Unawarded Plants

According to the American Orchid Society Handbook, taxonomic verification is required for all previously unawarded species and hybrids. Awards will be held in a provisional status until formal identification/confirmation by the Species Identification Task Force (SITF) is complete. If any certified judge on the judging floor questions the identity of a species or natural being considered for any award, then the award will be held in a provisional status until identification is complete. In order to aid the SITF in making the identification, detailed, scaled photographs of the flower parts and the plant should be provided. With the owner’s permission, dissection of a flower and subsequent photography is the best practice.

A plant can also be given a provisional award and be submitted to the SITF for verification if its identity is questioned.