

Species Report

***Aerangis articulata* (Rchb.f.) Schltr., Orchideen Beschreib. Kult. Zücht.: 597 (1914).**

Synonyms

Angraecum articulatum Rchb.f., Gard. Chron. 1872: 73 (1872).
Angorkis articulata (Rchb.f.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 651 (1891).
Rhaphidorhynchus articulatus (Rchb.f.) Poiss., Rech. Fl. Mérid. Madagascar: 185 (1912).
Angraecum descendens Rchb.f., Gard. Chron., n.s., 17: 558 (1882).
Angraecum calligerum Rchb.f., Gard. Chron., ser. 3, 2: 552 (1887).
Aerangis venusta Schltr., Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 15: 334 (1918).
Aerangis calligera (Rchb.f.) Garay, Bot. Mus. Leafl. 23: 373 (1974).

Aergs. articulata consists of rather large plants which grow on the trunk and major branches of large forest trees in Madagascar.

This species is easily recognized by its large, star-like (not reflexed) flowers. The medium-size flowers are pure white or cream-colored when fresh but bruise easily, becoming brownish. The pointed sepals often appear winged, with thickened ridge on the outer surface along the midline. The petals and lip are similar but lack the thickened part (Stewart, 1986).

It is sometimes confused with *Aerangis modesta* but has fewer, larger flowers with a longer spur.

The following summary taken from the book *An Introduction to the Cultivated Angraecoid Orchids of Madagascar* (Hillerman and Holst 1986) is an excellent description of this unique Orchid:

“This is one of the finest of the genus *Aerangis*. The flowers are of the purest white, very nicely scented, and held on cascading inflorescences in which all the flowers open together and are well arranged”

According to *Orchid Pro*, *Aergs. articulata* earned 13 AOS awards, 9 AM awards, 1 HCC, 1 CBR, 1 CBM and 1 ACM.



Photo: Arthur Pinkers

Aerangis articulata 'Arabella' AM/AOS (81 points)

Just 9 grexes are registered among three generations of hybrids, *Aergs.* Amado Vasquez (*Aergs. cryptodon* x *Aergs. articulata*) is the most awarded. 3 AOS AM, 1 HCC, 1 CCM and 1 JC. it combines the best features of both parents, the sturdiness of *Aergs. cryptodon* and a pendent grace inflorescence of *Aerangis articulata*.

Aergs Winter Snow (Second Generation). *Aergs. Kotschyana* x *Aergs. Amado Vasquez* earned 4 AOS awards. Flat flowers with flower segments fuller are the main feature of this beautiful cross.

Aergs Hawaiian Star. *Aergs. Brian Perkins* x *Aergs. articulata*, also an *Aergs articulata* second generation, earned three AOS awards, 2 AM and 1 HCC.



Photo: Lynn O'Shaughnessy

Aerangis Hawaiian Star 'First Ever' AM | AOS (80 points)
Aerangis Brian Perkins x *Aerangis articulata*

Finally, *Aerangis* Winter Snow 'Sierra Nevada' HCC/AOS (79 points), *Aergs. Winter Dove* x *Aergs. fastuosa*. It is the Fred Hillermmman Award Winner in 2010, for the most outstanding example of the Angraecoid Alliance.

References

OrchidPro

Orchidwiz Encyclopedia X6.1

Oviatt B. and Nerison B. 2014. Orchids. Vol. 83 (9) *Aerangis articulata*. Pag. 522 – 525

Stewart, J. 1986. Vol. 55 (8). American Orchid Society Bulletin. Stars of the Islands – A new look at the genus *Aerangis* in Madagascar and the Comoro Islands. Pag. 792 – 802.

Stewart J. et al. 2006. Angraecoid Orchids. Pag. 235

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families (WCSP) Kew.org. Retrieve March 19, 2020 from <http://wcsp.science.kew.org>.