

SPECIES DATA SHEET

Phragmipedium fischeri (Braem & H. Mohr) O. Gruss 1996
Subgenus Micropetalum



Phragmipedium fischeri
'Joanne Hicks'
HCC-76 points
August 12, 2017

General Information:

This species was first described on the basis of materials collected in Ecuador, near the town of Chical, along the river that marks the border with Colombia. The plants

were growing on the cliffs overhanging the river. The habitat of this species is situated at about 4,600 feet (1,400 meters) above sea level, along rivers in fully shaded spots that are exposed to a constant breeze. The relative humidity is high. *Phragmipedium fischeri* grows in the cracks and crevices on near vertical cliffs with a constant water runoff. This species bears a close likeness to *Phragmipedium schlimii*.

This species is on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and is critically endangered from habitat loss and over-collection. There are fewer than 100 adult plants left in the wild.

General Description:

Phragmipedium fischeri is an epiphyte. The **leaves** of this species are up to 20 cm long by more or less 3.2 cm wide. The **inflorescence** is up to 25 cm high and generates two or more **flowers** which open successively, the **flowers** are about 5 cm in natural spread. The **dorsal sepal** is about 2 cm long by up to 1.1 cm wide. The **synsepal** is about 1 cm wide and distinctly shorter than the pouch. The **petals** are 2.2 to 2.5 cm long by 1.5 to 1.7 cm wide. The **lip** is 1.8 to 2 cm long by about 1.2 cm wide, with the **main lobe** formed into a rounded pouch. Between the **synsepal** and the **pouch** there sometimes is an additional lobe of extraneous tissue somewhat broader than the synsepal but shorter than the pouch. The margins of this extra lobe are undulated. The **staminode** is unusually complex. The **staminode shield** is more or less quadratic with a raised ridge down the middle. The overall **flower color** is deep pink, distinctly darker than the color found in *Phragmipedium schlimii*. The **staminode** is of a whitish-cream color, the raised ridge is yellow with a purple spot at the lower end. The additional lobe and the synsepal are of a lighter pink than the rest of the flower. The **chromosome** count is $2n=30$.

Botanical Varieties (if any)

Phragmipedium schlimii var. *fischeri* (Braem & O. Mohr) O. Gruss

Synonyms:

None

Awards:

This species has been awarded by the AOS three times over the period 2001 through 2017 (AM-1; HCC-1; CHM-1).

Hybrids:

Phragmipedium fischeri has 33 First Generation offspring, and Total Progeny of 150 (through the 4th generation). Of the 12 Primary Hybrids involving this species, *Phragmipedium fischeri* has been the seed parent every time.

Phragmipedium Barbara LeAnn (*Phragmipedium besseae* x *Phragmipedium fischeri*) was originated and registered in 1998 by J.L. Fischer. This primary hybrid has 36 Offspring and 95 Total Progeny with 11 AOS awards (AM-7; HCC-4) for the period 1998 through 2016.



***Phragmipedium* Barbara LeAnn
'Best Fish'
AM-81 points
October 11, 1998**

References:

Braem, Prof. Dr. Guido, *The Genus Phragmipedium*, Self-Published, 2018

Orchids Plus 1.4

OrchidWiz 5.1