

## Building Block Species Report

### ***Clowesia warczewitzii* (Lindl. & Paxton) Dodson**

#### **Synonyms**

- *Catasetum warczewitzii* Lindl. & Paxton in Paxton's Fl. Gard. 1: 45 (1850)
- *Myanthus warczewitzii* (Lindl. & Paxton) Beer in Prakt. Stud. Orchid.: 272 (1854)

Dr. Calaway Dodson transferred *Clowesia warczewitzii* to the genus *Catasetum* in 1975. Its flowers bloom during the late fall or winter, when leafless or in the process of leaf loss. It is awesome to see the bare pseudobulbs loaded with cascades of pink flowers emitting a delightful pine/lemon fragrance. (Clarke 2019).

*Clowesia warczewitzii* flowers have a finely fringed lip and can produce more than one pendent inflorescence, shorter than *Cl. russelliana*. Each inflorescence can carry 10 – 12 flowers.



*Clowesia warczewitzii* 'El Cerro' AWD/SCO  
Photo: Sociedad Colombiana de Orquídeas

*Cl. warczewitzii* and *Cl. rosea* are two species most commonly used in breeding and *Cl. Grace Dunn* created for W.W.G. Moir is one of the most successful hybrids in this group. According to OrchidWiz X9.1, it earned 20 awards and produced 39 offspring, backcrossing *Cl. Grace Dunn* and *Cl. rosea* created *Cl. Rebecca Northern* another successful cross.

*Cl. warczewitzii* had 22 first generation offspring and 279 total progeny. Also 12 plants of *Cl. warczewitzii* were awarded. Most of the AOS award are cultural mainly for the many cascading inflorescence displayed.

It seems *Cl. warczewitzii* a very important parent in Catasetinae breeding. Using *Cl. warczewitzii* in back crosses has improved flower form and longevity. *Clowesetum* Pink Lemonade (Rebecca Northern x fuchsia back to its *Cl. warczewitzii* grandparent, the petals and sepals were brought into a near perfectly flat plane and rounded to an overlapping form fitting typical judging criteria. The arrangement of the flowers on the inflorescence is tightened up to form a

somewhat grape-like cluster. The flower color seems to intensify in most of the progeny, though a green blush is occasionally noticed in some seedlings. The greatest drawback in using too much *Cl. warczewitzii* is the reduction in the width and size of the lips. (Monnier 1990).



*Clowesetum* Pink Lemonade 'Loretta Lou' HCC/AOS 75 Points

## References

- Coghill A. 2016. *Clowesia* and its hybrids. Orchids. Vol. 85 (12): 920
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- Clarke F. 2022. The Catasetinae – part 2. Orchids. Vol (88) 8: 586.
- Monnier G. 1990. A current history of Catasetinae. American Orchid Society Bulletin. Vol. 59 (11): 1124.
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- Orchidwiz Encyclopedia X9.1
- [www.orchidspecies.com](http://www.orchidspecies.com).
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