

Genus *Clowesia*

Most of the species of *Clowesia* were considered part of *Catasetum* and Dr. Dodson in 1975, revised and moved five species of the genus *Catasetum* to *Clowesia*. The main aspect that difference *Clowesia* from *Catasetum* and *Mormodes* is that they produce perfect flowers, means they have both female and male parts in the same flower.

The strongly pendulous inflorescence of *Clowesia* species arise from the basal node of their pseudobulbs, members of the genus *Mormodes* bear inflorescence from the upper or axillary nodes. Additionally, species of the genus *Clowesia* are much more compact than most *Catasetinae*, with pseudobulbs that are more conical than cylindrical in shape and that are rarely over 10 cm. (4 inches) tall.

The color of the *Clowesia* species, with the exception of *Cl. Rosea*, which is a pastel pink, is typically a light green with darker green veining, and some mahogany mottling in *Cl. glaucoglossa*. Vibrant colors are not to be expected among species, though some intensification of color can occur among the intrageneric hybrids, the influence of *Clowesia* on the color of the flower is diminished and a rich and bright color occurs from the dominant non *Clowesia* parent. (Coghill-Behrends 2016).

The plants can bear two inflorescences per bulb, opening either simultaneously or successively, are common, and there may be as many of 14 or even 16 of the rather large pleasantly fragrant flowers on each raceme.

Its male flower may be described as follows: the shallowly cup-shaped lip spreads about 7 cm. (2.75 inches) wide at the rear. In the center it has a deeper green-colored depression which on the reverse side protrudes as a short obtuse, green tipped spur. The inside of the lip around the green depression is colored bright orange, while the rest of the lip as well as the two petals are creamy white. The horizontally spreading sepals are about 3.4 cm (1 1/3 inches) long. Their color is creamy white, flushed yellowish green, becoming orange towards the tip. They are partly folded into the greenish yellow, orange-tipped dorsal sepal behind them, giving the illusion of one large petal with a darker center line. (Teuscher 1953).

Clowesias impart many dominant traits, some good and some not so good. The good qualities are flower longevity, late bloom season, high flower count and production of multiple pendulous inflorescences. The not-so-good traits are limited color palette and cupping of the lip. (Clarke 2019).

Names	Progeny F1/Total	Gen .	FCC	AM	HCC	JC	AD	AQ	CC	CCE	CCM	CHM	CBR	CBM	Total	Strengthen	Weakness
<i>Cl. amazonica</i>	2	0													0		
<i>Cl. dodsoniana</i>	6	2		1								1			2		
<i>Cl. glaucoglossa</i>	2	2											2		2		
<i>Cl. rosea</i>	12	2								6				1	7	Floriferous. Nice inflorescence display. Nice color	Slightly cupped flowers
<i>Cl. russelliana</i>	27	17			2	2				6				1	11	Floriferous	Using in breeding can produced poorly formed flowers
<i>Cl. thylacochila</i>	0	0													0		
<i>Cl. warczewitzii</i>	22	12			1					4					5	Floriferous and nice cascading inflorescence. Lemon scents	Slightly cupped flowers

References

- Coghill A. 2016. *Clowesia* and its hybrids. Orchids. Vol. 85 (12): 920
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- www.wcsp.science.kew.org