

Species Report

***Dendrobium formosum* Roxb. ex Lindl. in N.Wallich, Pl. Asiat. Rar. 1: 34 (1830).**

The Beautiful Giant-Flowered Dendrobium

Synonyms

- *Callista formosa* (Roxb. ex Lindl.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 654 (1891).
- *Dendrobium formosum* var. *giganteum* W.Bull, Proc. Roy. Hort. Soc. London 4: 175 (1864).

Dendrobium formosum grows at low to moderate altitudes. It is widely distributed in the forests of Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan and north-east India in the states of Assam and in the Khasi (Khasia) mountains. The natural habitat extends further through the mountainous regions of Myanmar, northern Thailand to Dalat in Vietnam.

The pseudobulbs are robust and grow to 45 cm long with persistent leaves about 9 to 15 cm long in 2 ranks along the apical two-thirds of the stem. The leaf sheaths are covered in dark hairs. The flowers are large and showy, up to 12 cm across, and are borne on short inflorescences of up to 5 flowers from the apex or the adjacent nodes. The flowering season is winter, and spring and the flowers last several weeks. (Lavarack et. al 2006).

According to OrchidWiz X7.1, among first generations progeny there are two hybrids having the largest quantities of offspring; *Den. Dawn Maree* (*Den. formosum* x *Den. cruentum*) got 28 and *Den. Formidable* (*Den. formosum* x *Den. infundibulum*) shows 13 offspring.

Den. Dawn Marie was register in 1983 and earned 16 awards internationally, 12 awards are given under the AOS. *Den. formosum* had a slightly tubular lip shape and the hybrids gets improve with an intense orange – buttercup yellow papillose lip imparted from *Den. cruentum* as result of it the progeny got a pleasant balance of the overall flower shape.



Photography AOS

Dendrobium Dawn Maree 'Lava Flow' HCC/AOS (77 points)
Dendrobium formosum x *Dendrobium cruentum*

The natural spread of *Den.* Dawn Maree 'Old Mill' AM/AOS (87 points) are about 30 percent larger than previous quality awards.

Dendrobium Dawn Maree 'Old Mill' AM/AOS (87 points)
Dendrobium formosum x *Dendrobium cruentum*



References

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