Genus Masdevallia

The genus is named after the botanist José Masdeval. In 1770 Ruíz and Pavón discovered *Masdevallia uniflora* in Perú. *Masdevallia* are distributed from southern México to southern Brazil and the greatest population are located in the Andean cloud forest of Colombia, Ecuador and Perú.

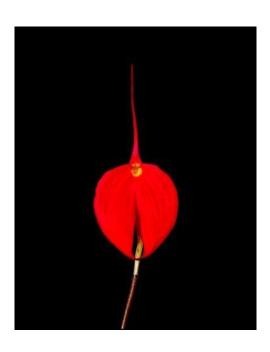
Masdevallias are sympodial without pseudobulbs. In nature, they usually grow epiphytically on the shaded bottom part of the tree, either on the mossy trunk or the lower branches, not too far from the ground. They may be found growing terrestrially in the loose, well-drained substrate at the base of the tree. In most cases their environment is fairly shady and moist. (Webb 1988).

The *Masdevallia* flower is characterized by fused sepals that elongate into long segments called caudae. Plants can measure from 1 inch to 1 foot, but the vast majority are compact size of about 3 to 8 inches.

Although there is *Pleurothallids* scale and it considered caudae under flower form I think general scale should be used because petals are minuscule on *Masdevallia*.



Masdevallia veitchiana 'Entre Flores' AM/AOS 82 Points Photo by J.C. Uribe



Masdevallia coccinea '2 macs' AM/OCNZ 82.75 Points Photo by M. Dean

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Summary of *Masdevallia* species, progenies and AOS awards

Names	Progeny F1/Total	FCC	AM	нсс	JC	AD	AQ	CC	CCE	ССМ	СНМ	CBR	СВМ	Total	Strenghten	Weakness
Masd.veitchiana*	174/881	2	17	5	2		1			4				31	Dominant for large, brilliantly colored flowers, fine purple hairs, attractive flower shape, long sturdy stems.	The orange color dominates.
Masd.coccinea*	135/438	3	31	21	1		1		3	13			4	77		
Masd.ignea*	68/262		21	12						7				40	Could Impart brilliant red color.	deflexed dorsal sepals could be imparted
Masd.triangularis*	69/350		4	2						3			1	10	Tend to impart flower form and upright inflorescence.	
Masd.uniflora*	55/143		1	3							1		1	6	Usually imparts a strong purplish color. Erect inflorescence.	
Masd.decumana*	54/143		9	4					1	1	1			16	Flower full, widely spread lateral sepals.	
Masd.caudata	41/121		10	6	1				1	3	2		1	24		
Masd.glandulosa	40/65		3							3	1			7		
Masd.infracta	38/136		4	3	3					2	3			15		
Masd.constricta*	35/117		7	6						1		1		15	Impart free flowering and straighten out the caudae.	
Masd.exquisita	33/35		2	1	1				1	2	1			8		
Masd.chaparensis*	33/116		3	3	1					2	1			10	Marking and coloration are dominant	Sometime hybrids can get week flower stem.
Masd.strobelii	33/282		1	1					1	2			2	7		
Masd.welischii	31/61		1							1		1		3		
Masd.davisii	30/59		2	2										4		
Masd.macrura*	27/106		8	7						1			3	19	Fleshy substance and large size flower	
Masd.datura	27/83			3						3	1			7		
Masd.hirtzii	22/34		4	3						1	1			9		
Masd.tovarensis*	21/25		4		1				2	4			1	12	Tolerant to different temperatures conditions.	
Masd.yungasensis*	21/200		1	1						2	2			6	Tend to impart the striped veins.	
Masd.amabilis	21/35		1							2	2		1	6		
Masd.tonduzii	20/38		4							4	1			9	Impart warm-tolerance and shade of yellow.	
Masd.barlaeana	20/38		1	1						1				3		
Masd.floribunda	18/22		4	3	1					4	2			14		
Masd.angulata	17/37		2	3						5			4	14		
Masd.mendozae	15/18		2	2	1					5	2			12		
Masd.schroederiana	15/24		2	3					1	9			1	16		
Masd.ayabacana	15/42		10	1							2	1		14		
Masd.princeps	13/15	1	9	7							1			18		
Masd. Pinocchio	6/6			1						3		1			Imparted successive flowering.	

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References

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