

Building Block

***Brassia verrucosa* Bateman ex Lindl., Edwards's Bot. Reg. 26: t. 36 (1840).**

The Warty Brassia

Synonyms

- *Oncidium verrucosum* (Bateman ex Lindl.) Rchb.f. in W.G.Walpers, Ann. Bot. Syst. 6: 768 (1863).
- *Brassia brachiata* Lindl. in G.Bentham, Pl. Hartw.: 94 (1842).
- *Brassia aristata* Lindl., Edwards's Bot. Reg. 30: t. 7 (1844).
- *Brassia longiloba* A.DC., Rapp. [Not.] Pl. Jard. Genève 10: 3 (1847).
- *Brassia odontoglossoides* Klotzsch & H.Karst., Allg. Gartenzeitung 15: 330 (1847).
- *Brassia coryandra* É.Morren, Ann. Soc. Roy. Agric. Gand 4: 295 (1848).
- *Brassia cowanii* Lindl., Fol. Orchid. 5: 4 (1854).
- *Oncidium brachiatum* (Lindl.) Rchb.f. in W.G.Walpers, Ann. Bot. Syst. 6: 768 (1863).

Plants of *Brassia verrucosa* inhabit the cloud montane forest from 1,000- 2,000 m elevation from México to Costa Rica and possibly extending toward western Panamá. They grow as epiphytes in the canopy of forests dominated by *Quercus* and *Magnolia* or as terrestrial among organic litter when they possibly fall from dead branches of the trees. (Bogarín 2020).

Brs. verrucosa is extremely vigorous species with somewhat smaller, 6-inch (15 cm) blooms, when combined with *Brs. gireoudiana*, it makes one of the most glorious of hybrids, known as *Brs. Rex*. But the first hybrids using *Brs. verrucosa* was an intergeneric cross made by Albert Shiraki in 1951, *Brassidium* Betty N. Shiraki (*Oncidium spacelatum* x *Brassia verrucosa*).

Bratonia (*Miltassia*) Cartagena (*Brs. verrucosa* x *Miltonia* Anne Warne) is an interesting cross, *Miltonia* Anne Warne show a very nice flat flower, dorsal sepal and petals dark rich purple, lip wide with deep red-purple color. Perhaps the hybrid lip was not that the breeder expected however the following generations would be unveiled all the good traits. It received just one HCC/AOS but produced 28 offspring first generation and 182 total progenies.

According to OrchidWiz x7.3 *Brs. verrucosa* shown 70 offspring (first generation) with the impressive number of progenies: 648. *Bratonia* Charles M. Fitch (*Brs. verrucosa* x *Miltonia spectabilis*) is available in creamy white tones or deep pink, but with the same useful habit of producing flowers all year long as growth mature. Color variations occur depending on the *Milt.*

S.pectabilis parent clone used. This *Miltonia* species has a light creamy variety and a darker rosy-pink type. (Fitch 2004).

Miltonia [Milt.] Anne Warne



Bratonia Cartagena 'Moir's' HCC/AOS (78 points)
Brassia verrucosa x *Miltonia* Anne Warne



Aliceara Tahoma Glacier 'Olga'
FCC/AOS (92 points)
Bratonia Cartagena x *Oncidium*
Alaskan Sunset



Photo by: Arnold Gum

Bratonia Aztec 'Uschi'
HCC/AOS (76 points)
Bratonia Cartagena x
Miltonia Minas Gerais



Photo by: Doug Savage

Aliceara Tropic Splendor 'Golden Gate'
AM/AOS (80 points)
Bratonia Cartagena x *Aliceara*
Tahoma Glacier

References

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- Bogarín D. and Pupulin F. 2020. Orchid. New Refugium Botanicum *Brassia verrucosa* Vol. 89. Pp 931 – 932.
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- Fitch C. 2004. Orchids. Orchid Portrait Brassia Intergeneric Hybrids. Vol. 73 May No 5 Pp 350.
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