

***Selenipedium* (Rchb. F. 1854)**

Genus Summary

Type Species – *Selenipedium chica*



Selenipedium chica

General Information:

Selenipedium is a genus of about 6 species distributed over a limited area of Central and South America including Panama, northern Brazil, Guyana, Trinidad, Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador.

General Description:

Generic characteristics include a branched cane like plant habit, extending up to 4-5 m (14-17 ft.) in height; adaptation to a terrestrial habitat; alternate, plicate leaves unmarked with spotting or tessellation; 3 stigmata; a triocular ovary with axile placentation; staminodes reduced in size; and flowers which are produced in terminal racemes or panicles. Certain of the characteristics indicate the primitive status of the genus: the large, blanchd canes, the terrestrial habitat, the presence of the three stigmata, the triocular ovary and the floriferous panicles.

The size of the individual flower is disproportionally small when compared to the vegetative portion of the plant.

Due to its unsuitability for greenhouse culture, this small genus of large plants is primarily of interest to botanists.

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 *Selenipedium* has 6 species.

Name	Habitat	Day/Night Temperatures	Blooming Dates	Progeny	AOS Awards
<i>Selenipedium aequinoctiale</i>	Colombia, Ecuador	Warm to hot conditions, or 66F-85F	October	No offspring	CBR-1
<i>Selenipedium chica</i>	Panama	Warm to hot conditions, or 66F-85F	Unknown	No offspring	AM-1
<i>Selenipedium isabelianum</i>	North and Northeast Brazil	Unknown	Unknown	None	None
<i>Selenipedium palmifolium</i>	North Brazil, French Guiana, Guyana,	Warm to hot conditions, or 66F-85F	Unknown	None	CHM-1

	Suriname, Trinidad- Tobago and Venezuela				
<i>Selenipedium steyermarkii</i>	North Brazil, Guyana, and Venezuela	Cool to hot conditions, or 58F to 85F at night	Unknown	None	None
<i>Selenipedium vanillocarpum</i>	Brazil, West and Central	Unknown	Unknown	None	None

AOS Scale for Judging *Cypripediums*:

Selenipedium are judged using the AOS *Paphiopedilum* scale.

Hybridizing:

The *Selenipedium* genus is not hybridized.

References:

Pridgeon, Alec M.' Phillip J. Cribb, Mark W. Chase, *Genera Orchidacearum, Volume 1*, Oxford University Press

Braem, Guido J., *The Genus Paphiopedilum, 2nd Edition*, Self-Published, 2016

Miranda, Thomas, Genus of the Month: *Cypripedium*, *Orchids*, March 2016, page 196 through 199

Robinson, Owen, A New Take on *Cypripedium* Hybrids, *Orchids*, December 2002, page 1120 through 1123

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