

SPECIES DATA SHEET

Paphiopedilum herrmannii (Fuchs & Reisinger) 1995

Subgenus: *Paphiopedilum*



Paphiopedilum herrmannii

General Information:

This species is a natural hybrid between *Paph. helenae* x *Paph. hirsutissimum* var. *esquirolei* that occurs in northern Vietnam in coniferous, mixed, broad-leaved, and evergreen closed forests on limestone at elevations of 700 to 900 meters. It can also be found along the Vietnam-China border.

General Description:

Paphiopedilum herrmannii is a humus epiphyte that produces three to five leaves per growth which are uniformly dark green on the upper surface and somewhat lighter green below. The basal portion of the underside is suffused with reddish brown. The plants are very similar to those of *Paph. henryanum* in their vegetative characteristics. Leaves are up to 22 cm long by 1.4 to 2 cm wide, ligulate, and ciliate at the basal margins. The inflorescence, which is 13 to 18 cm long and densely covered with hairs, generally carries a single flower. The ovary is 4 to 5 cm long, which is about twice as long as the flower bract. The flower is 6 to 6.5 cm wide in natural spread by 6.3 high. The dorsal sepal is strongly curved backward at the base, a characteristic cited as a factor in differentiating this species from *Paph. henryanum*. The dorsal sepal has a green to white ground color with a purple suffusion at the base and up the middle. This leaves a margin of variable width which may be green, greenish yellow, or white, depending on the ground color. The petals, which have strongly undulate margins, are the same base color as the dorsal sepal with a purplish brown suffusion. The upper half is more darkly colored than the lower half with a much darker line along the middle vein. The reddish brown to pink pouch is shaped like a distinctly pointed inverted helmet. The staminodal shield is yellow, rhomboid, and very similar in shape to the staminodal shield found in the *Paph. insigne* complex, but smaller. It is about 7 mm across at the bottom, 3 to 4 mm across at the top, and about 6 mm high. The shield is ornamented with a distinct tooth in the middle. The tooth is sometimes yellow, sometimes green.

Botanical Varieties (if any)

None

Synonyms:

None

Awards:

This species has been awarded by the AOS 2 times over the period 2014 through 200 (HCC-1; CBR-1).

Hybrids:

Paphiopedilum niveum has 9 First Generation offspring, and Total Progeny of 9 (through the 1st generation). This species has also been involved in creating Primary Hybrids 5 times as both the seed and pollen parent. None of the hybrids have offspring or any AOS awards.

References:

Braem, Prof. Dr. Guido, *The Genus Paphiopedilum*, Self-Published, 2016

Orchids Plus 1.4

OrchidWiz 5.1