Cypripedium (Lindley, 1753)

Genus Summary

Type Species – *Cypripedium calceolus*







Cypripedium macranthos 'Roberts' CHM-83 points June 8, 2014

General Information:

Cypripedium is a genus of about 47 species found in Europe, temperate Asia across to Japan and China and the Himalayas, Sakhalin, the Kurile and Aleutian Islands, North America, and south to Guatemala and Honduras.

The derivation of the name is from the Greek '*Kypris*', a name for Aphrodite (Venus) who was born on the island of Cypress, and '*pedilon*', a sandal or slipper, in reference to the shape of the lip.

General Description:

Roots of the *Cypripedium* are elongate and arise from a short to elongate creeping **rhizome**. The shoots are erect, leafy, clustered or well-spaced, terete, hairy, glandular or glabrous, with the base enclosed by two to four sheathing sterile bracts with one-several leaved above. This genus has no **pseudobulbs**. The genus is terrestrial.

Leaves are one to several, usually plicate, prostrate, spreading or suberect, lanceolate, ovate, elliptic, oblong or cordate, obtuse to acute or acuminate, green, spotted with blackish maroon in some species, glabrous or hairy, ciliate or not on the margins.

The **inflorescences** are terminal, one to many flowered with a rachis which is terete, hairy, glandular or glabrous with bracts usually leaf-like but smaller than the upper most leaf, rarely linear.

Flowers usually showy, concolorous or two colored. The **pedicel** is obscure to elongate, elongating after fertilization in some species. The **ovary** is unilocular, three ribbed, glabrous, hairy or glandular. The **dorsal sepal** is erect to hooded over the lip, ovate, lanceolate or elliptic, obtuse, acute or acuminate, glabrous or pubescent within, ciliate or not. The lateral sepals are usually fused to form a concave synsepal which is similar to the dorsal sepal. **Petals** are free, spreading, incurved or clasping the sides of the lip, elliptic, ovate, lanceolate, linear-lanceolate or subpandurate, rounded, obtuse, acute or acuminate, often pubescent in basal half within, usually ciliate. The **lip** is deeply pouched and inflated, slipper-shaped or urn-shaped, glabrous or hairy on the outer surface. The side lobes are incurved, entire, often much reduced. The **midlobe** is deeply saccate, incurved or not on the front margin, hairy within especially on the lower surface. The **column** is porrect, short, stalked. There are two **anthers**, bilocular, borne on short obtuse to acute filaments. **Pollen** is powdery or viscid. The **staminode** is terminal on the column. sessile or stalked, oblong, ovate, cordate or linear, flat, convex or conduplicate, glabrous to papillose or finely pubescent, ciliate or not. The **stigma** is stalked, dependent, tripartite, more or less papillose. The capsule is erect to pendant, threeribbed, cylindrical to almost ellipsoidal.

Species in the Genus:

The attached spreadsheet provides a list of the species, location in which found, day and night growing temperatures, blooming timeframes, awards by number and type, and progeny in terms of numbers and Generations. The genus *Cypripedium* has approximately 47 to 58 species. For this schedule, I have presented only those species with 11 or more First Generation offspring.

		Day/Night	Blooming		AOS
Name	Habitat	Temperatures	Dates	Progeny	Awards
Cypripedium	China, Japan,	69F-72F/46F-	May and	63 First	CHM-4
macranthos	Korea and	55F	June	Gen., 91	
	Russia			Total	
				Progeny	
Cypripedium	North America	77F-83F/58F-	February,	55 First	AM-8;
parviflorum		63F	Мау	Gen., 86	HCC-3;
			through	Total	CBM-1;
			June	Progeny	CBR-1;
					CCM-5;
Caricalia	Chierre		A 1	20 5'	
<i>Cypripealum</i>	Uimeleuree	66F-85F at	April	38 FIrst	AM-1;
libelicum	Fillialayas,	night	luno	Gen., 42 Total	СПМ-2
	Bhutan Assam		Julie	Drogony	
	India and			Tiogeny	
	eastern				
	Himalayas				
Cvpripedium	Hubei.	50F-66F at	Unknown	27 First	AM-1:
fasciolatum	Guizhou.	night		Gen., 46	CHM-1
J	Sichuan states	8		Total	_
	of China			Progeny	
Cypripedium	North	77F-83F/58F-	March	25 First	AM-1;
reginae	America,	63F	through	Gen., 31	CHM-2
	possibly China		July	Total	
	and Mexico			Progeny	
Cypripedium	Great Britain,	50F to 66F at	March	25 First	CCM-3
calceolus	Norway,	night	through	Gen., 37	
	Sweden,		June	Total	
	Finland,			Progeny	
	Denmark,				
	Cormany				
	Poland				
	Austria				
	Czechoslovaki				
	a. Hungary.				
	Switzerland.				
	Spain, France,				
	Italy,				
	Yugoslavia,				
	Greece,				
	Bulgaria,				
	Romania,				

	Ukraine, Russia, Mongolia, China, Japan and Korea				
Cypripedium kentuckiense	United States and Canada	50F to 66F at night	April, May	24 First Gen., 35 Total Progeny	AM-3; HCC-1; JC-2; CCM-2; CHM-3
Cypripedium henryi	Southern China	50F to 66F at night	March, May	16 First Gen., 19 Total Progeny	CCE-1; CCM-1; CHM-1; CBR-1
Cypripedium candidum	From Ontario, west to the Dakotas and Nebraska, south to Missouri and Kentucky	50F to 66F at night	April through June		HCC-1; CBR-1
Cypripedium franchetti	Sichuan and Hupeh states of China	50F to 66F at night	Unknown	13 First Gen., 16 Total Progeny	CHM-1
Cypripedium cordigerum	Chinese Himalayas, eastern Himalayas, Nepal, Bhutan, Northern Pakistan and western Himalayas	50F to 66F at night	June	12 First Gen., 16 Total Progeny	None
Cypripedium flavum	China	69F to 70F/53F to 55F	May	11 First Gen., 18 Total Progeny	CHM-1

AOS Scale for Judging Cypripediums:

Cypripediums are judged using the AOS *Paphiopedilum* scale.

Hybridizing:

In reviewing the hybridizing of the *Cypripediums*, there is only one unnamed intergeneric cross found – *Paphiopedilum exul* x *Cypripedium calceolus*, which was done in 1899 by Swan, with no offspring or awards.

On the Primary Hybrid side, there are 180 primaries. The most primaries are as follows (split between seed and pollen parent):

Name	Seed	Pollen	Total
Cypripedium			
calceolus	10	9	19
Cypripedium			
fasciolatum	13	9	22
Cypripedium			
kentuckiense	13	8	21
Cypripedium			
macranthos	12	8	20
Varieties	10	21	31
Cypripedium			
parviflorum	16	2	18
Varieties	23	5	28
Cypripedium reginae	13	8	21
Cypripedium			
cordigerum	5	11	16
Cypripedium henryi	5	9	14
Cypripedium segawai		8	8
Cypripedium			
tibeticum	1	15	16
Cypripedium			
yunnanense		5	5

The table above indicates the most used species were varieties of *Cypripedium macranthos*.

The Primary Hybrid with the most First-Generation offspring was a cross of *Cypripedium fasciolatum* x *Cypripedium macranthos*, named *Cypripedium* Sabine. This hybrid was made in 2002 by W. Frosch and had 12 First Generation offspring and 12 Total Progeny with 3 AOS awards (AM-3; HCC-2).



Cypripedium Sabine 'Littlefrog Experiment HCC-75 points February 27, 2016

The Primary Hybrid with the most AOS awards is *Cypripedium* Gisela (*Cypripedium parviflorum* x *Cypripedium macranthos*) made in 1992 by W. Frosch. This hybrid had 7 First Generation offspring and Total Progeny of 7. AOS awards numbered 7 (AD-1; AM-1; HCC-3; CCM-2).



Cypripedium Gisela	
'Fontaine'	
HCC-78 points	
May 15, 2004	

References:

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