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**MidsummerFlowers**

One may think of cattleyas in one's collection as dominating the flowering during the fall and winter seasons in the northern hemisphere, but this does not take into consideration the Brazilian bifoliate cattleyas! In late March, here at 343JWT, we've seen *Cattleya amethystoglossa* (Fig. 1), a plant reaching close to a meter in height with its clustered inflorescence held well above the long fusiform pseudo-bulb. We won't go into it here, but this is a species much used in hybridization!



Fig. 1. *Cattleya amethystoglossa* (no Pl#; a plant of the late Mike Zeplin).  
Digital photo DSC\_629      Tues-21Mar-06..

May into June one sees the diminutive *Cattleya forbesii* (Fig. 2) is in flower.



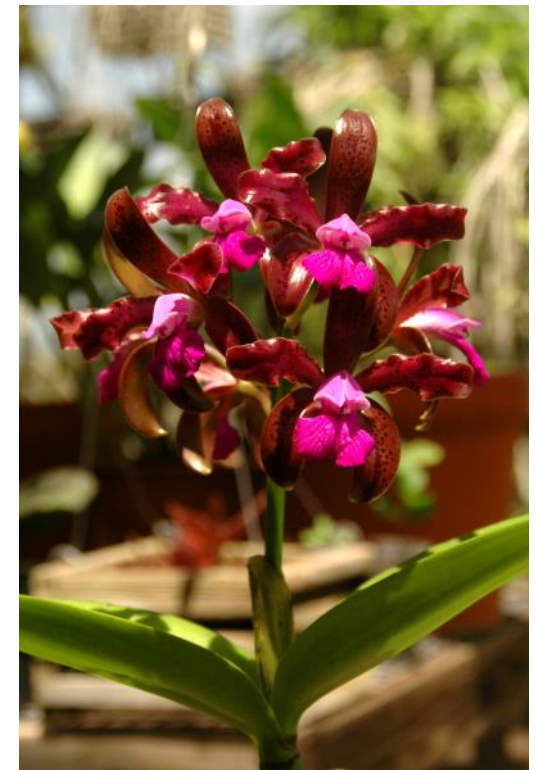
Fig. 2. Pl#149606-28 *Cattleya forbesii* 'Green' HCC/AOS.  
Digital photo DSC\_1579a      Wed-16May07.

In June *Cattleya tigrina* holds forth (Figs. 3 & 4):



Above: Fig. 3. Pl#140606-2. *C. tigrina* var. *alba* (NS 7.8 cm.).  
Digital photo DSC\_1702a      Sat-30Jun-07.

Low right. Fig. 4. Pl#210111-13. *Cattleya tigrina* 'Mendenhall'.  
DSC\_6137a      Fri-20Jun-14.



By September, *Cattleya bicolor* is flowering (Fig. 5), and in November, long after the greenhouse is (or should be!!) well enclosed for the winter, *Cattleya walkeriana* (Fig. 6) is in flower. With these few species cattleyas, we've spanned the summer and have not even come close to exhausting the total number that comprise the group known as the Brazilian bifoliate cattleyas!



Fig. 5. Pl#210111-5. *Cattleya bicolor*, first flowering (flower not fully opened).  
Digital photo DSC\_5553a Sun-22Sept-13 .



Fig. 6. Pl#080304-5. *Cattleya walkeriana* var *bulbosa*.  
Digital photo DSC\_4388a Wed-16Nov-11.

Having established that we can have various *species* of the genus *Cattleya* in flower throughout the summer season, we take a look at a few of the hybrids (from various genera) that are flowering in the shade houses here and threaten to distract us, as June draws near the end, from other tasks such as ridding live oak trees of dead branches festooned with ball moss, harvesting mustang grapes, and grubbing out Huisache and blackbrush plants from fields and lawns and orchards.

One plant, Pl#140606-4. *Encyclia adenocaula*, suffered severe damage during the overheating episode in the greenhouse nearly a year ago (Sat-03Aug-13), and it was carefully nursed back to health. This June is holding two panicles, each of over a meter in length. Figured below (Fig. 7) is a portion of one of its two inflorescences. Sib-crossing needs to be done and this plant propagated and shared!



Fig. 7. Pl#140606-4. *Encyclia adenocaula*, close-in photo of part of one of two inflorescences.  
Digital photo DSC\_6135 Fri-20Jun-14.

A few different clones of the same hybrid Rby. (Blc.) Golden Tang are in the collection locally, and flower at varying times. The hybrid was registered in 1989, and was the progeny of Rlc. Waikiki Gold x Bc. Richard Mueller. Each plant is floriferous and has proven quite amenable for corsage-making. When the flowers first open they have a reddish blush which grades into yellow as the flower ripens. The flowers are long-lasting and when these clones are cultured into specimen-sized plants each makes a striking display.

These clones are figured on the following pages so that the reader may see them at the same time, without turning any pages. They are presented on the following pages as 'Cariad's Topaz' (Fig. 8), "Freckles" (Fig. 9), 'Pure Gold' (Fig. 10), and 'Flecked' (Fig. 11).



Fig. 8. Pl#140606-18A Rby. (Blc.). Golden Tang 'Cariad's Topaz'.  
Digital photo DSC\_1873 Fri-14Sept-07.



Fig. 10. Pl#221005-2. Blc. Golden Tang 'Pure Gold'.  
Digital photo DSC\_2396 Sat-28Jun08 .



Fig. 9. Pl#081105-1. Blc. Golden Tang 'Freckles'.  
Digital photo DSC\_2359 Fri-23May08.



Fig. 11. Pl#081105-1. Rby. (Blc.) Golden Tang 'Flecked'.  
Digital photo DSC\_6142 (note: same Pl# as 'Freckles', but different clone) Fri-20Jun-14.

In addition to the other clones figured, a lattice basket was noted holding a dainty plant of *Epidendrum tampense*. A portion of a close-up of a few flowers of an inflorescence is shown here (Fig. 12).



Fig. 12. Olsen 342. *Epidendrum tampense*.  
Digital photo DSC\_6139 Fri-20Jun-14.

*Renanthera* Tom Thumb (Fig. 13) is the 1957 hybrid of *Ren. monachica* and *Ren. imshootiana*. It's a small plant, but when it flowers, it puts out an inflorescence of well over 70 cm., and when it displays two inflorescences, it really splashes out a lot of red color!



Fig. 13. Pl#130808-29. *Renanthera* Tom Thumb. Inflorescences & plant.  
Digital photo DSC\_6145 Thur-26Jun-14.

*Cattleya* Humming Bird 'Pink Cloud' (Fig. 14), is a bifoliate hybrid shows its *C. loddigesii* ancestry by holding its inflorescence well above the leaves.



Fig. 14. Pl#140606-31. *Cattleya* Humming Bird 'Pink Cloud', close-in photo of inflorescence.  
Digital photo DSC\_6141 Fri-20Jun-14.

Last, in this group of locally flowering orchids is *Cattleya* *Hybrida* (Fig. 15). *Cattleya* *Hybrida* is, indeed a hybrid. It was registered by Veitch in 1859 as the progeny of *C. guttata* × *C loddigesii* well in advance of the systematic record-keeping of Sander who eventually established the Sander's Book of Hybrids subsequently enriched with several Addenda over the years. One result of the lack of a unified record keeping system in the early years was that Wavrin later published one under the same name. Fortunately, the species used in breeding differed sufficiently so there has been no real confusion regarding the parentage of either of the two *Cattleya* *Hybrida* hybrids. The one here is from the cross made in 1859.



Fig. 15. Pl#140606-15. *Cattleya* *Hybrida*. Close-in photo of terminal inflorescence of 5 flowers.  
Digital photo DSC\_6140      Fri-20Jun-14.

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