Judging Today’s Mini Cattleyas

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1. When judging Mini Cattleyas, the Cattleya scale is used. When judging novelty Mini Cattleyas, use the General Scale.
2. Flower – 30 points
   1. General – 15 points
   2. Sepal – 5 points
   3. Petal – 5 points
   4. Labellum – 5 points
3. General form leans toward fullness and roundness.
   1. A circle around the tips of the sepals and petals
   2. An equilateral triangle tip to tip of the sepals
4. Color – 30 points (color clear, bright, strong, and evenly dispersed)
   1. General color – 15 points
   2. Sepals and Petals – 7 points
   3. Labellum – 8 points
5. Size of Flower – 10 points
   1. Size of flower = > geometric means of the parents
   2. Geometric means = square root of parent 1 x parent 2.
      1. Example - Square root (12 cm x 5 cm) = 7.8 cm
   3. Important to consider proportion of flower size to size of plant
6. Substance and Texture – 20 points
   1. Substance - firm
   2. Texture – crystalline, sparkling, velvety, and waxy
   3. \* Many are polyploid
7. Floriferousness and stem – 10 points
   1. Floriferousness related to parents and background
   2. Some multifloral, some only one flower for inflorescence
   3. Is 1 flower, ok? Depends on parents.
   4. Inflorescence strong and upright
8. Species used in Mini Cattleya breeding
   1. C. *coccinea* – single flower, multiple grows
   2. C. brevipedunculata – single flower, narrow lip
   3. C. wittigiana – narrow lip
   4. C. cernua- >/= 9 flowers, normally 6 to 7
   5. C. permila – 1 to 2 flowers
   6. C. alaorii – 1 to 2 flowers, blooms several times a year
   7. C. briegeri – 4 to 6 flowers, star shape
   8. C. aclandiae – open lip, 2 – 5 flowers
9. New Trends
   1. Remake of old hybrids with better parentage
   2. Improved reds
   3. Micro Mini Cattleyas
   4. Improved splash petals
   5. Tip flares
   6. Splash and spots
10. Judging Points
    1. Form – flat flowers with round shape
    2. Flowers with balance and proportion
    3. Color – new color combinations
    4. Spot on new color
    5. Size of flowers
    6. Floriferousness
    7. Size of plant
    8. Strong stems
    9. Substance – heavy, sparkling, and crystalline
11. Mini Cattleyas are approximately 6 – 7 inches tall
12. Micro Mini Cattleyas are less than 3 to four inches