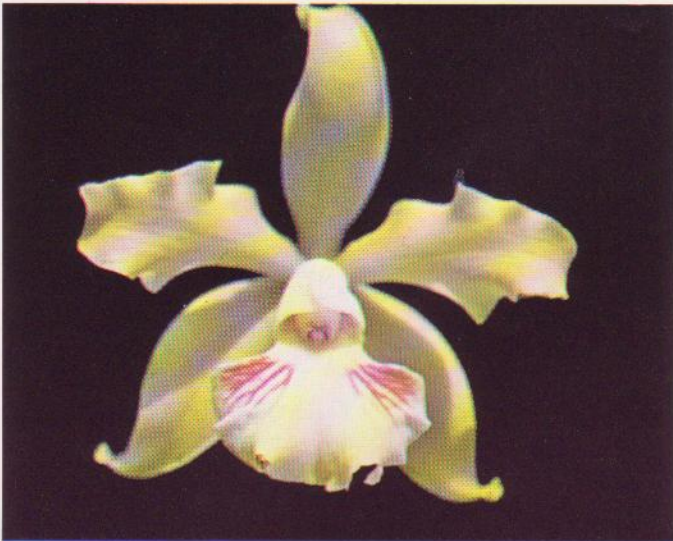
- "Orchid Ramblings" — by Leo Holguin. This program comes with 84 slides and script.
- "Orchid Exhibits Around The World" — Another program by Leo Holguin. This program comes with 60 slides and script.
- "Prize Winning Cymbidiums — and Why." This is the first of a new series of programs being developed called "Sixteen Minutes." They are "mini programs." These programs are being developed by the kind folks at Fred A. Stewart Orchids, San Gabriel, California.
- "Yes Sir, That Is An Orchid" — by Dr. Harold P. Hargreaves. Comes with slides, script and cassette recording of script. Running time — 29 minutes.
- "Growing Orchids Under Light" — by Pat Pettit. Comes with slides, script and cassette recording of script. This is an excellent program.
- "Orchid Culture" — Another fine program by Leo Holguin of Armacost and Royston, Carpinteria, California. Comes with slides and script.
- "Paph Species and Modern Hybrids" — by Imogene Keyes. 51 slides and script. This program has just been recently redone and upgraded.
- "How To Grow Sturdier Plants With Radiant Energy" — by Sylvania Electric Products, Inc. 41 slides and script.
- "The Genus Masdevallia" — by Ron Hawley. 120 slides and script.
- "Specimen Plants" — Another fine program by Leo Holguin. 48 slides and script.
- "Growing Odontoglossums In Southern California" — by R. B. Dugger. 41 slides and script.
- "Heinecke Heritage — Geneology of a Giant" — by E. B. Horton, Jr. 57 slides, script and cassette of script.
- "Plants and Arrangements — Western Orchid Congress" (March 4, 1971 at Anaheim, CA) — by Carol Baughman. 69 slides and script.
- "Angraecoids of Madagascar" — Fred E. Hillerman. 46 slides and script.
- "The Wonderful World of Orchid Species" — by Dr. Rolf L. Bolin. 79 slides and script.
- "40 Species Everyone Should Have In Their Greenhouse" — by Fordyce "Red" Marsh. 77 slides and script.

We do have some other new programs promised which we are looking forward to. As always, we are in need of new program material. If any members of your society have presented programs, especially on culture of individual genus, please have them contact me about sharing their programs with us and other societies through us.

With all good wishes for HAPPY ORCHID GROWING, I remain . . .

LOUIS CORTOPASSI, *Program Aids Chairman*  
 23644 Ave. 14 — Madera, CA 93637  
 (209) 674-7978





*Cattleya Amulet*. This remarkable novelty cross is the product of *Cattleya Iris* (a primary hybrid of *Cattleya bicolor* x *C. dowiana*), crossed with *Cattleya velutina*.



*Bc. Praetii* 'Leprechaun.' Ironically enough, using the *Cattleya leopoldii* var. *alba* crossed with *Brassavola digbyana*, two pure white, greenish species, has given this hybrid with colored lip. Note the fimbriation of the labellum both above and below lent by the *Brassavola* parent.



*Cattleya aelandiae* Lindley. This very rare species is a native of the state of Bahia in northeast Brazil, where it is now almost extinct in nature. Closely related to *C. schilleriana*, the spectacular spotting of the sepals and petals of these two species is very striking. It has a tendency to give the rambling dwarf growth, which characterizes the species, to its hybrid progeny. Curiously, it flowers without a sheath, the new leaves enclosing the buds which they reveal as the leaves open longitudinally.



*Cattleya schilleriana* Rchb.f. This species occurs in a very limited district of Espirito Santo in east-central Brazil.



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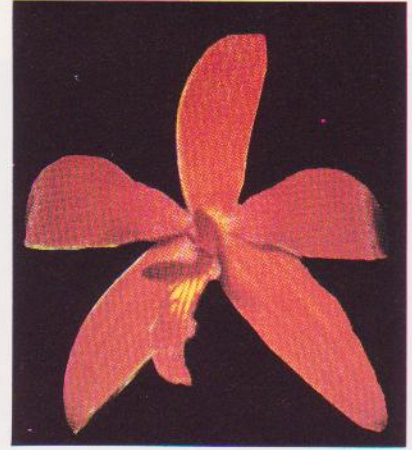
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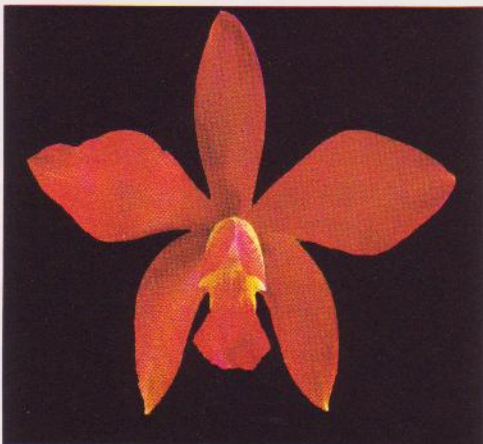


*Slc. Falcon 'Westonbirt'*, FCC/RHS, AOS/ODC (*Lc. Aureole* x *S. coccinea*). A glowing combination of the species *Sophronitis*, *Cattleya dowiana* and *C. bicolor*, with *Laelia tenebrosa*. This scarlet-red has, for many years, been the crown-jewel of the cattleya world because of its intense pure coloring. Of the two famous *Slc. Falcons* this variety consistently blooms 3-4 times per year in Southern California with better form than variety 'Alexanderi.' Viable seed has been harvested from 'Westonbirt' as well as 'Alexanderi' and we look forward to their progeny with great hope.

*Sl. Psyche*, originally made by Charlesworth in 1902, this cross between *Laelia cinnabarina* x *Sophronitis coccinea* was one of the first novelty, miniature red hybrids to start the craze towards further improvement. Today, seventy years later, we appear crossing the threshold of that striving.



*Sophronitis acuensis* Fowl. A species thus far found only on the heights of the Pico da Acu and the Organ Mountains in Brazil, 6,400 feet elevation. This example flowered in February 1978 just after the warmest part of the year in Brazil. Evolved for very cold climates. (See *Orch. Dig.*, July-Aug., pp. 146-151, 1975.)



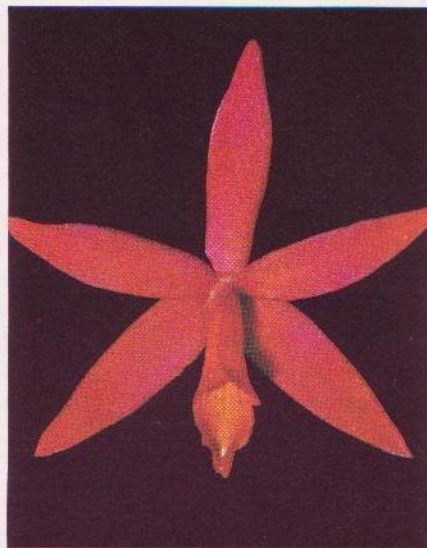
*Sc. Cleopatra 'Mia'*, HCC/ODC (*C. leopoldii* x *S. coccinea*), Charlesworth, 1898. Originally made by Charlesworth in 1898, this cross has been remade several times in recent years. Sander's shows five crosses registered for this plant through 1945. Since that time through 1966, no crosses have been registered. It is known that it is now being used for breeding, and some notable reds and allied colors are being obtained.



## *Laelia milleri* and Some of Its Novelty Red Hybrids

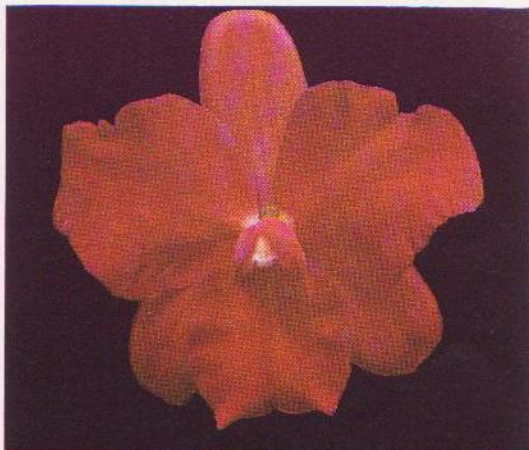
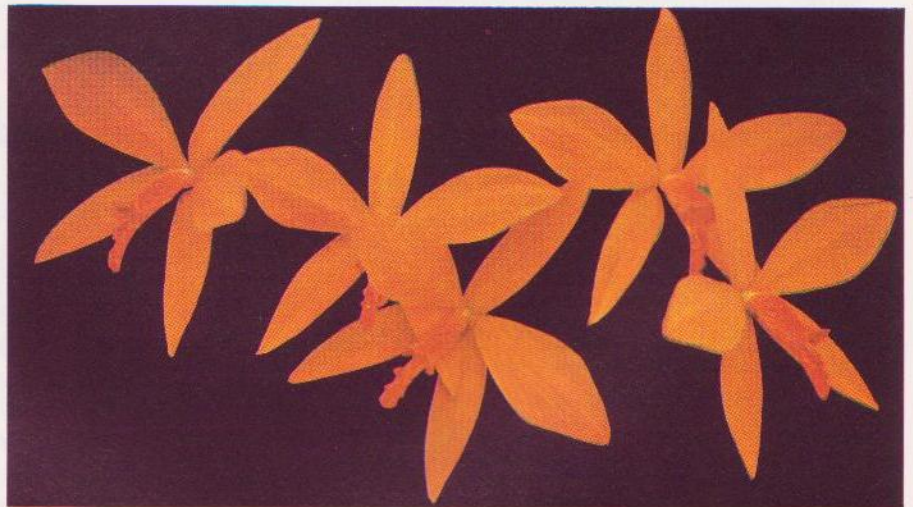


*Laelia milleri* Blumenschein var. *rubra* Hort. Since its discovery and description in 1960 *Laelia milleri*, particularly its deep red variety, var. *rubra* Hort., has been anticipated to lend another means of breeding for red hybrids. Its use with the red variety of *Cattleya aurantiaca* has produced *Laeliocattleya* Rojo; and with *Sophranitis coccinea* var. *militaris* it has produced *Sophranlaelia* Jinn.



*Laeliocattleya* Rojo (*Laelia milleri* x *Cattleya aurantiaca*). This hybrid grows to about 18" in height, simulating the habit of both parents. It is summer flowering and of very much easier cultivation than red cattleyas bred from *Sophranitis*.

*Sl. Marriottiana* #1 (*Laelia flava* x *Sophranitis coccinea*). A primary hybrid, this cross ranges from yellow to orange shades as shown here. Growth habit, quite dwarf. (Probably "*L. flava* var. *rubra*," later called *L. milleri* was used before its modern name. . . . Ed.)



*Slc. Madge Fordyce* 'Red Orb' (*Slc. Doris* 'Pamela', AM/AOS x *Slc. Jewel Box* 'Scheherazade,' AM/RHS). A remarkable cross because of the results which are superb and the improbability as most Jewel Boxes are sterile. *Slc. Jewel Box* 'Scheherazade' is a dark plum red and one of the best of this famous cross. The average for the cross has been very high although there were few plants of the cross.