

# BUILDING BLOCK REPORT

*Phalaenopsis amboinensis* J.J. Sim 1911

Subgenus: *Polychilos*



*Phalaenopsis amboinensis*

## **General Information:**

This species is found in Indonesia. This orchid has been found on Ambon Island in the Molucca Archipelago and in the Toli Toli district near Djangdjang on Sulawesi (Celebes) Island.

## **General Description:**

This species is an epiphyte. Its leaves are usually three or four in number, elliptic to obovate, tapered at the base, obtuse rounded up to 24 cm long by 10 cm wide. The

inflorescences are arching racemes or panicles longer than the leaves up to 45 cm long, with each branch few flowered, with the rachis fractiflex, the bracts ovate, concave, acute, keeled and up to 7 mm long. The flowers are fleshy, creamy white or yellow with transverse brown bars which frequently form a few concentric circles, the lip mottled with brown, the column white. The dorsal sepal is elliptic-ovate, acute-carinate up to 30 mm long by 15 mm. the lateral sepals obliquely broadly ovate, acute-carinate and 30 mm long by 15 mm wide. The petals are elliptic, broadly cuneate, obtuse to subacute, subequal to but slightly shorter than the dorsal sepal. The li is three lobed up to 22 mm long to 18 mm wide, across the expanded lateral lobes, the lateral lobes erect, triangular-oblong, truncate, the anterior corner, a short tooth, the posterior corner an elongate lanceolate tooth, the midlobe oblong-elliptic, cuneate, obtuse, laterally compressed, fleshy tooth, the blade with a central, raised, sulcate (two-edged) keel having minutely serrulate margins. The callus is biseriate, the posterior callus bilobed, the lobes bluntly obtuse, the anterior callus sulcate, bifid, the divisions filiform. The column is arching and is 8 mm long. The pedicel and ovary are 3 cm long.

### **Botanical Varieties (if any)**

*Phalaenopsis amboinensis* var. *flavida* Christenson 2001

### **Synonyms/Forms:**

*Phalaenopsis amboinensis* f. *flavida* (Christenson) O. Gruss & M. Wolff 2007

### **Awards:**

This species has been awarded by the AOS 83 times over the period 1964 through 2020 (AM-37; HCC-37; CBR-1; CCM-7; CHM-1).

### **Hybrids:**

This species lends its flowers' waxy, thick substance to long-blooming hybrids. It will frequently produce offspring with three to five flowers, white to yellow, to shades of orange and red, on branched spikes up to 30 cm. it is used frequently in novelty crosses and is considered a good grower and easy breeder. On the negative side, flowers tend to be star-shaped rather than full and round. Also, the flower count can be reduced, and if solid flower colors are the breeding goal, the spotting and barring characteristics of this species are often dominant.

*Phalaenopsis amboinensis* has 560 First Generation offspring, and Total Progeny of 18,263 (through the 12th generation). This species has also been involved in creating Primary Hybrids 40 times as both the seed and pollen parent.

*Phalaenopsis* Princess Kaiulani was registered in 1961 by O. Kirsch and is a cross of *Phal. violacea* x *Phal. amboinensis*. The hybrid has 247 First Generation offspring,

and 3,950 total progeny. The hybrid has been awarded by AOS 25 times (AM-10; HCC-8; JC-2; CCM-5).



***Phalaenopsis* Princess Kaiulani  
'Chin Yo'  
AM-80 points  
March 5, 2010**

**References:**

Christenson, Eric, *Phalaenopsis, a Monograph*, Timber Press, Inc., 2001

Frownie, Steven A., Moth Orchids – The Complete Guide to Phalaenopsis, Timber Press, 2008

Orchids Plus 1.4

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