

Building Block

***Vanda curvifolia* (Lindl.) L.M.Gardiner, *Phytotaxa* 61: 49 (2012).**

Khao kae – Khao khwai

Synonyms

- *Saccolabium curvifolium* Lindl., Gen. Sp. Orchid. Pl.: 222 (1833).
- *Gastrochilus curvifolius* (Lindl.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 661 (1891).
- *Ascocentrum curvifolium* (Lindl.) Schltr., Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. Beih. 1: 975 (1913).
- *Saccolabium miniatum* Hook., Bot. Mag. 88: t. 5326 (1862), nom. illeg.
- *Saccolabium curvifolium* var. *luteum* B.S.Williams, Orch.-Grow. Man., ed. 4: 258 (1871).
- *Ascocentrum curvifolium* f. *luteum* (B.S.Williams) Christenson, Austral. Orchid Rev. 70(6): 15 (2005).

Since 2012, nomenclature changes in the Vandae have combined the former *Ascocentrum* species with *Vanda*. *V. curvifolia* formerly *Ascocentrum curvifolia* is one of the sources of red flowers in vandaceous hybrids.

V. curvifolia is native to Myanmar (Burma) and northern Thailand. The flowers can be almost any shade of orange to red, and there is a yellow-flowered form as well.

In 1960, Oscar Kirsch, also in Hawaii registered *Vanda Ophelia* (*Bill Sutton* x *curvifolia*).

Dr. Sideris in 1949 from Hawaii created the first hybrid recorded, *Vanda* (*Ascocenda*) *Portia Doolittle*, this is a cross of *V. curvifolia* x *V. lamellata*. These were compact plants that bloomed freely throughout the year, sometimes keikied readily and were easy to grow.

Although Sideris registered three crosses in the early 1950's, it was not until 10 years later that other *Ascocenda* hybrids began to be registered. (Sidran, 1984).

Also, Dr. Sideris registered *Vanda Meda Arnold* (*V. curvifolia* x *V. Rothschildiana*). According to the AOS awards descriptions, one of the positives aspects is the well-carried and spaced flowers in an upright spike. Also, flower is larger than *V. curvifolia*.

Vanda Yip Sum Wah 'Joan' AM/AOS (88 points)
(*Vanda* Pukele x *Vanda* *curvifolia*)



Photo: Maurice Martetti

V. curvifolia used in breeding are prolific because their brilliant red-oranges, yellows colors. Looking to OrchidWiz X6.1 there are 3,333 progenies speeded throughout nine generations. *V. Yip Sum Wah* (*V. Pukele* x *V. curvifolia*) shows 119 awards and regarding AOS awards it got 1 FCC, 44 AM and 59 HCC. *V. curvifolia* added to the progeny an impressive red color with dark crimson tessellations and flowers are flats because the species background.

9 Generations of Progeny				
G	Grexes	Awdd.	% Awdd.	Awds
1	341	83	24.3%	379
2	1,017	176	17.3%	583
3	1,202	300	25.0%	1,015
4	1,369	329	24.0%	977
5	1,080	309	28.6%	814
6	630	218	34.6%	589
7	399	129	32.3%	294
8	85	17	20.0%	33
9	3	0	0%	0



Vanda Meda Arnold 'Teena' AM/AOS (84 points)
(*V. curvifolia* x *V. Rothschildiana*)

Another awarded Vanda using *V. curvifolia* is V. Peggy Foo. That earned 12 AM/AOS and 18 HCC/AOS awards. Colors flowers seems more variable ranging from violet-blue, pink and red crimson.

Vanda Peggy Foo 'Lilac' AM | AOS (84 points)
Vanda Bonnie Blue Fukumura x *Vanda curvifolia*



References

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