

Coryanthes macrantha (Hook.) Hook., Bot. Mag. 58: t. 3102 (1831).

SUBFAMILY Epidendroideae, TRIBE Gongoreae, SUBTRIBE Stanhopeinae.

The Bucket Orchid or Monkey Throat Orchid



Synonyms

Panstrepis paradoxa, *Gongora macrantha*

Description

The Bucket Orchid or Monkey Throat Orchid is a large sized, hot growing epiphyte found from Trinidad, French Guiana, Surinam, Guyana, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Brazil in wet lowland rain forests. It has narrowly ovoid, sulcate, bifoliate pseudobulbs with lanceolate, plicate, ribbed leaves with a channeled petiole which blooms on a basal, pendant, 12" [30 cm] long, bracteate, 1 to 2 flowered, racemose inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb that carries a large, waxy, short lived, fragrant flower smelling strongly of mint held

well below the plant and occurring in summer. This plant is often found associated with ants but it is not the rule.

Habitat

Venezuela, Trinidad, British Guiana, Colombia and Peru. In Peru, the plants have been found along the Rio Nanay near Iquitos in the Amazon Basin. In Venezuela, plants were found at about 1500 ft. (560 m) between the Icabaru and Uaiparu Rivers in the southeastern part of Bolivar Province. Plants were growing on trees in a fairly dense but not very tall forest. Some writers feel that the plants found in Peru may represent a separate species, but they have not been split out at this time. Specific habitat information was not given, but *Coryanthes* species are normally found growing in very acid conditions on the nests of ants. -- Source: Charles Baker

F-1 Hybrids and Progeny

8 First Generation (F1) Offspring Found; 2 Awarded (25.0%)										
S/P	Genus	Name	=	Genus	Name	Originator	Year	Offs.	Awds.	
x Seed:	Stan	wardii	=	Crhpa	Off The Wall	M.LeDoux	2002	0	3	
x Pollen:	Stan	tigrina	=	Crhpa	Woji's Procrastinator	G.Webb	1999	0	1	
x Pollen:	Crths	bruchmuelleri	=	Crths	Golden Chalice	Jason Fischer	2009	1	0	
x Seed:	Crths	alborosea	=	Crths	MacRosea	Old Mill	1995	0	0	
x Seed:	Crths	mastersiana	=	Crths	Mamadon	M.& M.F.Bourdo	2000	0	0	
x Pollen:	Stan	inodora	=	Crhpa	Sucre D'Orge	M.& M.F.Bourdo	2005	0	0	
x Seed:	Stan	martiana	=	Crhpa	Red Martian	R-J.Quené	2009	0	0	
x Seed:	Stan	florida	=	Crhpa	Guardian of Infant	N.Mochizuki	2011	0	0	

Coryanthes has produced 3 primaries within the genus and 5 bigeneric primaries with *Stanhopea*. Two of the hybrids, *Coryhoepa* Off The Wall and *Woji's Procrastinator*, have been awarded.



Coryhoepa Off The Wall 'Le Balzak'
HCC/AOS



Coryhoepa Woji's Procrastinator 'Roger Sheng'
HCC/AOS

One of the Coryhopea's, Golden Chalice, went on to produce a second generation cross with *Coryanthes nigroviolacea*. There are no progeny, awards or photos.

Culture

Light should be bright, with direct sunlight diffused so as not to burn the leaves. Most growers suspend these orchids due to their pendulous inflorescences. This also brings the plants closer to the light. Light levels approximating those for cattleyas, around 3,000 foot-candles, are best.

Temperatures should be moderate: 52° to 60° F at night, with day temperatures 68° to 75° F in the winter. Plants can stand short spells of higher temperatures, but air movement, humidity and shading must all be increased. Many species flower in the summer, and putting them outside in the summer may be beneficial. Move into higher light slowly to avoid burn.

Water in ample quantities is important to produce strong pseudobulbs and prevent foliar spotting. Stanhopeas and their relatives can be sensitive to salt accumulation in the medium, so should never be allowed to dry out entirely, even during the winter months when growth may slow or stop. Poor watering habits are also conducive to root loss in these types, and some may be very slow to re-establish once they have lost their roots.

Fertilize at regular intervals. Most growers fertilize with a diluted concentration every week to two weeks. For plants in bark, use a 30-10-10 high-nitrogen formulation, alternating with a 20-20-20 balanced formulation; in the blooming season, which is mainly summer, use a 10-30-20 blossom-booster formulation. Plants grown in osmunda need fertilization only infrequently.

Potting is done best right after summer flowering, as most plants seem to grow year round. Plants that rest in the winter can be repotted in the spring. The best flowerings come from large clumps of plants, so large baskets are usually used. An airy, yet moist medium seems to work best, such as medium-grade fir bark (often mixed with sphagnum peat) or osmunda fiber. Vigorous plants may need repotting every three years or so.

References

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