

## Species Report

### ***Phalaenopsis pallens***

Pale Colored Phalaenopsis

#### **Synonyms**

- *Trichoglottis pallens* Lindl., J. Hort. Soc. London 5: 34 (1850).
- *Stauropsis pallens* (Lindl.) Rchb.f., Hamburger Garten- Blumenzeitung 16: 117 (1860).
- *Phalaenopsis lueddemanniana* var. *pallens* (Lindl.) Burb., Garden (London, 1871-1927) 22: 119 (1882).
- *Polychilos pallens* (Lindl.) Shim, Malayan Nat. J. 36: 25 (1982).
- *Phalaenopsis denticulata* Rchb.f., Lindenia 3: 66 (1887).
- *Phalaenopsis foerstermannii* Rchb.f., Gard. Chron., ser. 3, 1: 244 (1887).
- *Phalaenopsis mariae* var. *alba* Ames & Quisumb., Philipp. J. Sci. 56: 461 (1935).
- *Phalaenopsis pallens* var. *alba* (Ames & Quisumb.) H.R.Sweet, Amer. Orchid Soc. Bull. 38: 226 (1969).
- *Phalaenopsis pallens* var. *denticulata* (Rchb.f.) H.R.Sweet, Amer. Orchid Soc. Bull. 38: 227 (1969).
- *Phalaenopsis pallens* var. *trullifera* H.R.Sweet, Amer. Orchid Soc. Bull. 38: 227 (1969).
- *Phalaenopsis pallens* f. *alba* (Ames & Quisumb.) Christenson, Phalaenopsis: a monograph: 152 (2001).
- *Phalaenopsis pallens* f. *fourmaniana* O.Gruss, Orchidee (Hamburg) 52: 578 (2001).

*Phalaenopsis pallens* is endemic to the Philippines, names came from the *Latin*, *pallens* ("pale), a reference to the muted tones of the flowers.

The prominent features by which this species may be recognized are the marking on the sepals and petals and the morphological details of the lip. The flowers of *P. pallens* vary from a very light lemon-yellow or greenish yellow to a corn-yellow. The sepals and petals are rather delicate and marked with brown to reddish brown or cinnamon-colored, short, thin, transverse lines and dashes. The lip is white with orange-yellow to yellow calli on the lateral lobes (Sweet 1980).

*Phalaenopsis pallens* var. *trullifera*

This variety has flowers that are substantially larger than most individuals of *P. pallens* and bear lips with a narrow, tapered base of the midlobe and an acute triangular apex.

*Phalaenopsis pallens* f. alba

This form lacks any spotting on the sepals and petals. It has been found only once and is not in cultivation at this time. (Christenson 2001).

Perhaps for the muted colors of its segments *P. pallens* has never been widely used in hybridization programs as we can see searching on OrchidWiz X7.3 *P. pallens* shown 28 offspring (First Generation) and 507 total progenies.

## References

- Christenson, E. A. 2001. *Phalaenopsis* a monograph.
- OrchidPro
- Orchidwiz Encyclopedia X7.3
- Sweet Herman R. 1980. *The Orchid Digest*. Orchids of the world Volume 1. The Genus *Phalaenopsis*. Pp. 107.
- [www.orchidspecies.com](http://www.orchidspecies.com). Retrieve 8-2-21
- [www.wcsp.science.kew.org](http://www.wcsp.science.kew.org)