*Pescatoria lehmannii Rchb.f., 1879*

*[LAY-mahn-ee-eye]*

**Common Name:** Lehman’s Pescatoria



**Native to:**

Colombia, Ecuador

**Homotypic Synonyms**

Zygopetalum *lehmannii* (Rchb.f.) G.Nicholson in Ill. Dict. Gard. 4: 246 (1887)

**Heterotypic Synonyms**

Pescatoria *dormaniana* Rchb.f. in Gard. Chron., n.s., 15: 330 (1881)

Zygopetalum *dormanianum* (Rchb.f.) G.Nicholson in Ill. Dict. Gard. 4: 245 (1887)

Found in Colombia and Ecuador as a tufted, small to medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte without pseudobulbs, occurring in extremely wet forests with a heavy night fog, that requires humid, shady well-watered conditions, found at around 900 to 1900 meters, with 6 to 10, oblong-lanceolate, acuminate leaves arranged in a fan shape that blooms in the spring and summer on a stout, shorter than the leaves, 4 to 10" [10 to 25 cm] long, ascending, sheathed stalk with a solitary, fleshy, long-lived, fragrant flower that is best put in a basket so as to display the low held flowers to the best advantage.

OrchidWiz notes Origin/Habitat: Extremely wet, humid cloud forests in the coastal mountains of southern Colombia and northern Ecuador, at 3500-4500 ft. (1065-1372 m). The plant usually grows near water on moss-covered, horizontal tree limbs.

Plant size and type: A moderately sized sympodial epiphyte.

Leaves: 10 per growth. The leaves are 12-18 in. (30-45 cm) long, narrow, elliptic-lanceolate, distichous, and arranged in a fan.

Inflorescence: Several. Each one-flowered, horizontal spike is 4-6 in. (10-15 cm) long. In cultivation, plants may bloom several times during the year, making them seem nearly ever blooming.

Flowers: 1 per inflorescence. The long-lasting, waxy, fragrant flowers are 2.5-3.5 in. (6-9 cm) across. The somewhat cupped blossoms are white, with numerous parallel lines of plum-purple extending along most of the length of the sepals and petals, sometimes merging to almost hide the white. The oval lip is whitish cream to deep mauve with long hairs, while the yellow callus is trimmed with red. Color, size, and markings are variable.

**AOS Awards**

Pescatoria *lehmannii* Awards

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FCC | AM | HCC | AQ | JC | CCM | CCE | CHM | CBM | TOTAL |
| AOS | - | 6 | 3 | - | - | 2 | - | 1 | - | 12 |
| Years Awarded |  | 1990 to  2000 | 1995  2003  2012 |  |  | 1996  & 2009 |  | 1986 |  |  |

A close-up of a flower

Description automatically generated

Pescatoria *lehmannii* ‘Majestic’ AM/AOS, 82 points, 1990

Photography by OWZ Lib



Pescatoria lehmannii ‘Adelaida’ HCC/AOS, 78 points, 2012

Photography by Jauna Carlos Uribe

**Pescatoria *lehmannii* Hybrids**

Pescatoria *lehmannii* has nine F1 generation offspring and sixteen progeny. The first registered hybrids of Pescatoria *lehmannii* was in 1996. Two additional hybrids were registered in the 1990’s. The other thirteen hybrids were registered since 2000.

The Pescatoria *lehmannii* hybrid with the most offspring and awards is Wtz. Star Sapphire (Warczatoria Painted Lady x Pescatoria *lehmannii*). This hybrid was made and registered by Arnold Klehm in 1996. Wtz. Star Sapphire received five AOS awards (AM – 2; and HCC – 3). Warczatoria Star Sapphire has three offspring and five progeny.

A close-up of a flower

Description automatically generated

Warczatoria Star Sapphire ‘E. F. G.’ AM/AOS, 82 points, 1998

Photography by James McCulloch

The Pescatoria *lehmannii* hybrid with the next most is Pescatoria Alice Hikins (*lehmannii* x *coelestis*). This hybrid was made by Robert Hamilton and registered by Royale Orchids in 2005. Pescatoria Alice Hipkins has received one AOS awards by clone, ‘San Isidro,’ which received an FCC/AOS of 93 points in 2017.

A close-up of a purple flower

Description automatically generated

Pescatoria Alice Hipkins ‘San Isidro’ FCC/AOS 93 points, 2017

Photography by Nicolas Gomez Rios

A close-up of a purple flower

Description automatically generated

Pescatoria Alice Hipkins ‘Peats Ridge’ AM/AOC 80 points, 2005

Photography by Australian Orchid Council

**References**

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