

the

GLOXINIAN

The Journal for Gesneriad Growers

Vol. 51, No. 3

Third Quarter 2001

CELEBRATING OUR FIRST 50 YEARS 1951-2001



Smithiantha cinnabarina

American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, Inc.

A non-profit membership corporation chartered by the State of Missouri

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Judging — *Appraisal*, 3 issues, \$6. Send to Paul Susi, 6 Upper Lane, Centerport, NY 11721. (Subscribing to *Appraisal* is part of the responsibility of remaining an active judge.)

Gesneriad Hybridizers Association — *CrossWords*, 3 issues, \$8. Send to Richard Carter, 516 North 3rd Street, Spearfish, SD 57783.

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Gesneriad Correspondence Club — U.S. \$6.75; Canada \$8.75; Foreign \$14.00; Braille Newsletter \$5.00 per year. Write to Lois & Ron Kruger, 207 Wycoff Way West, East Brunswick, NJ 08816-5644.

Gesneriad Research Foundation — 1873 Oak St., Sarasota, FL 34236-7114. Individual, \$25; Family, \$35; Club, \$100.

Visit our greenhouse and rainforest when in the area. Telephone 941-365-2378. <hwiehler@aol.com>

Gesneriphiles Internet Discussion Group — To join, send the following message: subscribe gesneriphiles <your name>: listproc@lists.colorado.edu from the email address you wish to receive the postings.

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Chapters: Report changes of chapter presidents to the Chapters and Affiliates Chair and the editor.

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COVER

Smithiantha cinnabarina
grown and photographed
by Michael Riley

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Color photos (3) on pages 40 and 49 sponsored by
Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers Chapter in honor of Marlene Beam

MOVING?

As soon as you know when and where, do notify Bob Clark, AGGS Membership Secretary, 118 Byron Avenue, Lawrence, MA 01841-4444 and please include your address label.

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President's Message

Jon Dixon <president@aggs.org>
55 Tum Suden Way, Woodside, CA 94062

Four years ago I reluctantly accepted the job of President of AGGS. It wasn't a job I ever expected to hold and was quite surprised when the nominating committee asked me. After all, like all of you, the loyal members of AGGS, I just like to grow plants—lots of plants, all kinds of plants, too many plants. I worried that this job would distract me from my other activities, my work, and my plants. I never thought I would last for one term, let alone two. Here it is now, July 2001, four short years later; and I look back on one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.

AGGS is a plant society like no other. The incredible enthusiasm, expertise, willingness to share and do difficult jobs is a hallmark of the membership. I worried that I would have difficult jobs and situations to deal with. Quite the opposite, I discovered how well everyone works together, and how talented our hard working staff, board of directors, and committee chairmen are. I was also concerned that extra responsibilities would make the conventions as much an ordeal as they had previously been pleasurable. But instead, each convention has been the highlight of my year, a wonderful week of nonstop events, plant discussions, convention activities and enjoyable meetings that have left me even more enthusiastic for AGGS and gesneriads when I returned home. Much of the credit for this goes to the local chapters and convention committee members whose hard work and planning made our week together each year a smooth and happy affair.

I will always look back on this era as the "Golden Age" of AGGS and gesneriads. While we have grown in membership, we have grown much more in the enthusiasm of the members. Everywhere in the society, members are growing, propagating, producing seed, hybridizing, reintroducing and discovering new species in the wild, rediscovering old cultivars nearly lost to cultivation, writing, photographing, and discussing gesneriads on the Internet. At the same time we have seen new chapters form and affiliate with the society, and most importantly we have expanded our international membership.

I want to conclude by thanking everyone in AGGS for making my four years as president such an enjoyable experience. It has been so exciting to observe the many activities and accomplishments taking place simultaneously in the society. I have been particularly pleased with how well the board has worked together and how creative they have been with ideas to change some important aspects of how the society is run. With so many people to thank I cannot possibly mention everyone; but, I can't conclude without a special mention of thanks to our Editor, Jeanne Katzenstein, for her many years of outstanding effort to produce the best issues of THE GLOXINIAN in the society's fifty years of history.



Coming Events

September 8-9 — Washington, DC — National Capital Area Chapter judged show and plant sale at the U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave. NE. Entries Friday evening, judging Saturday morning, show and sale open Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday. Contact John Boggan (202-328-8145) <bogganj@yahoo.com> or visit the NCAC website at <<http://members.aol.com/aggsncac>>.

September 15 — Massachusetts — New England Chapter annual show and sale at the University of Massachusetts Field Station, Beaver Street, Waltham. Saturday from noon to 3:00 pm. Admission free. Contact Dee Stewart (978-897-6822) <dee.stewart@110.net>.

September 15-16 — California — Delta Gesneriad and African Violet Society dual judged show and sale at Sacramento Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento. Saturday 2:00 to 5:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Gorgeous blooming plants; supplies; expert help. Free admission and parking. Contact Lynn Lombard (530-637-9000) <lombard@oro.net>

September 22-23 — Pennsylvania — Pittsburgh Violet and Gesneriad Society exhibit and sale at the Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Rd., North Hills, Pittsburgh. Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; Sunday 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Contact Georgene Albrecht (724-693-8666) <georgena@bellatlantic.net>.

September 29-30 — Missouri — Heart of America Gesneriad Society fall flower show and sale at Loose Park Garden Center, 5200 Pennsylvania Ave., Kansas City. Friday entries 8:30 to 11:00 am; show and sale Saturday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Contact Susan Grose <SAGrose@aol.com>.

October 7 — New Jersey — Frelinghuysen Arboretum Chapter annual judged show and plant sale at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum in Morristown. Sunday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Free admission and parking; handicapped accessible. Contact Jeanne Katzenstein (973-627-2755) <jkatzenste@aol.com>.

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Seed Fund

Bob and Carol Connelly <seedster@netperson.net>
2391 Phillips Drive, Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2450

By the time you receive this issue, we will most likely be in Kansas City at the AGGS 50th Anniversary Convention or back home recovering from all the fun. Please be patient if you have sent any seed orders to us around the end of June or the first week or so of July. It may take us a while to catch up after the trip. We hope we were able to meet many of you at the convention.

Just a few odds and ends to mention in this issue:

- Please include your email address or phone number with your order so we can contact you if we need to clarify anything about your order.
- Double check your credit card number and be sure it is clear and legible. It seems like sometimes as many as 1 in 4 credit card orders get rejected because of a single incorrect digit. This results in a delay in sending your order, particularly if we have to write to you (snail mail).
- We do not stop sending orders during the cold winter or hot summer months. We do try to time our mailings to avoid having orders sitting in a mail box or truck for an extended time by mailing early in the week and avoiding long holiday weekends. If very extreme weather is forecast for a short period, we may hold shipment for that short period. This is pretty much in line with Maryjane and Laura's policies.

We would like to thank the most recent contributors to the Seed Fund for their generosity: Clay Anderson, Marlene Beam, Carol Ann Bonner, Dolly Crowder, Jon Dixon, Maryjane Evans, Richard Holzman, Maureen Lynch, Clayton Matsumoto, Mauro Peixoto, Vivian Sheans, Peter Shalit, David and MJ Tyler, and Linda Zillich.

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- Make checks payable to the AGGS Seed Fund in U.S. funds
- To pay by credit card, send your credit card number, expiration date, and signature, and indicate if the card is Mastercard or Visa (\$6.00 minimum)
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- List alternate choices
- Include your membership number (first number on your mailing label)

Achimenes (D)

- *admirabilis* (B)
- *candida* USBRG96-150
- *pettoana* (B)
- *dulcis* (B)
- *erecta* (B)
- *erecta* 'Tiny Red' (F, L)
- *grandiflora* 'Robert Dressler' (B)
- *longiflora* (B)
- *longiflora alba* (B)
- *skinneri* W1897 (L)
- *warszewicziana* USBRG88-039 (B)
- 'Carmencita' (L)
- Park's Breeder's Mix (B, L)
- hybrid mix (B, L)

Aeschynanthus (B)

- *boschianus*
- *buxifolius* 913296
- *garrettii*
- *hildebrandii* USBRG94-214
- *hosseusii*
- *longiflorus*
- *maculatus*
- *micranthus*
- *mimetes*
- *parvifolius*
- *parvifolius* 'Bali Beauty'
- *pulcher*
- sp. (Vietnam) 921622
- sp. MSBG87-162

- sp. (yellow) (Philippines)
 - hybrid, lg orange/red
- Alloplectus**
- bolivianus* USBRG95-140 (M)
 - cristatus*
 - dodsonii* (yellow) GRF98184 (M)
 - tetragonoides* GRF98153
 - sp. aff. *schultzei* GRF97103
 - sp. aff. *panamensis* GRF9781 (orange)
 - sp. GRF9776 (yellow)
 - sp. GRF9788 (pinkish/yellow above)
 - sp. GRF97153 (peach/orange)
 - sp. GRF97166
 - sp. GRF98151 (yellow)
 - sp. USBRG 98-030
 - sp. nov. (*plicatissimus* ined.) (salmon calyx) GRF9521
 - sp. nov. (*plicatissimus* ined.) (green calyx) GRF9556
 - sp. nov. (*prunifer* ined.) GRF98174
- Alsobia** (B)
- dianthiflora*
 - *punctata*
 - punctata* USBRG77-103
- Anodiscus**
- xanthophyllus* (M)
 - xanthophyllus* (Ecuador) GRF97109
- Besleria**
- barbata* USBRG98-052
 - barclayi* USBRG95-164
 - formicaria* LS7560 (M)
 - laxiflora* GRF9675 (M)
 - melancholica* (MT)
 - princeps* GRF9479 (LM)
 - sp. GRF9558 (LM)
 - sp. GRF9783 (orange w/yellow base)
 - sp. GRF97108 (orange)
 - sp. GRF97141 (orange)
 - sp. GRF9853 (yellow)
 - sp. GRF98139 (orange)
- Boea** (F, R)
- hygroscoptica*
- Briggsia** (A, R)
- aurantiaca*
 - musciola*
- Capanea**
- grandiflora* GRF9480 (M)
- Chirita**
- caliginosa* (LM)
 - *elphinstonia* (F,L)
 - *fimbrisepala* #3 (F,R)
 - *fimbrisepala* #4
 - *fimbrisepala* #12
 - flavimaculata* USBRG94-085 (R)
 - *heterotricha* USBRG94-088 (F, R)
 - involutrata* (F, L)
 - lavandulacea* (LM)
 - *longgangensis* (F,R)
 - micromusa* (F, L)
 - *moonii* (F, LM)
 - *pumila* (F, L)
 - sericea* (F, LM)
 - *spadiciformis* USBRG94-087 (R)
 - *subrhomboida* (F, R)
 - *tamiana* USBRG98-080 (F,R,P)
 - walkerae* (F, LM)
 - sp. (Thailand)
 - sp. 'New York' USBRG85-022 (R)
 - *caliginosa* × *sericea* (LM)
 - (sp. 'New York' × *flavimaculata*) × self (F,R)
 - Malaysian hybrid mix
- Chrysothemis** (F, LM)
- friedrichsthaliana*
 - friedrichsthaliana* GRF9764
 - *pulchella* (Ecuador)
 - villosa*
 - hybrid mix
- Cobananthus**
- calochlamys* (F, LM)
- Codonanthe** (B)
- calcarata* 'Puyo'
 - caribaea*
 - carnosa*
 - cordifolia* AC1201
 - corniculata*
 - crassifolia*
 - crassifolia* GRF9858
 - crassifolia* GRF9869
 - crassifolia* 'Cranberry'
 - digna*
 - digna* 'Moonlight'
 - erubescens*
 - gracilis*
 - *macradenia*
 - paula*
 - *serrulata* AC1313
 - *uleana* GRF9868
 - *venosa* GRF91175
- Columnnea** (B)
- arguta*
 - crassifolia*
 - erythrophaea*
 - fendleri*
 - gallicauda*
 - glicensteinii*
 - gloriosa*
 - *gloriosa* 'Superba'
 - hirta*
 - hirta* GRF9493
 - hirta* var. *pilosissima*
 - hirta* 'Dark Prince'
 - hispidia*
 - *linearis*
 - maculata*
 - nicaraguensis* CR92F16
 - nicaraguensis* GRF94105
 - oerstediana* GRF9423
 - oxyphylla*
 - proctori* W3573
 - raymondii* (LM)
 - scandens* var. *tulae* (yellow)
 - schiedeana*

schiedeana (red reverse)

sulfurea G3770

tomentulosa

Conandron (A, R)

ramondioides/Awaji Island

Corytoplectus

capitatus (LM)

capitatus G291

congestus GRF93259 (L)

cutucuensis (L)

cutucuensis GRF9794

riceanus GRF9654 (M)

Dalbergaria (M)

asteroloma GRF97169 (white)

eburnea

medicinalis GRF9507

ornata GRF2665

- *perpulchra*

polyantha

sanguinea

sanguinea 'Orange King' GRF9492

sp. GRF93191

sp. GRF97160

- sp. GRF9852

Diastema (D, F, P)

latiflorum GRF9669A (white veins)

racemiferum

vexans

Didissandra

- *frutescens* (H, M)

Drymonia

affinis GRF98109

alloplectoides USBRG96-347 (B)

brochidodroma USBRG95-156 (B)

coccinea GRF9851 (B)

coccinea GRF9873

coccinea GRF98150

- *conchocalyx* (B)

conchocalyx 'Silver Lance' × self (M)

doratostyla GRF9674 (B)

ecuadorensis 'Red Elegance' (LM)

hoppii GRF98103

- *killipii* (B)

macrophylla (M)

mortoniana (L)

pulchra GRF9889 (L)

pulchra GRF98113

rhodoloma (B)

semicordata G2191

serrulata (B)

serrulata GRF9752

strigosa (B)

strigosa GRF1912

urceolata GRF93146 (LM)

urceolata GRF97124 (red)

urceolata GRF98154 (red w/yellow)

sp. nov. (*umecta* ined.) (B)

Episcia (H, L, B, F)

xantha

cupreata hybrids mix

hybrid mix

Epithema

- *saxatile* (F, L)

Eucodonia (D, F, P)

- *andrieuxii*

• *verticillata*

verticillata 'Ehrenberg'

hybrid mix

Gasteranthus (H)

crispus USBRG98-033

giganteus

lateralis

- *villosus*

wendlandianus GRF97154 (LM)

wendlandianus GRF97163

wendlandianus GRF98166

(w/red spots)

Gesneria (H, F, L)

christii

- *citrina* WEK96154

cuneifolia

cuneifolia WEK96151

cuneifolia WEK96152

cuneifolia WEK96155

cuneifolia WEK96157

cuneifolia WEK96158

cuneifolia 'Esperanza'

cuneifolia 'Quebradillas'

cuneifolia 'Tom Talpey'

pedunculosa USBRG97-102 (S,T)

pedunculosa WEK96153 (S,T)

pumila

reticulata

- *reticulata* WEK96164

- *reticulata* 'El Yunque'

ventricosa (M)

- *viridiflora* ssp. *sintensisii*

WEK96162 (T)

'Flashdance'

- 'Sundrop'

Gloxinia (D)

gymnostoma (LM)

lindeniana (F, L)

nematanthodes (F, L)

perennis (LM)

perennis 'Insignis' (L)

purpurascens GRF9670 (F,L)

racemosa (L)

sylvatica (F, L)

sylvatica GRF9943 (Brazil)

sylvatica USBRG94-002 (Bolivia)

Haberlea (A, R)

ferdinandi-coburgii

rhodopensis

Hemiboea (D)

subcapitata (L)

Heppiella (D)

ulmifolia GRF95141 (L)

ulmifolia GRF98172

Jancaea

- *heldreichii* (A, R)

- Koellikeria** (D, F, P)
 - *erinoides*
erinoides 'Red Satin'**Kohleria** (D)
hirsuta (LM)
hirsuta USBRG96-163 (F, L)
hondensis (LM)
rugata USBRG95-010 (LM)
spicata (M)
 - *spicata* USBRG94-552 (M)
hybrid mix**Lysionotus** (LM)
pauciflorus var. *pauciflorus*
species
Monophyllaea (H, LM)
elongata
horsfieldii
Monopyle
macrocarpa GRF98117 (F, LM)
macrocarpa GRF94123
Moussonia
deppeana (M)
 - *elegans* (M)
 - *elegans* GRF9407
 - *septentrionalis* G1201 (F,L)**Napeanthus** (H)
costaricensis (F, P)
jelskii USBRG94-511 (F, P)
 - *primulifolius* GRF9941 (P)
 - *robustus* GRF9765 (L)**Nautilocalyx**
adenosiphon (B, L)
colonensis (LM)
melittifolius (F, LM)
Nematanthus
australis (B)
brasiliensis (M)
corticola (B)
crassifolius (B)
fissus (L)
fissus GRF9938
formix (B)
fritschii (B)
 - *jolyanus* (Sao Paulo) (B)
cf. *lanceolatus* AC2010
maculatus (B)
serpens (B)
strigillosus AC1434 (B)
tessmannii GRF9904 (red calyx) (B)
tessmannii GRF9912 (red calyx)
wettsteinii (B)
 - sp. GRF3555 (B)
sp. 'Santa Teresa' (B)
sp. MP50
 - sp. nov. (*punctatus* ined.)**Neomortonia** (B)
nummularia
Opithandra (A, R)
primuloides
Ornithoboea
wildeana (LM)
- Paliavana** (S, T)
prasinata
prasinata GRF732
prasinata GRF91126
 - *prasinata* × *S. macropoda* MP944
 - *prasinata* × *S. reitzii* MP949
sericiflora AC2311
tenuiflora
werdermannii AC2310**Paradrymonia**
ciliosa (L)
decurrens (L)
 - *flava* (F, L)
fuquaiana USBRG94-220
lurida (L)**Parakohleria**
sp. GRF9778 (red, yellow below)
sp. GRF9780 (yellow)
sp. GRF97126
sp. GRF88105 (red) (L)
sp. GRF98144 (rose pink)
Pentadenia
angustata (B)
byrsina (B, L)
crassicaulis (B)
manabiana (B)
microsepala GRF1837 (B)
orientandina (LM)
rileyi GRF86243 (LM)
spathulata GRF9503 (LM)
strigosa GRF95154 (B)
strigosa GRF9777
zapotalana (B)
Petrocosmea (R)
flaccida (F, P)
forrestii (F, P)
Phinaea (D, F, P)
albolineata
divaricata
multiflora
multiflora 'Tracery'
- Primulina**
 - *tabacum* (F, R)**Ramonda** (A, R)
myconi —
white
lavender
pink
clone G
myconi (upright rosette)
serbica
Rhabdothamnus
 - *solandri***Rhynchoglossum** (H, L)
gardneri
obliquum
Rhytidophyllum (G, H, S, T)
auriculatum
leucomallon
tomentosum
villosulum

Saintpaulia (F, R)

- *diplotricha*
- *grandifolia*
- *intermedia*
- *ionantha*
- *shumensis*
- hybrid mix

Sinningia (D)

- *aggregata* (M)
- *aggregata* AC1461
- *aggregata* 'Pendulina' (B, L)
- aff. *aggregata* (yellow) (M)
- *aghensis* (T)
- *aghensis* AC2356 (T)
- *allagophylla* (MT)
- *allagophylla* GRF9922
- *allagophylla* GRF9929
- *allagophylla* GRF9968
- *amambayensis* (L)
- *araneosa* (F, L)
- *brasiliensis* (M)
- *brasiliensis* 'Verde'
- *brasiliensis* AC1314
- *bulbosa* (T)
- *calcaria* MP891 (F, L)
- *canescens* (F, L)
- *carangolensis* (M)
- *cardinalis* (F, LM)
- *cardinalis* (compact) (F, L)
- *cardinalis* (dark calyx) (LM)
- *cardinalis* 'Innocent'
- *cardinalis* (pink)
- *conspicua* (F, L)
- *conspicua* GRF9942 (fragrant selection)
- *cooperi* (LM)
- *cooperi* AC1522
- *curtiflora* (T)
- *curtiflora* GRF9927
- *douglasii* GRF91188 (LM)
- *douglasii* GRF9936 (LM)
- *douglasii* (pink form) (M)
- *elatii* AC1409 (M)
- *elatii* GRF9963
- *eumorpha*/Saltao (L)
- *eumorpha* (lavender) (F, L)
- *eumorpha* (pink)
- *eumorpha* (white)
- *glazioviana* (L)
- *harleyi* MP482 (F, L)
- *hatschbachii* (L)
- *hirsuta* (F, L)
- *iarae* (F, L)
- *incarnata* (S, MT)
- *insularis* (LM)
- *leopoldii* (F, L)
- *leucotricha* (F, L)
- *leucotricha* 'English' (F, L)
- *lindleyi* AC1501 (L)
- *lineata* (LM)
- *lineata* (highly spotted)
- *macropoda* (M)
- *macropoda* (dwarf form) (L)
- *macrorrhiza* (T)
- *macrostachya* (LM)
- *macrostachya* MP262
- *magnifica* GRF91121 (pink) (LM)
- *magnifica* MP627 (pink)
- *magnifica* GRF91134 (red)
- *mauroana* (LM)
- *mauroana* GRF9964
- *micans* MP892 (LM)
- *nivalis* AC1460 (L)
- *nivalis* GRF9923
- *piresiana* (L)
- *pusilla* (F, P)
- *pusilla* 'White Sprite' (F, P)
- *reitzii* (M)
- *reitzii* GRF9914 (magenta)
- *rupicola* AC1511 (F, L)
- *sceptrum* (T)
- *sceptrum* AC2406 (T)
- *schiffneri* (LM)
- *schiffneri* GRF91163 (red reverse)
- *sellovii* (MT)
- *sellovii* GRF9919
- *sellovii* 'Bolivia' USBRG96-003
- *sellovii* 'Purple Rain'
- *speciosa* 'Cabo Frio' MP178 (F, L)
- *speciosa* 'Lavender Queen'
- *speciosa* 'Regina'
- *speciosa* AC1652
- *speciosa* (Chiltern Seed Co)
- *speciosa* AC1503
- *striata* (S, M)
- *sulcata* (LM)
- *tuberosa* (F, L)
- *tubiflora* (S, MT)
- *villosa* (F, L)
- *warmingii* (T)
- *warmingii* GRF9921
- sp. aff. *warmingii* from Ilhabela MP631
- sp. 'Esmeril' (L)
- sp. 'Lanata' MP622 (L)
- sp. 'Waechter' (LM)
- *cardinalis* 'Innocent' × *iarae* (LM)
- *glazioviana* × *leopoldii* F2 (LM)
- *speciosa* AC1503 × *speciosa* 'Regina' (R)
- *eumorpha* hybrids mix (F, R)
- 'Hummingbird Mix'
- 'Anne Crowley' (F, L)
- 'Apricot Bouquet' × self (LM)
- 'April Starr' × self (F, P)
- 'Beauty' × self (F, P)
- 'Bewitched' × self (F, L)
- 'Cheryl M.' × self (F, P)
- 'Delta Fox' × self (F, P)
- 'Diego' (red) (F, L)
- 'Diego' (pink)
- 'Dollbaby' (F, P)
- 'Good Pink' × self (F, L)
- 'High Voltage' × self (F, P)
- 'Jubilee' × self (F, L)

- 'Krezdorn Yellow' × self (L)
- 'Krishna' × self (F, P)
- 'Laura' × self (F, P)
- 'Leo B.' × self (F, P)
- 'Little Imp' (F, P)
- 'Maiden's Blush' × self (F, P)
- 'Mother of Pearl' × self (F, P)
- 'Mothers Day' × self (F, L)
- 'Pale Beauty' × self (L)
- 'Pink Ice' (F, P)
- 'Pink Imp' (F, P)
- 'Pure Pink' × self (F, P)
- 'Purple Beauty' × self (F, P)
- 'Purple Crest' × self (F, P)
- 'Rosebells' × self (F, L)
- 'Ruby Red' × self (F, P)
- 'Scarlet Red' × self (F, P)
- 'Scarlet Sunset' (F, P)
- 'Silhouette' × self (F, P)
- 'Star Eyes' (F, P)
- 'Super Orange' (F, P)
- 'Super Red' × self (F, P)
- 'Tampa Bay Beauty' × self (L)
- 'Virgil' × self (LM)
- 'Whimsey' × self (F, P)
- 'Angora Love' × 'Margaret' (L)
- 'Cherry Chips' × 'Super Orange'
F2 (F, P)
- hybrid miniature mix (F, P)
- pink hybrid miniature mix (F, P)
- Sinningia speciosa* hybrids** (F, R)
- blue mix
- mini lavender
- lavender/purple
- pink
- purple
- red
- rose
- white
- orchid/purple mix
- pink mix
- pink/white mix
- purple w/spots
- red mix
- red w/spots
- white w/red spots
- 'California Minis'
- Charles Lawn hybrid mix
- Early Giant mix
- hybrid mix
- blue slipper
- lavender slipper
- pink slipper
- red slipper
- purple slipper
- mixed slipper
- pink dwarf
- Small's dwarf mix
- white dwarf slipper
- Smithiantha*** (D)
- aurantiaca* (F, L)
- canarina* GRF9105 (F, LM)

- laui* GRF9117 (F, L)
- *multiflora* GRF9121 (F, LM)
- *multiflora* GRF9122 (F, LM)
- zebrina* GRF9104 (M)
- 'Abbey' × self (F, LM)
- 'Little One' (F, L)
- hybrid mix (F, L)
- Streptocarpus***
- baudertii* (F, R)
- buchananii* (B)
- caeruleus* (R)
- candidus* (F, R)
- candidus*/Ngome, Natal
- caulescens* (F, LM)
- *compressus* (U)
- confusus* (U)
- confusus* ssp. *confusus* (U)
- cooksonii* (U)
- cooksonii* (dark purple)
- cooperi* (U)
- cyanandrus* (F, P)
- *cyaneus* ssp. *long-tomii* (R)
- cyaneus* (blue) (R)
- cyaneus* (blue/long corolla)
- cyaneus* (blue/short corolla)
- cyaneus* (lilac)
- daviesii* (F, U)
- denticulatus* (U)
- dunnii* (U)
- eylesii* (U)
- fanninia* (R)
- fasciatus* (R)
- *fenestra-dei* (R)
- floribundus* (R)
- formosus* (R)
- formosus*/E. Cape, Transkei
- gardenii* (F, L)
- *gardenii*/Weza, S. Natal
- *glandulosissimus* (B)
- goetzei* (U)
- grandis* (U)
- grandis* (blue form)
- haygarthii* (F, U)
- haygarthii*/Mkambati, Transkei
- holstii* (B, L)
- johannis* (F, R)
- johannis*/Komga, E. Cape
- sp. aff. *johannis* (F, R)
- kentaniensis* MBG2335-60 (R)
- kentaniensis* (N. Kei River)
- *kentaniensis* (S. Kei River)
- kirkii* (F, L)
- meyeri* (F, R)
- *meyeri*/SE Transvaal (R)
- meyeri*/NE Cape Province
- micelmerei* (U)
- modestus* (R)
- *modestus*/Magwa Falls, Transkei (R)
- molweniensis* (U)
- *molweniensis* subsp. *eschowicus*
- muscosus* (L)
- nobilis* (M)

- pallidiflorus* (F, LM)
parviflorus (R)
parviflorus (mauve)
 • *parviflorus* (white) (R)
parviflorus (white/mauve)
pentherianus (F, L)
pole-evansii (R)
polyanthus (F, L)
polyanthus subsp. *comptonii*
polyanthus subsp. *polyanthus*
polyanthus subsp. *polyanthus*/lg fl
polyanthus subsp. *polyanthus*/Valley
 of 1000 Hills, Natal
polyanthus subsp. *verecundus*
porphyrostachys (U)
primulifolius (F, R)
primulifolius (dark blue)
 Port St. John, Transkei
primulifolius /Mt. Sullivan, Transkei
primulifolius /Bullolo Rvr, Transkei
primulifolius /Valley of 1000 Hills
prolixus (F, U)
pumilus (F, P)
rexii (F, L, R)
 • *rexii* (blue)
 • *rexii* (blue) Transkei
rexii (white)
rexii (pale blue/long corolla)
rexii (white/blue mix)
rimicola (F, P)
roseoalbus (F, R)
saundersii (U)
saxorum (B)
silvaticus (R)
stomandrus (F, L)
thompsonii (B, L)
thysanotus (B, L)
trabeculatus (U)
vandeleurii (U)
variabilis (F, R)
wendlandii (U)
wilmsii (U)
 • *wilmsii*/Graskop
wilmsii/Long Tom Pass
 • 'Athena' × self (R)
 • 'Bethan' × self (R)
 • 'Demeter' × self (R)
 • 'Falling Stars' × self (R)
 • 'Georgette' × self (R)
 • 'Gloria' × self (R)
 • 'Karen' × self (R)
 • 'Kitten Face' × self (R)
 • 'Midnight Flame' × self (R)
 • 'Mini Pink Fu' × self (R)
 • 'Party Doll' × self (R)
 • 'Pegasus' × self (R)
 • 'Royal' (red) (R)
 • 'Royal' (white/pink stripes) (R)
 • 'Sandra' × self (R)
 • 'Strawberry Crush' × self (R)
 • 'Suzie' × self (R)
 • 'Thalia' × self (R)
 • 'Ulysses' × self (R)
 • Martin Kunhardt hybrid mix (R)
 • New Zealand hybrid mix (F, R)
rexii hybrids (F, R)
 • Wiesmoor hybrids (F, R)
 hybrid mix (F, R)
 hybrid, lt blue/dk blue lines (R)
 hybrid, lg burgundy (R)
 hybrid, lg purple (R)
 hybrid, lg white (R)
streptocarpella hybrids (B)
- Titanotrichum***
oldhamii (propagules)
- Trichantha***
ambigua (B)
ambigua 'El Yunque' WEK96163
brenneri (LM)
kucyniakii GRF93166 (MT)
minutiflora GRF9552 (LM)
purpureovittata (B, L)
 sp. nov. (*molinae* ined.) GRF98159
- Vanhouttea*** (S, T)
calcarata GRF3026
lanata
 • *lanata* AC2405
 sp. nov. AC2403
 • 'Bruegger' (S, T)
 • 'Saint Hilaire' (S, T)
- Mixed alpine gesneriads**
Mixed gesneriads
- denotes LIMITED quantities

PLEASE NOTE: *Petrocosmea duclouxii* has been identified as *P. forrestii*.

(A) Alpine or cool greenhouse.	(LM) Low to medium height.
(B) Suitable for hanging basket.	(M) Medium height; 1 to 2 feet.
(D) Has dormant period, forming tubers or rhizomes.	(MT) Medium to tall.
(F) Blooms readily in fluorescent light.	(P) Petite or miniature; not more than 6 inches tall.
(G) Recommended for greenhouses; requires space.	(R) Rosette in form.
(H) Requires humidity and warmth.	(S) Requires sun to bloom.
(L) Low growing; not more than 12".	(T) Tall plants; generally over 3 feet.
	(U) Unifoliate or single leaf.

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To most people, reading a gesneriad show schedule holds as much attraction as reading a dictionary. However, both have their fans (and I am a fan of both). To avid gesneriad growers who want to exhibit the results of their efforts, the annual AGGS convention flower show schedule is a masochistic form of pleasure. A thorough scrutiny always reveals changes, some almost unnoticeable, some impossible to miss.

This year saw one of the latter. For more than two decades, the horticultural division included tuberous, rhizomatous and fibrous rooted gesneriads. Most of us probably thought this was so unchanging that it had been written in a footnote on the Tables of the Law. Now, suddenly, fibrous rooted gesneriads have morphed into gesneriads that do not usually form a storage structure. This change is only one landmark in the evolution of convention flower show schedules through the years.

In the beginning, there were several classes for "gloxinias" and others for anything under the sun, including begonias. The 1958 show even had a class for groups of "gesneriads not necessarily in bloom, not including African Violets and Gloxinias, covering 5 square feet on a table"—a good way of showing a lot of plants without having them judged individually. Gloxinias were the staple of the society and the shows for many years. In 1965, there were thirteen classes in horticulture, three of which were for hybrid Gloxinias, and four for Sinningias — *Reichsteineria* and \times *Gloxinera* — a *Sinningia* by another name. In comparison, the 1978 schedule had three classes in the tuberous section.



Sinningia speciosa hybrid grown by Vera Dillard
 awarded Best in Show at the 1955 Kansas City Convention

At the time, show schedules had to be specially ordered. Our annual ritual of perusing the schedule in *THE GLOXINIAN* was born in 1974, five years after the convention supplement became a regular feature. This first inside supplement, published in the January-February issue of 1969, did include a schedule, although the "decorative classes" would make our present-day master arrangers cringe. They would get little inspiration from a schedule stating only that cut gesneriad arrangements could cover no more than a 2 ft x 2 ft space on a table. Fortunately, the next issue published a rewritten schedule for the decorative classes. Even better, the next year the convention show divided exhibits into horticultural and artistic. A definite improvement, although it took years before the elaborate theme descriptions began to evolve into their present form.

This year's change was just another step and will undoubtedly give way to further transformation. As science reveals more details of gesneriad classifications, we will have to adjust our schedules accordingly. Now, this promises to be great fun for the AGGS Historian to study on the 100th Anniversary of our Society!



The Teenager, the Housewife and the Grower of Gloxinias

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Once upon a time, an Oklahoma teenager by the name of Elvin McDonald became interested in, and somewhat frustrated by, some puzzling but attractive little plants known as "Florist Gloxinias". Inspired by a recent article he had read about a Gloxinia breeding program, Elvin decided to write an open letter to a gardening magazine. He inquired of its readership if there was any interest in starting a new society devoted to the growing and propagating of Gloxinias and other Gesneriads. One of the many positive responses he received came from Peggie Schultz of Minneapolis. In her letter, Peggie modestly described herself as a housewife and mother with an avid interest in rare and unusual plants who also did some free-lance writing. Thus in 1951, the teenager and the housewife (who had yet to meet each other, face to face) decided to join forces and co-edit the first issue of "*THE GLOXINIAN*". One of the feature articles appearing in that inaugural volume was on Florist Gloxinias — written by none other than our own Albert Buell.

The new gesneriad newsletter was an overnight sensation, and people soon began to organize interest groups which met to discuss their growing successes and failures with gesneriads. Some of the first of these to take root were the Golden West Branch in San Leandro, California in 1952 and a Chapter in the Chicago area in early 1953. By the spring of '53, the Gloxinia Society of Greater Kansas City (not only our first host city of this new millennium, but also the first city ever to host a National AG(G)S Convention!) was born. The next decade brought a period of unprecedented growth to our

Society. Pollen banks and seed funds were established and nomenclature committees went to work, regularly publishing their data in registers or as articles in *THE GLOXINIAN*. Round robins began to soar as more and more people became fascinated by Gesneriads.

Many of those first interest groups blossomed into official Chapters of the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society. By 1968, Juanita Stone was Chairman of Chapters and Affiliates, overseeing the activities of about a dozen fully fledged AGGS Chapters. Mel Sater, Chairman throughout most of the 70's and 80's, was a member of the two-man engineering team which developed the first videotape in 1956. Under his energetic guidance, more Chapters than ever before in the history of AGGS joined the family. When his tenure as Chapters and Affiliates Chairman came to an end in 1986, we were 42 Chapters strong. Mel's successor, Margaret Waguespack had worked on the Committee with him for many years. She was well equipped to carry on the task of putting newcomers to AGGS in touch with existing Chapters in their areas, or giving them the assistance they needed to establish new AGGS Affiliates or Chapters. Jon Dixon ushered in the computer age when he took over as Chairman. Suddenly, communication between AGGS and its Chapters, Affiliates and individuals became almost instantaneous through the magic of electronic mail. In 1996, Jon had the honour of presenting a Charter to the largest Chapter to date in the history of AGGS — Gesneriasts of Sweden. President Ingrid Lindskog tells me that in the year 2000, there were 352 gesneriad enthusiasts on their membership roster! She further points out that since 1993, a total of 673 people have joined Gesneriasts of Sweden for at least one year and, as a result, have enjoyed the opportunity of studying and learning about our favourite plant family.



The first AG(G)S Officers (left to right): Elvin McDonald, editor; Peggie Schultz, co-editor; H.E. Dillard, membership-treasurer; Vera Dillard, president, Gretchen Harshbarger, representative to American Horticulture Council; Fay Witherow, vice-president



Albert Buell in 1963 accepting honorary life membership in AGGS from President Bill Hull



Buell Hybrid Gloxinia
Sinningia 'Pink Surprise'
(photo by Albert Buell)

From a chance encounter between a 13-year-old Oklahoma farm boy, a Florist Gloxinia hybridizer, and a housewife turned free-lance writer, we have become a vital, dynamic Society of people from all walks of life. Young or more mature — professionals and hobbyists alike — we enjoy belonging to AGGS for the same reasons. All of us are keenly interested in learning everything about the culture, propagation and preservation of Gesneriads and interacting with anyone who shares our interest. As a result, AGGS is the nicest, most easily approachable, down-to-earth group of people you could ever hope to find — anywhere and everywhere!

As we embark upon the next 50 years in the history of AGGS, our primary goal should be that of introducing Gesneriads to as many people as we can. Do you know of someone in your area who might be interested in coming to a Chapter meeting? Why not invite him or her to go with you to the next one? Your consideration may be rewarded with a capable, hard working new member for your Chapter. Are there plant enthusiasts living nearby that are too far away to attend meetings regularly? You could help them begin their own AGGS Chapter or Affiliate by putting them in touch with me. I am accessible through email or regular mail and would be delighted to assist in every way I can. It's easy to become a Chapter. All you need is 10 people in your area interested in Gesneriads and you're on your way! If there are less than 10 of you, don't be discouraged! You can meet as an AGGS Affiliate, growing and learning about Gesneriads until you have enough members to be eligible for chapterhood.

At the moment, I receive newsletters from The Puget Sound Gesneriad Society, the Toronto Gesneriad Society and email updates from Gesneriasts of Sweden. Does your Chapter publish a Newsletter? I would love to receive a copy! With your permission, I will publish your Chapter's activities in my column in *THE GLOXINIAN*. Your ideas may be just what the doctor ordered to help a Chapter in another part of the country or the world find the direction it needs to become stronger and flourish. I believe the future of AGGS is about people communicating with people. The future of AGGS belongs to you.

GROW WITH US — JOIN A CHAPTER

Smithiantha

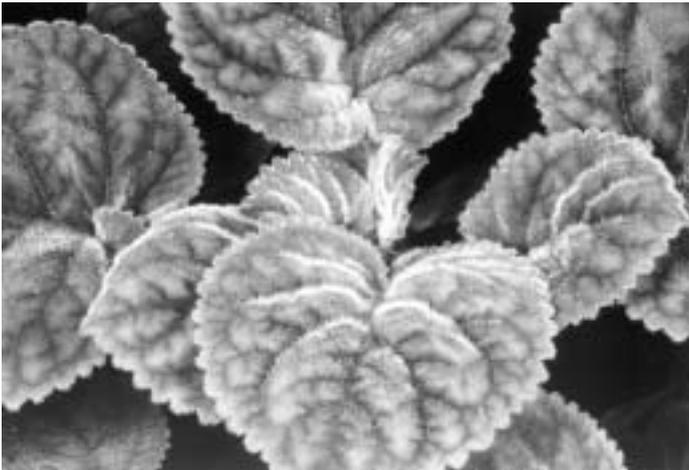
(Originally published in 1970 in the Gesneriads One by One series, this article has been revised and updated by Frances with additional information provided by Maryjane Evans and the GRF publication *Gesneriana*.)

Frances Batcheller
13 Oyster River Road, Durham, NH 03824

Smithiantha, Miss Smith's flower, is the only genus of Gesneriaceae named for a woman, other than the somewhat mythical *Chrysothemis*. In 1848 Regel described this genus, naming it *Naegelia*. Subsequently it was discovered that this name had already been pre-empted for a genus of fungi. Therefore, in 1891, Kuntze renamed the genus *Smithiantha* — to honor Miss Matilda Smith, an artist at the Royal Botanic Garden in Kew.

Matilda Smith was born in Bombay, India in 1854. Her cousin, Sir Joseph Hooker, was editor of the *Curtis Botanical Magazine*. An artist as well as a distinguished botanist, he encouraged the young lady to apply her artistic talents to botanical illustrating. She took over much of the work of making the drawings for the *Botanical Magazine* upon the retirement of Walter Fitch. Her first illustrations appeared in 1878 and continued until shortly before her death in 1926. (See one of her illustrations on page 45.) Miss Smith also prepared drawings for other publications and made many for the permanent collection at Kew. She was also very skillful in preparing facsimile pages to complete rare volumes in the Kew Library. *Smithiantha* is not the only genus named in honor of this gifted and dedicated artist. In 1921 a genus of Urticaceae was named *Smithiella*.

Smithiantha is a small genus of plants from Mexico. Six species of *Smithiantha*, all quite similar, are now in cultivation. The plants produce large scaly rhizomes. One outstanding characteristic is the beautiful foliage. The leaves are heart-shaped with a serrated edge. Some are plain green in color, but many are reddish or mottled with brown or purple. All have a vel-



Foliage of *Smithiantha cinnabarina* hybrid
(photo by M. H. Stone)



Botanical illustrations from the mid-1800's –
Smithiantha zebrina (L) and *S. fulgida bicolor* (now *S. cinnabarina*)

vety texture. The colored sap in the hair cells of the leaves imparts an iridescent quality. Not only are the leaves attractive, the growth pattern of the whole plant forms an elegant pyramid with the largest leaves and the longest petioles at the base, leaf pairs becoming progressively smaller at the plant extends, topped with the spike of nodding bell-shaped flowers. Most of the species grow from one to three feet tall, but there are cultivars which are of shorter stature. Grown in natural light, *Smithianthas* generally bloom at the end of summer, or during the fall months, continuing a succession of color after *Achimenes* have finished their season. Grown on a light bench, they can be flowered at any season.

Smithiantha has an annular disk, sometimes five-lobed. The stigma is mouth-shaped. The chromosome number is $n = 12$. Plant habit, leaf and flower shape is quite similar in all the species. The first species were brought into cultivation in the mid-1800's and are still being grown today:

S. cinnabarina is a handsome species. The name refers to the flower color, the mineral cinnabar (a mercury compound), being the source of the pigment vermilion. The foliage is a rich brown-red glowing like velvet. The flowers are vermilion on the outside of the tube, cream-colored within with red spots in the throat. This species generally blooms a little later in the season than the others. It is also a good plant for the light bench, as it does not grow as tall as some species, generally reaching 12 to 18 inches. Even without flowers, the beautiful foliage makes this plant a choice item for any grower. The tall-growing *S. fulgida* with plain green leaves and brilliant scarlet flowers has been submerged into *S. cinnabarina*.

S. multiflora (many-flowered) provides an interesting contrast to the brilliantly colored species. The flowers are white or cream, without spots or



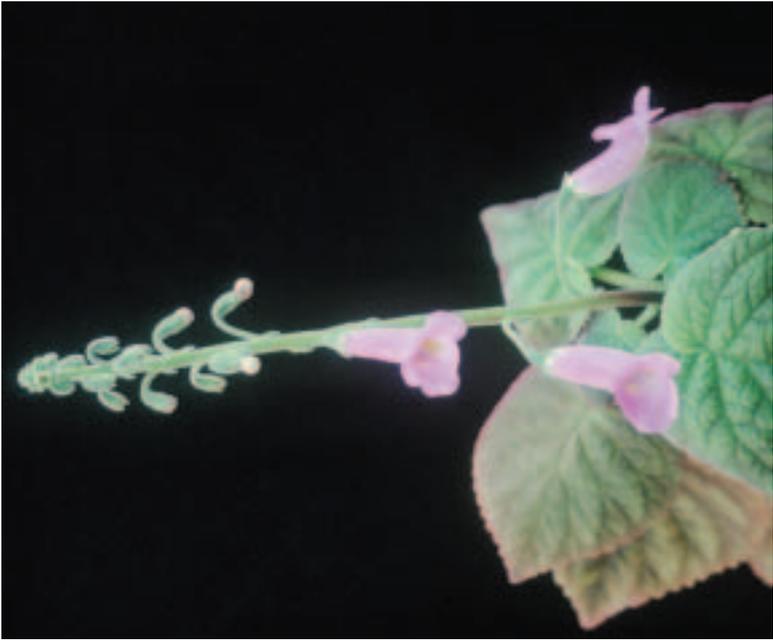
Smithiantha canarina
(grown by Maryjane Evans)



Smithiantha aurantiaca
(grown by Michael Kartuz)



Smithiantha multiflora
(grown by Earl DeRoche)



Smithiantha laui
(grown by Maryjane Evans)

marks. The foliage is deep olive green, sometimes attractively marked with a lighter border along the serrated edge. This species grows from 18 to 30 inches tall.

S. zebrina (striped) is commonly grown although much of the material in cultivation prior to 1991 may be of hybrid origin. The cultivars are variable in size, some reaching to 36 inches, others only 9 to 12 inches tall. The foliage is green, heavily mottled with darker green and red-brown. The bi-color flowers are usually strong yellow on the lower half, bright scarlet on the upper half, heavily lined and spotted with red in the throat. Some plants have the habit of producing extra petals, narrow ribbon-like curls from the base of the tube or lateral wings.

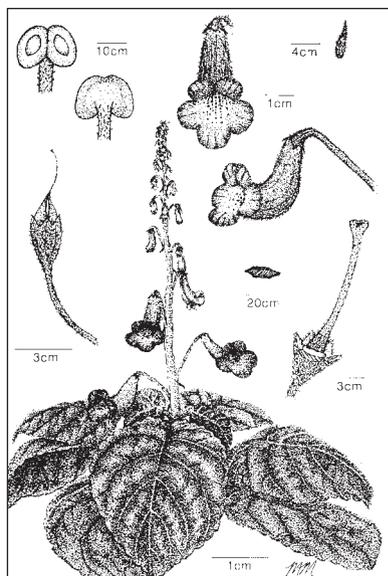
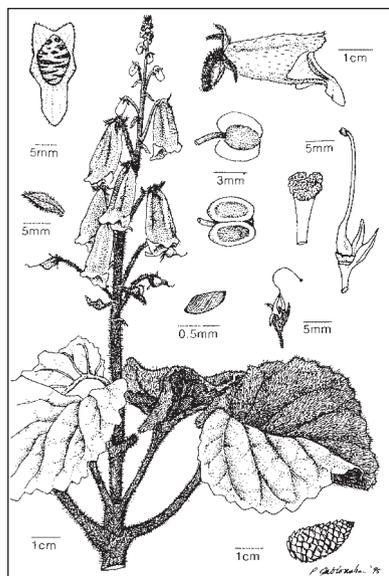
Three additional species were discovered only recently and were published by Dr. Hans Wiehler in *Gesneriana* Vol. 1, Number 1 in 1995:

S. aurantiaca (orange) appears to be related to *S. cinnabarina*. Both species share the red-speckled or barred nectar guide inside the corolla tube. The limb of the corolla is oval-shaped caused by the completely reflexed lateral lobes. The brilliant golden orange flowers add to the palette of color in this genus. The leaves are green with light- to deep-red hairs.

S. canarina (canary yellow) is very similar to *S. multiflora* in size and leaf shape but the brilliant yellow flowers set it apart. The broader corolla tube has a distinct "pinched-in" longitudinal furrow and the corolla lobes are larger and of unequal size.

S. laui is quite distinct from the other five species with its lavender-purple, spotted corollas with widely flaring limbs and broad tubes.

Smithianthas have the same requirements for culture as other rhizomatous gesneriads. The soil mix needs to be sufficiently porous to drain



Smithiantha aurantiaca (L) and *Smithiantha laui* (R)
(Illustrations from *Gesneriana* Vol. 1, No. 1, 1995)

efficiently and be well aerated but prevent excessive drying out. Fairly high humidity is necessary to keep the foliage in prime condition. The soft velvety surface is easily burned by water drops in bright sunshine. As the rhizomes are large, generally only one is planted to a 4- to 5-inch pot. As with the other pre-packaged gesneriads, be sure the newly sprouted rhizomes get strong light to prevent legginess, which no amount of attention later can overcome. After the plant has flowered and the foliage begins to brown, withhold water. Cut off the foliage after it has dried up and store and repot the rhizomes for the next growth cycle.

Smithiantha can be raised from seed. Sometimes quite small seedlings will put forth a few blooms, but a much finer show will come with the succeeding growth cycle.

Smithiantha has some similarity to *Kohleria*. The color range is much the same and the flowers are usually spotted or lined in a similar manner. *Kohleria* blossoms generally have a well defined tube and limb, the limb being either at right angles to the tube or reflexed back. The mouth of the tube may be quite small. *Smithiantha* blossoms have a narrow base to the tube, which is then gradually expanded and the limb is small, almost a scallop around the end. The mouth of the tube is open, not constricted. Another difference is in the position of the flowers. *Kohleria* blossoms are borne in the leaf axils, and even if the leaves are very small at the apex of the plant, as in *K. spicata*, they are opposite in arrangement. *Smithiantha* blossoms are borne on a terminal spike, with little curved bracts at the base of each individual flower stem. These bracts are arranged in an alternate manner, not opposite. Another difference between the two genera is that *Kohleria* has a tendency for continuous growth, putting up new shoots in succession, whereas *Smithiantha* generally puts up only one shoot and goes into dormancy after flowering. *Koellikeria* has the same type of terminal flower spike, with alternate arrangement of bracts, but the small size of the plant and flower and the oval leaves form sharp distinctions from *Smithiantha*.

From the six species, all now in cultivation, many hybrids have been produced with a color range of white, yellow, pink, orange, red, and lavender. Perhaps the most spectacular hybrids are the Cornell series developed by Dr. Robert E. Lee in the '60s from crosses with *S. cinnabarina* (*fulgida*) and *S. zebrina*. These magnificent plants are more suitable for greenhouse culture than the light bench, as they are very vigorous, with heavy bloom capacity. There has been renewed interest in hybridizing *Smithiantha* in recent years, particularly for shorter plants. (See "The Newest *Smithiantha* Hybrids" article by Dale Martens also in this issue.)

Not only have interspecific crosses been made within the genus *Smithiantha*, intergeneric crosses are also possible. Five intergeneric combinations have been made and more are possible. They are: ×*Achimenantha* (*Achimenes* and *Smithiantha*); ×*Gloxinantha* (*Gloxinia* and *Smithiantha*); ×*Smithicodonia* (*Eucodonia* and *Smithiantha*); ×*Heppiantha* (*Heppiella* and *Smithiantha*); and ×*Moussoniantha* (*Moussonia* and *Smithiantha*).

Smithiantha is a showy genus, and at least a few cultivars should be tried by everyone interested in gesneriads. The unusual and handsome foliage always attracts attention and the bright flowers are held aloft for all to see. If you have enough room, grow the splendid Cornell Series for a spectacular display. If your growing area is a windowsill or small light garden, try any of the smaller hybrids that are now available.

How I Grow *Smithianthas*

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Smithianthas are gesneriads that have varieties with strikingly colored, velvet-textured, heart-shaped foliage. They can be entered in a show in several classes. These spectacular plants can be entered in a show class titled "Flowering gesneriads usually producing rhizomes", and if you have the same variety that has not yet reached the blooming stage, it can be exhibited in a class for "Gesneriads grown primarily for foliage or fruit". If you have three excellent plants of different varieties, you can place them in "Collections of Gesneriads". The same variety could go into each of the above classes if you have three that are alike and have been cared for well. Additionally, if you have a new variety introduced within the last two years, the plant could be exhibited in the "New Gesneriads" class accompanied by a card giving information about the hybridizer or collector, place of origin and special cultural requirements. Since *Smithiantha* has been successfully crossed with *Achimenes* (to make \times *Achimenantha*) and *Eucodonia* (to make \times *Smithicodonia*) you could enter both of the parents and the offspring in the "Kinship group — Intergeneric hybrid/hybrids" class. Wow! That makes me wonder why I have only one pot of each *Smithiantha* I grow.



Smithiantha 'Tangerine' (Yamagata)
grown and photographed by Carol Schreck

Now, how do I grow my *Smithianthas*? Well, that can vary, depending on when the question was asked. For the 1999–2000 growing season, they were grown in 6" clay pots on our screened west-facing patio where they got plenty of afternoon sunshine. They were watered with a garden hose and had some Osmocote (time release fertilizer) in each pot. However, I was greatly disappointed with the amount of blooms produced this way. I decided that perhaps a half day of sunlight was not enough.

So, for the 2000-2001 growing season, I switched to 3-1/2" plastic pots on acrylic matting, in trays and under four fluorescent 40-watt light tubes. This year I have had a lot more bloom. The lights are on for twelve hours a day so my theory regarding how much light is required may have been true.

My soil has remained the same however. I use half ProMix BX and half perlite to give them a light porous growing medium. Depending upon your water, you may wish to add as much as two tablespoons of dolomitic lime to each quart of soil. Where I live in central Florida, the lime is not a necessary addition as our water has a very high calcium content. The rhizomes are planted about one inch deep in their pots. After the plants are through with their blooming cycle and begin looking "tired", I gradually let the soil dry. They will now have a brief period of dormancy — usually about three months. When the soil is dry, I harvest the rhizomes they have manufactured. I now have extras to share with friends and fellow AGGS members. The rhizomes go into zippered plastic sandwich bags — one bag for each variety — with slightly damp New Zealand sphagnum moss, with a bit of Ferbam added to help prevent rotting. I check the bags of rhizomes frequently so I will know when they begin to sprout and want to have soil, fertilizer, bright light and water again for a new growth cycle.

If a *Smithiantha* plant does not get enough light, it will become leggy. Some varieties just naturally grow tall. Nevertheless, you can solve this problem by making a stem cutting just below a set of leaf nodes, removing the bottom leaves, rooting the cutting and then letting it grow to blooming stage. (This same method also works very well with tall *Kohleria* plants.)

In a recent issue of the Lone Star State African Violet Council newsletter, Dale Martens wrote: "Cutting off the main blossom stem of a *Smithiantha* has resulted in a HUGE number of side-shoot blossom stems. I found this out quite by accident when I entered Keith Jacobson's wonderful creamy-peach-blossomed *Smithiantha* 'Ezra Altamont' at the AVSA convention a couple of years ago. I had to cut off the central blossom stem (BEFORE it ever had a chance to bloom) in order to pack it into a box 10.5" tall for the overhead compartment of the airplane. Before I knew it, it had produced 12 new blossom stems! What an amazing show it displayed for me about a month later."

Currently I am growing one species and fifteen hybrids. My *Smithiantha* 'Tangerine' recently was sporting 28 beautiful blossoms. Two of my favorite species are *S. cinnabarina* and *S. zebrina* but I have neither at this time. Let me know if you would like to share a rhizome from either of these with me and we'll see what kind of a swap we can arrange. *Smithianthas* are now vying for "my favorite gesneriad" status with *Chiritas*, *Sinningias* and *Episcias* in numbers of plants in my collection. Try some. You'll like them!

HOW DO YOU GROW — LET US KNOW

Science Project Log

(This was submitted as a seventh grade science project, begun on September 6 and completed on October 26, 2000, and received a grade of 95 from the science teacher. Matthew is the "Grand Child" of Carol Schreck and has been growing gesneriads since he was in kindergarten.)

Matthew Belcher <Lego288@aol.com>
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Purpose: The purpose of this experiment is to see which type of soil helps plants grow fastest.

Hypothesis: I hypothesize that the plant in potting soil will grow best.

Materials: Four *Episcia* plant cuttings, dirt from back yard, potting soil, sand (new, sand box sand, had not been exposed to cats), New Zealand sphagnum moss, four pots, four wicks and four plastic sundae cups.

Control: Potting medium.

Variable: The different materials in which the cuttings are placed.

Constant: The pots, amount of water added, humidity, temperature, amount of soil, light and amount of fertilizer.

Plant chosen: *Episcia* 'Alice's Aussie'

Procedure: Each cutting starts out 1-1/2" tall. First the cuttings are placed in pots, each of which contains a different soil. Water, containing a plant rooting hormone was added, one tablespoonful to each pot. The plants were put into the sundae cups with lids on them for extra humidity, and placed under a four-tube fluorescent fixture. When the cuttings are rooted, the plants will be removed from the sundae cups to pots with wick reservoirs. I will record the data until I find definite results.

9/6/2000 Project was begun.

9/11/2000 Sundae cups opened slightly — the cuttings are already beginning to root.

9/15/2000 Each plant got 1 Tbs fertilizer solution (diluted at 1/4 tsp per gallon of water).

9/18/2000 Plant in back yard dirt has grown 1/2". Others are still the same size as when the project was begun.

9/21/2000 Added 2 Tbs fertilizer solution to each.

9/27/2000 Plants were removed from sundae cups and placed on reservoirs containing fertilizer solution.

10/18/2000 Plant in New Zealand Sphagnum moss has grown 1-1/2". Plant in potting soil grew 1-1/2" and has a flower bud.

10/23/2000 Plant in potting soil has first flower open and another bud forming.

10/26/2000 Refilled reservoirs with fertilizer solution. Plant in potting soil has grown another inch. Plant in back yard dirt grew 1-1/2 inches. Plant in sphagnum moss also grew 1-1/2 inches. Plant in sand has grown about 1/2 inch but has an unhealthy looking center.

Conclusion: My hypothesis was correct in stating that the plant in potting soil would grow fastest.

Abstract: Ready, Set, Grow!

Bibliography: "Agriculture" *Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia*, 1998 ed.
"Agriculture" *World Book Encyclopedia*, 1998 ed.
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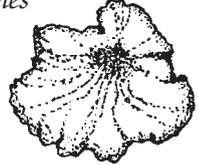
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Basic Tips for the Beginning Gesneriad Grower:

- ❁ Keep it simple when you start out.
- ❁ Avoid the tendency to get lots and lots of different plants. There's plenty of time for that later. Begin with a few plants and see how well you can grow them. Learn what their needs are. If one plant struggles or dies, concentrate on growing others that do well for you, then later move on to more difficult ones.
- ❁ Try gesneriads in different conditions, whatever is available to you: various windowsill exposures, under lights if you have them, at home or at work, outdoors if it is warm enough. Learn about the microclimates in your living area.
- ❁ Read about gesneriads and learn about them. Purchase some back issues of THE GLOXINIAN. If you have Internet access, explore the AGGS web site <www.aggs.org>. This site will lead you to other internet resources such as Ron Myhr's web site and the email correspondence club Gesneriphiles.

The Basics — Propagation

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Once you are into growing plants you will have a strong urge to propagate them. It is one of the more rewarding aspects of gardening. There are many ways in which to accomplish this objective, and there are many reasons for wanting to propagate: to increase your stock of plants, to share your stock with friends, or maybe to supply the sales table at your local chapter or plant group.

Tools and materials for your propagating area should include: starter mixes, rooting hormones (optional), propagation boxes, scissors, an X-acto knife or razor blade, a small watering can and a misting bottle. Many different types of rooting media are used for the purpose of propagating. Personally I have had great success with a fine grade of vermiculite. Other media used are a commercial starter mix (which is normally a very light soil-less mixture), coarse vermiculite, perlite, long-fiber sphagnum moss, milled sphagnum, sand, or a combination of any of the preceding.

Many different items may be used as propagating boxes. These include commercial propagating boxes as well as any clear plastic box such as sweater or bread boxes. Food containers from the deli are also useful, and a pot enclosed in a plastic bag will be just as effective. A seed tray with a plastic dome may be used for seeds or for leaves and smaller cuttings. Various sizes of plastic drinking glasses may also be utilized. Some years ago individual domes to fit different size pots were available, but they seem to have been taken off the market. A clear plastic drinking cup inverted on top of the pot may be substituted for this purpose.

Plants and seedlings should be well established before transplanting, and it is advisable to gradually remove the covering to acclimatize them to life without a protective dome.

Only minimum lighting is required for propagation. Prop boxes should be placed at the lower end of the light stand or on a table beside a window. I normally place mine on the floor beside the light stand and find it quite adequate.

Here are some of the most popular ways of increasing your stock:

Single leaf — Most gesneriads can easily be propagated by using a strong healthy leaf. With the larger leaves (e.g., *Saintpaulia*, *Streptocarpus*, *Chirita*), use your blade to cut the petiole of the leaf to about 1" in length, at a 45-degree angle. Plant it firmly in your starter mix which has been dampened. Enclose it in your propagation box and place the box at the lower end of your light stand.

Leaf wedges — This method is more suitable for larger leaves which can be easily cut into sections. The Florist *Gloxinia*, *Sinningia speciosa*, is an example. Place a leaf on a flat surface and cut it into wedges starting at the midrib and following the contour of the secondary ribs that run on an angle on both sides of the main rib. You should end up with three or four V-sections. Plant these in the same manner as you would a leaf.

Leaf halves — Mostly used for propagating *Streptocarpus*, this method will increase the number of plants which you may derive from a single leaf. Again place the leaf on a flat surface, and with a sharp tool cut out the center

or main rib completely. With a pencil or a dibber make an indentation 1/4 inch deep in the starter mix and place the halves, cut side down, in the indentation. Firm the soil around the leaves. Plantlets will emerge from each of the secondary ribs.

Leaf pairs — Take a plant which has parallel leaves attached to a stem, such as *Columnea*, *Aeschynanthus*, or *Codonanthe*, and cut it just above each pair of leaves, leaving the longer part of the stem at the bottom of the leaves. Place each section in your starter mix ensuring that the leaves are barely resting on the medium. Roots will form at the node and new growth will emerge from the top.

Tip cuttings — Again take a stem and cut it into sections. After removing the bottom leaves, place each section in starter mix ensuring that the bottom end of each section is placed in the soil. As the plant develops, it is best to pinch out the tip of the cutting. This will encourage branching and a fuller, more compact plant will result.

Suckers — These are extra growths that may start in the axils of the plant (i.e., *Saintpaulia* or *Petrocosmea*) or grow underground (i.e., *Gloxinia*). Quite often, as in the case of *Gloxinia*, one will find these appendages growing out of the drain holes of the pot. They are rooted and can be removed and repotted. Leaf axil suckers can be removed with a sharp pointed tool and planted in starter mix. Often, as in the case of *Petrocosmea*, the suckers are formed so close to the soil that they may have already rooted. These may be planted directly in your potting mix.

Stolons — These are rosettes of leaves at the terminus of a threadlike runner. Commonly found on *Episcia* and *Alsobia*, these appendages can be removed and potted up separately, or, without sundering them, can be pinned down to the soil in a pot placed adjacent to the mother plant. They may then be detached when rooted.

Rhizomes — These are more or less elongated subterranean shoots, often scaly in appearance. These are produced during the growing season of the plant, but production will speed up when the plant starts to go into dormancy. Producing rhizomes is the plant's way of surviving until the next season. Rhizomatous gesneriads include *Achimenes*, *Kohleria*, *Smithiantha*, *Gloxinia*, *Diastema*, *Eucodonia*, *Niphaea*, *Phinaea*, *Koellikeria*, and many of their intergeneric combinations. Not all require a dormant season, but they will not hesitate to go into dormancy if given a long drying-out period. When the plants are dormant, the pots can be stored in a cool area of the plant room and may be given an occasional misting. When new growth appears, they can then be brought under the lights. If you wish to harvest and store the rhizomes, wait until the pot is completely dry, empty the contents on a piece of newspaper and with great care remove the rhizomes. These may be placed in plastic bags with slightly moistened long-fiber sphagnum moss or vermiculite. Place in a cool spot and as soon as growth appears, or whenever you wish to restart, you may repot them in loose soil. Soil should be slightly dampened but not wet. Broken rhizomes are not a problem as each scale will produce a plant. Rhizomes may be broken intentionally for purposes of propagation.

Aerial propagules — These are rhizome-like attachments that form on the plant above ground. On *Achimenes* these will look exactly like the underground rhizomes except that they are smaller and of a greenish color. On *Gloxinias* they are threadlike appendages which sometime appear knotted. These can be detached and planted directly into the soil.

Tubers — *Sinningias* form tubers and can easily be multiplied by taking the crown from the tuber. Remove the bottom leaves and place the stem in the starter mix. As soon as it has formed a tuber, the top may be discarded and new growth will appear. The leaves may also be started in the same manner, but leaves will take a longer time to produce tubers. Once a leaf has started to form a tuber, it will normally increase in size and will stay quite green and healthy. As soon as the tuber is well established and can start feeding on its own, the leaf will start to deteriorate. It is then time to remove the leaf and replant the tuber. Occasionally the plant will produce a tuber above the main tuber. This is often brought on by the tuber being planted too deeply. Tiny tubers may form around the crest of the main tuber. These can be removed and used for starting new plants.

Seeds — These are my favorite method of propagating. From the time I was a child I was fascinated by the germination of seed. I can remember when I was just a tot planting a bean and watching it evolve. I sometimes would dig it out of the soil to see what development had taken place. Even today that fascination remains, and the temptation to unearth remains as well, although to a lesser degree. It is such a thrill to see that first speck of green appear and then to watch the leaves gradually mature.

To sow seeds, I normally fill individual pots with mix and ensure that they are all dampened, but not too wet. I then place them in a propagation box into which I have placed a piece of capillary matting. On top of a sheet of waxed paper I combine the seeds with a small amount of the dry mix and spread it evenly on the dampened mix. It is then carefully moistened with a fine mist. This ensures an even distribution of the seeds and makes it easier for division when the seedlings are ready to be transplanted. The capillary matting will provide constant moisture and humidity without saturating the starter mix. As soon as they have developed more than one set of leaves, remove the cover and grow them in the open. Seedlings of tuberous plants should not be transplanted until they are quite mature. Fibrous-rooted plants can be transplanted as soon as they have hardened off which should be in a couple of weeks after they have been uncovered. If you are interested in growing from seed, you should take advantage of the AGGS Seed Fund. It offers a vast variety of seed at low cost.

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In October of 1962, my husband Dale and I and our three oldest children made a trip to Mexico to look for and collect gesneriads.

Dale had been writing to Thomas MacDougall (a collector of plants and small animals for various institutions and specialists). By arrangement, the family met with "Don Tomas" (as he was called there) in the town of Tehuantepec. While the men were talking, I stayed in the car with the children. School had apparently just been let out, and children walking by the car were curious and stopped to talk. Our children (Dale, 13 years old, Doshia, 12 years old, and Rusty, 10 years old) all had 3-4 years of Spanish in school, but had been too shy to try to use it with adults. Now, confronted with children their own ages, they were able to talk briefly with the Mexican children — Spanish could be used!



Doshia, Dale, Miriam (mom, the hippy) and Rusty Denham

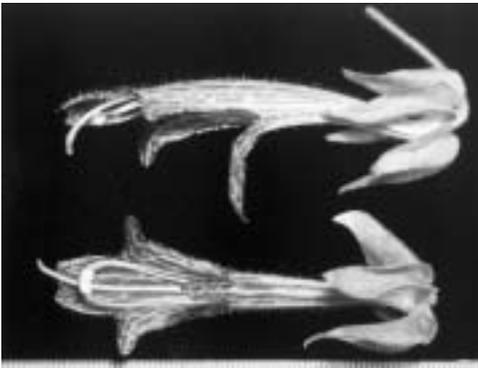
Don Tomas could not leave for a few days and directed us to an area in Chiapas to look for gesneriads until he could leave. We found *Achimenes skinneri* and a *Smithiantha* species (in limestone) which did not survive, and saw many plants of *Kohleria schiedeana* now submerged within *Kohleria spicata*. After a few days, we returned to Tehuantepec and Don Tomas accompanied us for the next several days. He had been over the new logging road between Tuxtepec and Oaxaca about two years earlier and had observed some gesneriads there. Harold Moore of Cornell had also been in the area a year earlier and gave us directions to find a couple of the plants he had collected and lost.

To reach Tuxtepec, we crossed the Rio Papaloapan twice by ferry, passing through Paso Nacional, and Cosamaloapan. Tuxtepec is a city on the lowlands off the Gulf of Mexico in the Mexican state of Oaxaca. It is about 75 miles south of Veracruz, about four miles up the navigable river of Tuxtepec from its junction with the Rio Papaloapan. The road south to Oaxaca (City) was then a dirt road. Today it is the paved Highway 175. This narrow road curved up the steep hillside toward Valle Nacional. At about 2000 feet elevation we saw the white-flowered *Smithiantha* species previously collected by Dr. Moore, but it was late and we planned to collect it the next day.

We spent the night beside the road near a thatched "bus stop" at 5000 ft elevation. Don Tomas placed his bedroll inside the bus stop hut, and we slept inside our car, a Chevrolet Carryall, set up with hammocks to accommodate everyone. (My middle son in 1969, looking at pictures taken by the sea in Oregon, said, "My mom, the original hippy".)

In the morning we drove another five miles, turning around at kilometer 109. Don Tomas commented that two years earlier the wet, moss-covered rocks had been barren. Almost immediately we found what we thought was *Solenophora insignis*. Another five miles on, *Solenophora coccinea* was found at 5300 ft elevation.

Another two miles further at 5000 ft elevation, *Columnnea schiedeana* was found growing with several other epiphytes on the trunk of a tree. (This site was 52.2 miles south of Tuxtepec.) This plant was collected and eventually accessed by Gesneriad Gardens as GG633. It is a plant capable of having solid red-backed leaves when grown in adequate light. This plant is still being grown by Gesneriad Gardens, probably a third generation cutting.



Columnnea schiedeana (L) and
Moussonia hirsutissima (R)
grown and photographed at Cornell



Smithiantha cinnabarina (fulgida) growing in its limestone habitat in Mexico (photo by Miriam Denham)

A yellow-flowered *Kohleria* (now *Moussonia*) *hirsutissima*, also previously collected by Dr. Moore, was photographed growing in gravel beside the road and collected at 2300 ft elevation on the way back. The white-flowered (not cream-colored) *Smithiantha multiflora* was collected two miles further, but it was too late in the day to photograph. Don Tomas was left in Tuxtepec at his request, and we continued our trip home. *Smithiantha multiflora* survived for many years and flourished in a cool basement under a bank of three double-tube fluorescent lights. One year, after the initial erect stems bloomed, the plant's stalk leaned over and sent up flowering stems from every leaf node.

Several other species of *Achimenes*, *Kohleria*, and *Columnnea* were seen but none of them survived. Thomas MacDougall was a naturalist who spent several months a year for about 36 years in the Oaxaca-Chiapas area of Mexico collecting plants such as gesneriads, orchids, and bromeliads, as well as small animals. My children enjoyed watching him collect snakes.

Pictures taken that day show all of us wearing jackets. My oldest son says that it was so chilly we needed blankets at night and could see our breath in the morning. There were ferns and mosses, and tree-ferns in the vicinity, so obviously the temperature didn't go below freezing. We were not as high here as we had been on the same road out of Oaxaca where the trees were almost all pines. The Oaxaca (Pacific) side of the divide was quite dry, and my oldest son has reminded me how dusty that road was. The Tuxtepec Gulf of Mexico (Atlantic) side was significantly more moist, with small

waterfalls beside the road and water cascading over the rocks. This was presumably after the end of the wet season. While the road here was not wet, there wasn't significant dust as we drove.

In 1975, on our return from another trip after visiting Palenque on the eastern side of Mexico, we turned south from Villa Hermosa on Highway 195. Now paved, it was the other end of the road we had explored in 1962. Beyond Teapa (near the volcano which erupted in the early 1980's), we crossed the river Pichualco and were faced with towering limestone cliffs which were dotted in the moist, mossy cracks near the base with the bright red flowers of *Smithiantha fulgida* (now submerged within *Smithiantha cinnabarina*). We collected one plant, which was distributed as *Smithiantha* 'Tapilula'.

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Newest *Smithiantha* Hybrids

Dale Martens, Co-editor, CrossWords <martens@wt.net>
2728 Masters Drive, League City, TX 77573-4403

I remember seeing *Smithiantha cinnabarina* for the first time — Dolly Crowder had entered it in the Grow and Study Gesneriad Club's annual fall show. I stood captivated in front of that stunningly beautiful plant for several minutes. That's when my love affair with *Smithianthas* began. With their hirsute leaves that range in color from apple green to deep, velvety variations of orange-red, *Smithianthas* can be fully appreciated without blossoms. Ah, but with blossoms they are mesmerizing!

Since 1966 when Ted Bona registered *Smithiantha* 'Summer Sunshine', only eleven new *Smithiantha* hybrids have been registered, but there has been recent interest in hybridizing them. Masaki Yamagata of Japan registered two hybrids in 1996: *S.* 'Junko' and *S.* 'Riko'. I was fortunate enough to receive rhizomes from him and widely distributed them, giving one of each to my friend Dolores Gibbs who is one of the best gesneriad growers that I know! Dolores entered a perfect specimen of *Smithiantha* 'Junko' at a Texas AVS convention, winning Best Gesneriad. With its profusely blooming flower spike, it was 27 inches tall! As with most of her gesneriads, Dolores grew this one in long-fiber sphagnum.

Masaki continued to hybridize *Smithianthas* and sent me his newest hybrids as rhizomes with code numbers on them. They have been named:

97-02-06	<i>S.</i> 'Nocturne'	01-07	<i>S.</i> 'Curacao'
97-06-01	<i>S.</i> 'Prelude'	97-13-09	<i>S.</i> 'Sonata'
97-08-10	<i>S.</i> 'Tropical Sunset'	97-08-8	<i>S.</i> 'Tangerine'
96-03	<i>S.</i> 'Duet'	MC (<i>multiflora</i> × <i>canarina</i>)	<i>S.</i> 'Aria'

With the exception of *S.* 'Junko', which tends to be tall, I easily grow all of the above *Smithianthas* on my plant stands. Although some *Smithianthas* tend to be too tall for a plant stand once the blossom spike begins to grow, I find that they readily bloom when placed on the floor between plant stands. If you know a certain hybrid tends to be a tall grower, cut the tip and re-pot it while the plant is still young. That will make the plant remaining in the pot branch, and the tip won't grow to its full height potential.

Keith Jacobson from Fargo, North Dakota registered his hybrid *S.* 'Ezra Altamont' in 1996. I wrote to Keith and he generously sent me rhizomes. I fell in love with the leaves which are deep green with almost black markings. Then it bloomed! It produced a profusion of creamy blossoms! Whenever guests look at my plant stands, they point to *S.* 'Ezra Altamont' and say, "That's beautiful!" This hybrid is perfect for plant stands because it grows low and wide. Anyone who grows begonias would like to grow Keith's hybrid due to the exquisite foliage.

Margaret Cass from Pennsylvania registered *Smithiantha* hybrids in 1997 which have extra petals! These are *S.* 'Red King' and *S.* 'Clarissa'. I was very successful in growing Margaret's *S.* 'Cassandra' which has a coral and yellow blossom with extra petals. When I met Margaret in June of 2000, she



Smithiantha 'Golden Leopard' (Martens)
grown and photographed by Dale Martens



Smithianantha 'Junko' (Yamagata)
grown by Dolores Gibbs and photographed by Dale Martens



Smithiantha 'Riko' (Yamagata)
grown and photographed by Dale Martens



Smithiantha 'Caroline' (Cass)
grown and photographed by Margaret Cass



Smithiantha 'Cassandra' (Cass)



Smithiantha 'Ezra Altamont' (Jacobson)

brought with her blossoms from her newest hybrids. Not only do they have the extra petals, but the blossoms were large and brightly colorful.

Marcia Belisle wrote to me asking if it was okay to name a *Smithiantha* after me! Of course I said, "Yes!" *Smithiantha* 'Dale' has dark leaves and grows compactly for me. It also tends to have multiple stems producing a wonderful bouquet of lavender blossoms which have a profusion of lavender dots. It's a perfect size for plant stand growing.

A few years ago I grew a *S. zebrina* hybrid (Kartuz) which had wide, very dark, velvety leaves. The blossoms were a sherbet orange with a yellow throat and orange dots. Because the leaves were so wonderful and the mature height of the plant was the perfect size for a plant stand, I wanted this Kartuz hybrid to be a mother! I received pollen of *S. aurantiaca* from Marcia Belisle and pollen from an unknown rose and cream colored blossom from Michael Kartuz. As a result of their generous sharing, I got three hybrids worth naming: *S.* 'Sassy Redhead', *S.* 'Hot Pink Lady' and *S.* 'Golden Leopard' which were registered. I received the news that Pat Dunlap of Pat's Pets won Best Gesneriad with *S.* 'Golden Leopard' in a show last fall.

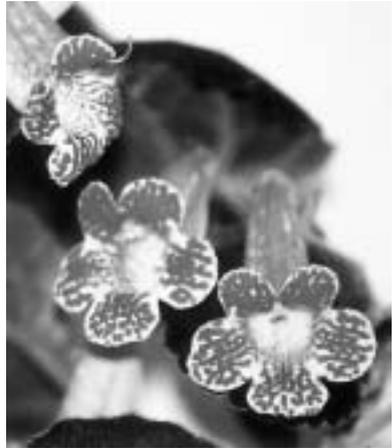
My newest hybrids are from a cross of *S.* 'Duet' × *S.* 'Sassy Redhead'. *S.* 'Duet' is snow white with small reddish purple polka-dots. *S.* 'Sassy Redhead' is deep red with a creamy throat and red polka-dots. What an amazing variety I got from that cross! The first seedling to bloom has a salmon blossom with golden-olive dots that is currently unnamed. It has velvety red foliage like the seed parent, *S.* 'Sassy Redhead'. The other seedling worth keeping has similar foliage but it has snow white blossoms with very large magenta dots. When I first saw it, I thought it was a *Kohleria*! I showed a photo of a seedling to Catie Lindelow in Florida and her response was a positive, "Big Dots Rule", so that's what I've named it!

Smithiantha has been used in intergeneric crosses particularly with *Euclidonia* and *Achimenes*. In 1982 Patrick Worley registered two

×*Achimenes* crosses 'Inferno' and 'Ginger Peachy'. In 1983 Patrick registered three ×*Smithicodonia* crosses including 'Denise', and 'Elizabeth'. Dave Jarvis from Australia created an intergeneric using *Eucodonia* 'Adele' × *Smithiantha* 'Abbey'. Its name is ×*Smithicodonia* 'Dave's Tree' and is pictured on the Members' Corner of the AGGS web site. I've just recently crossed ×*Achimenes* 'Aries' × (*S.* 'Duet' × *S. canarina*) and have young seedlings that have varied leaf markings. I know there are others working on new *Smithiantha* hybrids including Connie Leifeste in Texas who is hybridizing for compact size. Next time you have a couple of *Smithianthas* blooming at the same time, cross them and you may be surprised with the seedlings you'll get!



×*Smithicodonia* 'Dave's Tree' (Jarvis)



Smithiantha 'Big Dots Rule' (Martens)

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Slide Program News

For those of you who have been waiting for the *Kohleria* program announced in the last issue, it is now available. Our newest slide program, "Kansas City: Convention 2001 Flower Show" will be available in the fall. If you didn't make it to convention, this is your chance to see the blue ribbon winners and other special gesneriads exhibited at the Convention in Kansas City. If you did make it to convention, surely you'll want to see these great plants again. Contact me for availability of these or any of the other slide programs:

- Introduction to Gesneriads (56 slides)
- Tampa: Convention 2000 (79 slides)
- Nashville: Convention 1999
- *Achimenes* (59 slides)
- *Chirita* (60 slides)
- The Companion Genera: *Nematanthus* and *Codonanthe* (77 slides)
- *Sinningia* (80 slides)
- *Streptocarpus* Species (75 slides)
- *Streptocarpus* Hybrids (79 slides)

Programs can be reserved by mail to Dee Stewart, 1 No Name Road, Stow MA 01775-1604 or email to dee.stewart@110.net. Specify the program to be reserved and the date the program is required. Since new programs are very popular, it is helpful if you provide as much lead time as possible, provide alternate dates, or alternate programs that would be acceptable. Please specify the address the program is to be mailed to and a contact phone number. Program rental of \$20.00 U.S. payable to AGGS must be received before the program can be shipped. Your request will be promptly acknowledged and programs will be shipped to arrive at least one week in advance of your reserved date. Older programs are shipped in slide sleeves and must be placed in a carousel or other container for viewing. Newer programs are shipped in a carousel. Programs must be returned within 5 days of your reservation date via Priority Mail with delivery confirmation in the U.S. or the equivalent postal category from outside the U.S.



Smithiantha 'Little One' grown by Doris Brownlie
exhibited at Convention 2000 in Tampa

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Gesneriad Register

Judy Becker, Registrar <jbecker@mohawk.net>
432 Undermountain Rd, Salisbury, CT 06068-1102

The following registrations should be added to the Registered Gesneriads List found in Appendix C of the 1990 Gesneriad Register:

00733	<i>Sinningia</i> 'Peninsula Belle'	<i>S. reitzii</i> × <i>S. lineata</i>	A. LaVergne
00734	× <i>Ramberlea</i> 'Inchgarth'	<i>Ramonda myconi</i> × <i>Haberlea ferdinandi-coburgii</i> 'Connie Davidson'	M&B Wilson
00735	<i>Streptocarpus</i> 'Victorian Brocade'	<i>S. 'Victorian Lace'</i> × <i>S. 'Electra'</i>	P. Lee

Descriptions are as follows:

***Sinningia* 'Peninsula Belle'**, 2000, IR00733, Alan LaVergne, CA. (*S. reitzii* × *S. lineata*). Cross made before 1990. Fertile. Erect herbaceous plant, growing 30 cm tall, dormant in winter. Leaves very dark green, maroon back with green edges, hairy, 15 cm long × 10 cm wide, petiole 5 cm, ovate with serrate edges, acute tip and cordate base. Calyx green, split, 1 cm long. Pedicel 4 cm long, 5-10 flowers per leaf axil. Corolla salverform, 5 cm long, 1cm in diameter, flaring to 2 cm across lobes, magenta with purple dots on lower three lobes, purple line in white streak on bottom lobe. A plant with large, dark flat leaves, more leaves than *lineata* and more compact than *reitzii*. Unlike *S. reitzii* with magenta flowers, this cv. has multiple flowers per axil and flaring corolla lobes.

×***Ramberlea* 'Inchgarth'**, 2000, IR00734, Maureen & Brian Wilson, Scotland. (*Ramonda myconi* × *Haberlea ferdinandi-coburgii* 'Connie Davidson'). Cross made May, 1996, planted Aug. 1996, first flowered May 1999. Plants sterile and reproducible only vegetatively. Compact, basal rosette, blooming in second year from seed. Leaves smooth with sparse hairs, mid-green, 6.0-6.5 cm long, 3.8-4.2 cm wide with about 2 cm petiole, ovate to elliptic with serrate edges, acute tip and cuneate base. Calyx semi-fused, green/brown, 7-8 mm long. 4 flowers per scape, peduncel 4.5 cm, pedicel 2.0 cm. Corolla semi-campanulate, 1.8 cm long × 2.6 cm wide, mid violet suffused white. No equivalent plants in cultivation, compared with siblings, this is superior in growth and flower production to date, yellower in throat.

***Streptocarpus* 'Victorian Brocade'**, 2000, IR00735, Paul Lee, Canada. (*S. 'Victorian Lace'* × *S. 'Electra'*). Cross made June 1999, planted July 1999 and first flowered Nov. 1999. Reproducible only vegetatively. Moderately compact rosette. Leaves green, 130 mm long × 65 mm wide, linear with acuminate tip and cuneate base. Calyx green, split, 5 mm long. Peduncle 80 mm long with 3-4 flowers. Corolla salverform, 28 mm long × 50 mm wide, pale lavender with dark purple netting near outer portion of lower petals, upper petals pale lavender with dark netting on tips.



Sinningia 'Peninsula Belle'



Streptocarpus 'Victorian Brocade'



×*Ramberlea* 'Inchgarth'

The Gesneriad Register of *Kohleria*

The newly revised Gesneriad Register of the genus *Kohleria* is now available. This register is over 30 pages long and includes published and registered cultivar names in the genus, as well as all known species.

Send for the 2001 *Kohleria* Register today. The cost is only \$5.00 for this up-to-date wealth of information on this exciting genus. See the back cover and order your copy today from AGGS Publications.

The American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, Inc. is the International Registration Authority for the names of gesneriads excepting the genus *Saintpaulia*. As such, we publish this information in The Gesneriad Register and make it available to all interested parties.

Judy Becker, Registrar

Botanical Review Committee — Report #22

John Boggan <bogganj@yahoo.com>
Dept. of Botany, NHB 166, Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC 20670

Clarke, G.P., 1998. Plants in peril, 24. Notes on lowland African Violets (*Saintpaulia*) in the wild. *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* 15: 62-67. Illustrated.

Saintpaulia is confined in the wild to small patches of forest in East Africa (Tanzania and Kenya), with most of the species occurring in submontane or montane forest. However, a few species are known from lowland forests and this paper outlines the distribution and ecology of some of the species recorded from lowland sites. Two possibly new species have been located in Kenya during recent field studies. Several species are considered critically endangered.

Eastwood, A., B. Bytebier, H. Tye, A. Tye, A. Robertson, & M. Maunder, 1998. The conservation status of *Saintpaulia*. *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* 15: 49-62. Illustrated.

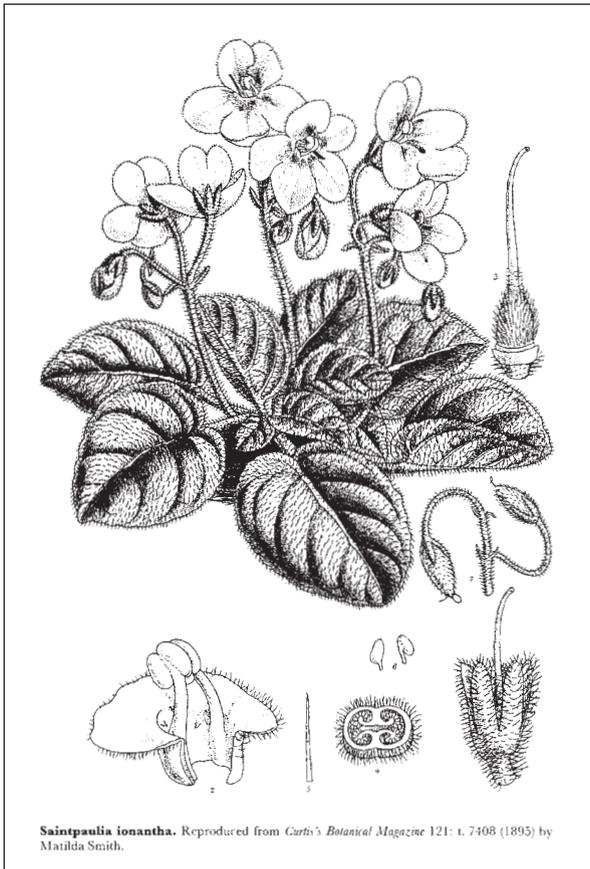
The conservation status of the genus *Saintpaulia*, in the wild and in cultivation, is assessed. The greatest threat to members of the genus is habitat loss or degradation. Many species are known from only a few fragmented populations and are considered critically endangered. The conservation status of each known species (and some populations possibly representing new species) is reviewed. Most species in cultivation are clones derived from a single wild collection of each. In light of new discoveries and recent molecular work, a revision of the genus is urgently needed. Recommendations are made for further research and future conservation activities.

Möller, M. & Q.C.B. Cronk, 1997. Origin and relationships of *Saintpaulia* (Gesneriaceae) based on ribosomal DNA internal transcribed spacer (ITS) sequences. *American Journal of Botany* 84: 956-965.

Phylogenetic relationships of eight species of *Saintpaulia*, 19 species of *Streptocarpus* (representing all major growth forms within the genus), and two outgroups (*Haberlea rhodopensis* and *Chirita spadiciformis*) were examined using comparative nucleotide sequences from the two internal transcribed spacers (ITS) of nuclear ribosomal DNA. Results of the cladistic analysis suggest that the genus *Streptocarpus* is a genetically diverse, and possibly very old, genus. There is a clear genetic division within the genus between subgenus *Streptocarpus* and subgenus *Streptocarpella*. The genus *Saintpaulia* is closely related to the genus *Streptocarpus*, and has in fact evolved from within subgenus *Streptocarpella*. The differences in flower and vegetative characters are probably due to ecological adaptation leading to a relatively rapid radiation of *Saintpaulia* in a geographically limited restricted area of distribution.

Möller, M. & Q.C.B. Cronk, 1997. Phylogeny and disjunct distribution: evolution of *Saintpaulia* (Gesneriaceae). *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London*, B. 264: 1827-1836.

The molecular phylogeny of African violets (*Saintpaulia*), based on ribosomal DNA internal transcribed spacer (ITS) sequences, follows the disjunct biogeography of the genus. Sequences were analyzed for 17 species. The first major division is between *S. goetzeana*, from the Uluguru Mountains, Tanzania, and the rest of the genus. The basal position and primitive characteristics of *S. goetzeana* suggest an Uluguru origin for *Saintpaulia* and subsequent colonization of the more northerly mountains. Of the remainder, *S. teitensis*, from the Teita Hills of Kenya, is sister taxon to the other species which occur mainly in the Usambara Mountains of northeast Tanzania. The "ionantha complex" is a group of nine Usambaran species that show minimal genetic differentiation. Species diversity in the Usambara Mountains appears to be the result of rapid, recent radiation. The molecular data suggest that conservation of the Uluguru and Teita populations is essential for the protection of the full range of diversity within the genus.



Saintpaulia ionantha, reprint of 1895 illustration by Matilda Smith from *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* 15, 1998

Gloxinia Society — Memoirs from an Ex-President (1968-69)



Tom Talpey
P.O. Box 285, Washington, NH 03280

I joined the American Gloxinia Society in late 1959 having taken an interest in Gloxinias and their distant relatives the Saintpaulias. Actually, I had tried to cross the two before I found out that the cross was impossible because of a difference in their chromosome counts. I joined the Society basically to learn more about the family of Gesneriaceae.

In the late summer of 1960, I moved with my family to Puerto Rico to work on the large radar telescope being built near Arecibo by Cornell University. I soon learned that there were reportedly nine gesneriads growing wild in Puerto Rico and set out to find and photograph them. Eventually I did so, sending back dried specimens, seeds and photographs to the horticulture department at Cornell, as well as some specimens to the Smithsonian Institution. One of these has subsequently become known as *Gesneria cuneifolia* cv. 'Tom Talpey'. My favorite Puerto Rican species is *Gesneria pauciflora* which I found growing along a stream in southwestern Puerto Rico. It was grown for many years at Cornell, where despite its name it bloomed almost continuously, but perhaps is no longer in cultivation.



Gesneria pauciflora photographed in situ
in Puerto Rico by Tom Talpey



Tom Talpey in the Plant Science Conservatory at Cornell in 1963
(reproduced from the cover of THE GLOXINIAN, Vol. 13, No. 4)

I was greatly encouraged in these efforts by Professors Bob Lee and Hal Moore at Cornell, whom I got to know quite well. I attended my first Convention in 1963 when it was held in Ithaca at Cornell. Over the years (mid 1960's) I wrote articles for THE GLOXINIAN about each of the Puerto Rican species. My wife still marvels at the way I could drive along the narrow mountain roads of Puerto Rico and still be able to spot a tiny gesneriad growing along the banks of the road.

One of my Gloxinia Convention recollections is the year that the banquet speaker failed to show up. Fortunately Bob Lee was at the convention and, literally at the last moment, volunteered to give the banquet speech, extemporaneously holding us spell bound for over an hour with tales of growing gesneriads at Cornell. Another year I had a special T-shirt made, and when it was my turn to speak at the banquet table, I stripped off my coat and dress shirt to display the slogan "I Love Gloxinias" across the front and gave my speech so attired. Later we gave the T-shirt to Al Buell, whom we knew as "Mr. Gloxinia", as a memento of the convention. I also recall one convention when the Society's founder, Elvin McDonald, spoke at our banquet. He appeared in a Nehru jacket (remember them?), and I was impressed at how young he was.

In subsequent years I made numerous trips to Jamaica, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, hiking in the mountains and searching for, photographing and collecting wild gesneriads. On one of these trips, arranged by a friend and well-known botanist, Dr. Jose Jimenez of the Dominican Republic and accompanied by Prof. Eugenio Marcano of the University of Santo Domingo, I recall finding, in the southwestern part of that country, a miniature form of *Gesneria cuneifolia*, about a quarter to a third the size of the normal plant. This variant was in cultivation in the U. S. for a short while from seeds which I had collected, but I have not heard of it lately. (There is

probably a specimen of it in the herbarium at Cornell.) On this hike I vividly remember approaching a low, brown dirt bank in the forest and suddenly seeing it erupt with hundreds of butterflies which had been so well camouflaged that they were not noticeable even from ten feet away.

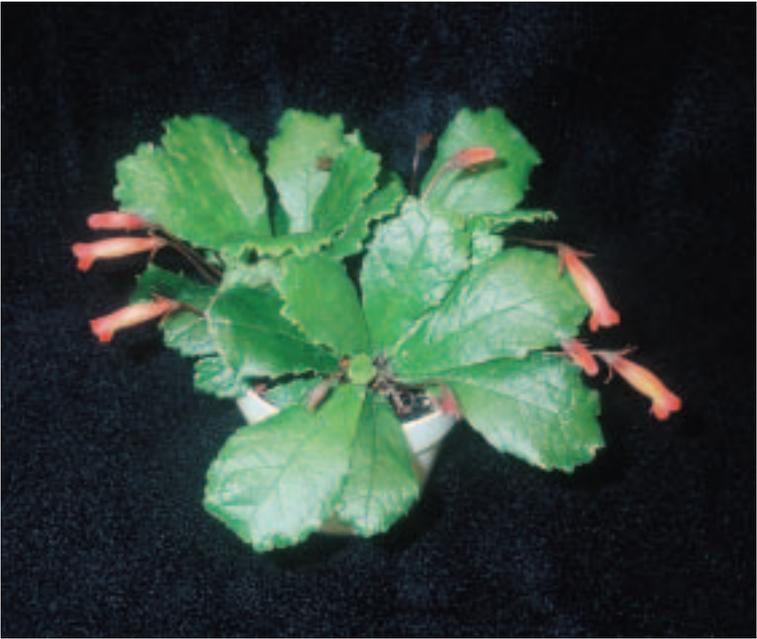
Another year, accompanied by Prof. Marcano, Al and Ruth Katzenberger of the New York Chapter of AGGS, my wife and our two children, aged eight and ten, we rented a car and explored the back roads and mountains of the Dominican Republic looking for (and finding) gesneriads, staying in small local hotels along the way. The "guest room" doors in several of these hotels were nothing more than swinging doors, open at top and bottom, like saloon doors, with a minimum of privacy. I recall noting bullet holes in the walls of one of these hotels—relics of a former uprising.

In yet another year my wife and I accompanied Dr. Alain Liogier, who was then head of the Botanic Garden in Santo Domingo, and his wife and family on a three-day hike up Pico Duarte—the highest mountain in the Caribbean at over 10,000 feet. We camped and rode donkeys much of the way and unfortunately found the summit in a dense fog. My wife still kids me about riding down in the pouring rain, with a poncho shielding my cameras in front and my backpack behind, looking like a small hump sitting on a small donkey with my feet almost touching the ground. It was then that I realized that a donkey with four feet was a much safer way to travel on muddy paths than I would have been on only two feet. Partway down I spotted a gesneriad growing somewhat off the path and jumped off my donkey to investigate. It turned out to be a previously unknown species which delighted Dr. Liogier.

One of the most memorable of my trips was in 1970 when at the suggestion of Hal Moore, two graduate students from Cornell and I joined together to explore the remote areas of Haiti. One of these students was Larry Skog, now a prominent staff member of the Department of Botany at the Smithsonian Institution and well known to gesneriad fanciers. Together with an agronomist from the University of Haiti, we discovered the long-lost (since 1693) site of *G. humilis*, the type species of the genus *Gesneria*, and collected specimens for Cornell and the Smithsonian. We later published an account of the find in the May/June 1971 issue of THE GLOXINIAN, with a color picture on the cover.

Other memories of this Haitian trip include: flying to the tip of the western peninsula in an old Haitian Air Force DC-3 which was barely air-worthy; swimming in my underwear across a small cove to search for a *Gesneria* species known to have grown there in the early part of the century (I didn't find it); eating a delicious fruit from a huge tree we happened across during one of our hikes only to fall sick the next day because it turned out that the tree was in the family Anacardiaceae and a distant relative of poison ivy, to which of course I was allergic; and Larry's discovery of a previously unknown *Gesneria* species which he subsequently named and published.

At the end of our hikes, Larry and the other graduate student, Don Pfister, who was a mycologist and had been collecting fungi and mushrooms, went on to foray in South America and I was tasked with delivering our finds to date to the herbarium at Cornell. Imagine my difficulties when I arrived at the U. S. Customs at Kennedy Airport with a collection of dried plants and fungi. I knew what the plants were but had no idea of what I had in the way of mushrooms. After spending considerable time in the back rooms of the



Gesneria cuneifolia 'Tom Talpey'
(grown by Maryjane Evans; photo by Jeanne Katzenstein)



Sinningia 'Cindy-Ella' (L) and *Sinningia* 'Cindy' (R)
(grown at Cornell; photo by M. H. Stone)

customs building at the airport and being interviewed by a number of suspicious agents, I was finally able to talk myself back into the country and to ship our collections off to Cornell.

I must mention one other thrill in connection with my association with the Society. Inspired by the success of Ruth Katzenberger in creating *Sinningia* 'Dollbaby', I tried crossing *S. concinna* with *S. eumorpha*. The cross took only weakly and the hybrid was sterile, but I propagated by cuttings one of the few seedlings which managed to survive and gave a plant to Charlie Marvinny, who had been President before me and had become a good friend. He named it *Sinningia* 'Cindy' and gave a cutting to Lyndon Lyon who managed to double the chromosomes using colchicine and thus make the hybrid fertile. The fertile form is now known as *Sinningia* 'Cindy-ella'.

During my active years with the society, I served successively as Librarian, Seed Fund Chairman, Convention Flower Show Awards Chairman, and eventually Vice-President and President. One of our major aims during those years was to keep publishing THE GLOXINIAN. This involved numerous trips when I car-pooled with Charlie Marvinny to travel to New York City to meet with Jack Anzel, who was editor at the time, and with Irwin Rosenblum who was also a member of the editorial board and later became editor. During the time in between, when Florence Messick served as editor, we would drive to her home in Connecticut or to Carl Clayberg's office in New Haven to work on the magazine and tend to other Society business.

When Charlie Marvinny retired as President, I inherited his job and managed to keep the Society alive until Alice Courage took over with her able leadership in late 1969. Other names which come to mind as active contributors to the Society's work during those years are Paul Arnold, Iris August, Frances Batcheller, Jean Boggs, Diantha Buell, Frank Burton, Estelle Crane, Bill Hull, Mike Kartuz, Carl L'Hommedieu, Charlotte Rowe, Ann Spencer, Jim Wyrzten and Adele Zemansky, with my apologies to any whom I may have missed. Do any of the names I've mentioned sound familiar? Unfortunately many of them have passed on, but judging by my periodic reading of THE GLOXINIAN, several continue to be active in Society affairs.

For many years I had a small greenhouse behind our home in New Jersey where I grew most of the *Gesneria* species I had collected in the Caribbean as well as many other gesneriads. But when I retired from my job at Bell Labs (now Lucent Technologies), we moved to New Hampshire where the expense of heating a greenhouse is prohibitive. With the help of my wife Betty, however, I still grow a half dozen gesneriads under lights in our basement, among which of course is *Sinningia* 'Cindy'. In a recent issue of THE GLOXINIAN, I noticed that the Frelinghuysen Arboretum Chapter in Morristown, New Jersey, will host the 2002 Convention, close to where we used to live. I'll have to start making plans to attend so that I can renew old memories and acquaintances and see at first hand how well the Society is flourishing!

**To see friends old and new, come to convention in 2002
July 3–6, Morristown, New Jersey**

An Introduction to *Gloxinia purpurascens*

Dr. Hans Wiehler <hwiehler@aol.com>
Gesneriad Research Foundation
1873 Oak Street, Sarasota, FL 34236-7114

This Bolivian species is a new bright red-flowered plant now in cultivation for all gesneriad fanciers to grow. It is easy to obtain as it is currently listed in the AGGS Seed Fund. Last year, we also distributed the seed as a bonus for new GRF members. The tiny seed germinates quickly in a moist container and is quite easy to grow. In our GRF greenhouse, *Gloxinia purpurascens* is in full bloom when the plants are about 15 cm tall. The flowers are showy brilliant cardinal red, with a prominent pouch and a starkly contrasting royal purple limb. A show stopper! Here in the south we have not tried to grow them under fluorescent lights as many northerners do, but they should do well under strong light. Please experiment and let us know about your growing experiences.

Gloxinia purpurascens originated from our GRF expedition to Bolivia in 1996. We found it on the 26th of April in the province of Yungas near the road from Caranavi to Guanay at an altitude of 450 meters. It grew in a shady, humid ditch near the road, below a dripping rock wall, not far from a big waterfall. Most of the group had already walked past the weedy area, but keen-eyed Nagahide Nakayama from Japan saw the bright red flowers hiding among the other plants. We were overjoyed as we had not found many gesneriads on this Bolivian expedition. The original rainforests were long gone, the existing woods were secondary and thin-trunked, and the rest of the land in Yungas was under cultivation. So every expedition participant had a chance to photograph this treasure. Then most of the plant was pulled up (we found some rhizomes!) and placed in a large plastic bag for later processing. We knew we had found *Gloxinia purpurascens*, or at least one variety of it. This plant occurs (or occurred) in several places in Bolivia, with slight regional variations, but always with large flowers. As our group leader, I was quite proud of our find for I knew the GRF would make another permanent contribution to world-wide gesneriad cultivation with our new treasure.

How did we know about the existence of *Gloxinia purpurascens*? The type of this species was published by Henry H. Rusby of New York in the Torrey Botanical Club Memoirs, in 1895, as *Seemannia purpurascens*, from a collection by Miguel Bang (nr. 542). The type is located at the New York Botanical Garden. Bang collected his material in 1890, over a hundred years earlier than the GRF, in the province of Yungas, at Rio Juntas, at 1600 meters in altitude. I have seen his (and many other) specimens. The transfer to *Gloxinia* was made by Wiehler in Selbyana 1(4) in 1976.

When our explorer group arrived home, I was quite surprised that we already had one *Gloxinia* species with the same name in general cultivation ("*Gloxinia purpurescens*"). That species came from northern Brazil, near Belem at the mouth of the Amazon, thousands of miles away from our find. It was discovered by Mauro Peixoto and Tim Ross in the 1980s. Someone later misidentified it as being the same as the Bolivian species. It grows much taller (here in Florida at least 1 meter tall) and has much smaller, narrower and non-showy pink flowers with a green limb. Dr. Alain Chautems and I plan to publish it as a new species.

Our Bolivian species here at the GRF has already proven itself to be a hybridizer's dream. It is very promiscuous. With assistance, it interbreeds with just about everything in the tribe Gloxinieae that is in flower here right now. Patrick, are you reading this? We have already established reciprocal hybrids with *Gloxinia sylvatica*. And there are already plump, very pregnant reciprocal seed pods with *Kohleria spicata*, *Moussonia elegans*, *Achimenes admirabilis*, *A. skinneri*, *Paliavana prasinata*, and *Sinningia iarae*. Quite an astounding group! — Now all gesneriad growers around the world can participate in this adventure.



Gloxinia purpurascens
(grown by Jerry Trowbridge; photo by Julie Mavity-Hudson)



Gloxinia purpurascens from Bolivia (left and rear)
with "*Gloxinia purpureascens*" from northern Brazil (right front)

Success in Growing *Gloxinia purpurascens*

(Originally posted to the Gesneriphiles email discussion group and reprinted in African-Violet and Gesneriad NEWS)

Jerry Trowbridge <Jtrow9@aol.com>
181 25th Ave. E, Bradenton, FL 34208

This form of *Gloxinia purpurascens* is from Dr. Wiehler's recent collection. It is naturally very vigorous and hardy. I received my rhizomes from Hans approximately one year ago. I grew them in an eight-inch basket because initially the first growth I got from them was lax and almost trailing (thin stemmed). They eventually went dormant, and I set the whole pot aside. It was only about three weeks later that they started to sprout again. I quickly saw that this 'second growth' had thicker stems and was going to be very upright in growth habit.

When the new growth was over a foot tall, I decided that I should take the chance and go up at least two pot sizes and use a clay pot to give me the weight I would need to keep it from tipping over. I used a fourteen-inch azalea clay pot. It thanked me by growing and growing and growing. When it reached almost three feet, I decided the stems might break if it got any taller, so I tried putting a large wire tomato ring around it which worked great. It grew even more since then, and is now almost six feet tall. It has been blooming heavily for two months, mostly at the tips, but there are a few blossoms here and there along the stems. The flowers are very large and look like large, bright-red caterpillars.

I really think the mist house and my particular fertilizers are the key to this success. As I said quite some time back in a previous email, my misting system is different from any that I have seen before. I have my small greenhouse packed with *many* Fogg-It misting nozzles. They come on every twenty minutes and are on for approximately fifteen seconds. The greenhouse is completely filled with mist in about ten seconds so all the foliage is covered in a heavy mist each cycle. This would normally mean fungal spots on all the leaves and other nasty results. This doesn't happen in my greenhouse because I have a high-cfm fan that literally dries the leaves completely between misting cycles.

I don't grow all the different genera of gesneriads in this house, but I do have quite a variety and haven't experienced any ill effects from this system yet. They all seem to love it.

I use three different fertilizers. The first one is Peters 20-10-20 Peat-Lite Special. It contains no urea as one of its nitrogen sources. The second is Southern Agriculture's 12-48-8 version of a high-bloom and root-building fertilizer. It contains only .6% urea as part of its nitrogen sources. I use these two fertilizers on about 95% of what I grow. I fertilize once a week, and I rotate them from week to week using 1/4 teaspoon per gallon.

The third fertilizer is Peters 15-16-17. They advertise it as a *non-acidifying* high-nitrate-source (53%) formula. Since Chiritas, Streptocarpus and Gesnerias all need to be grown in a relatively high-pH mix, using this to fertilize them is an easy way to keep the pH up. It works great, and I don't have to add any lime to my soilless growing mix.

The only variable that is left which you might be interested in is the light level in my greenhouse. I use 55% shade cloth under a layer of the obligatory

clear plastic film. Most films block approximately 12 to 15% of the light passing through them. That brings the total to about 70% shade in the whole house.



Tim Anderson, Jerry Trowbridge, and Hans Wiehler with the *Gloxinia* species they brought to the GRF seminar last fall

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