

Cymbidium parishii – Cymbidium sanderae Confused??

Karl Varian

May 2017

(All Images courtesy of OrchidWiz)

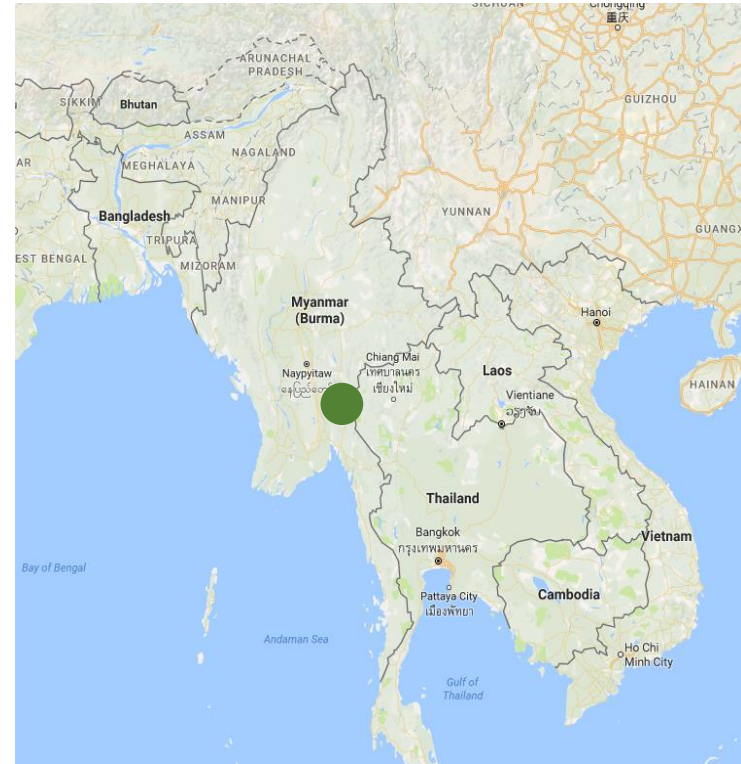


Cym. parishii

Cym. sanderae

Cymbidium parishii

- *Cymbidium parishii* was discovered in Burma (Myanmar), near Moulmein, on the border with Thailand in 1859 by the Rev. Charles Parish, who collected a number of plants that were lost in transit
- In 1867
 - Sent two plants Messrs. Low
 - A dried flower to Hooker at Kew from the plant he had cultivated and painted.
 - Hooker considered it to be a variety of *Cym. eburneum*
 - Publish this name in 1891, in his *Flora of British India*.
- In 1872, Reichenbach examined Parish's dried material
 - Named it *Cym. parishii*, publishing the name in 1874
- The two plants with Messrs. Low were sold
 - One to John Day, the orchid enthusiast and artist
 - The other to the collection of Mr. Leech.
 - Both plants flowered in June 1878
 - Those grown by Mr. Swan, gardener for Mr. Leech, being the earlier.
 - Leech's plant was subsequently sold to B.S. Williams for 100 guineas.
- Living material was at last available to Reichenbach, enabling him to describe the species more fully, and to justify his claim that it was distinct from *Cym. eburneum*.



Cymbidium parishii, cont'd

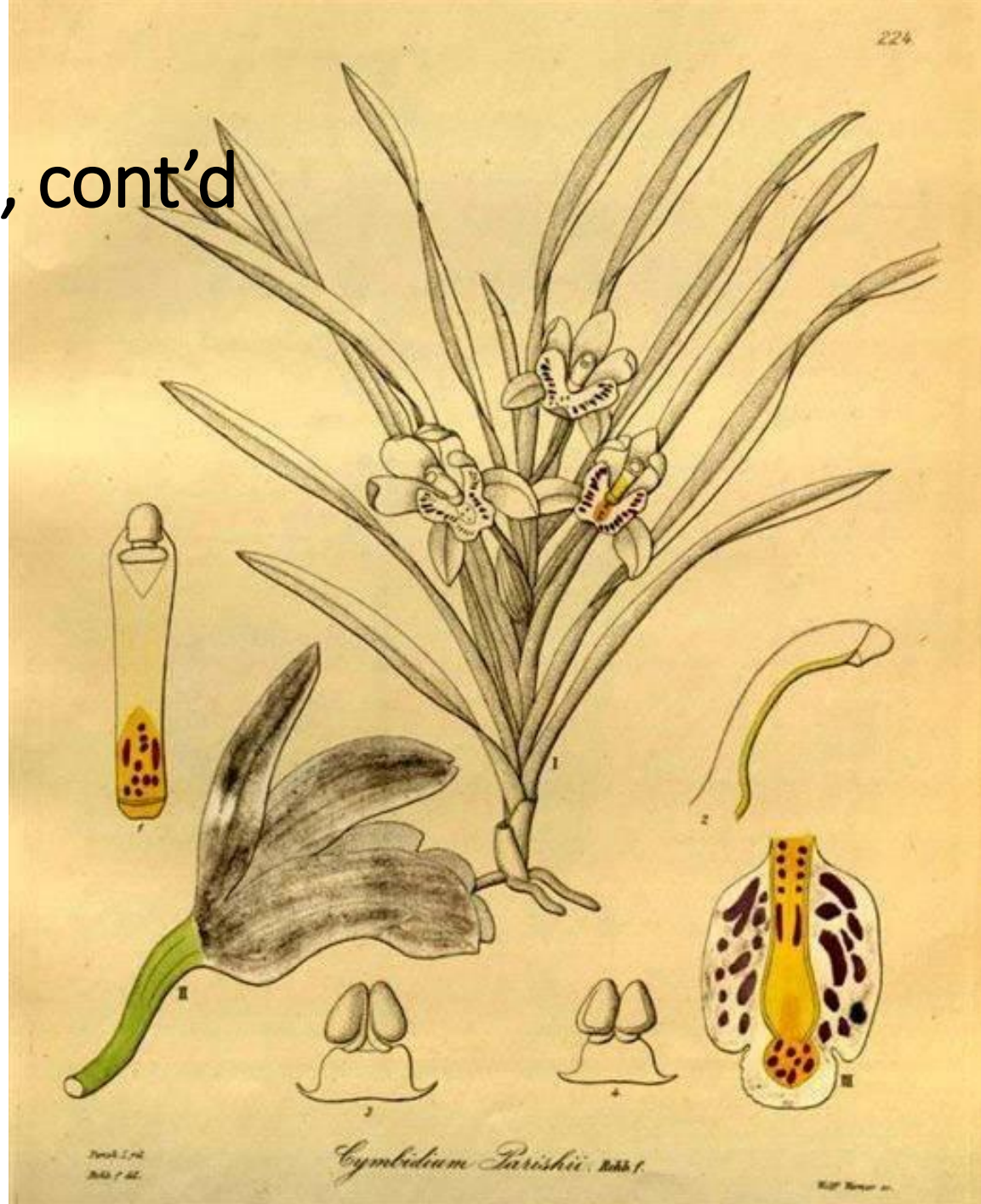
- Since the reported flowering in 1878, *Cym. parishii* has been lost to cultivation.
 - In 1904, Rolfe (*Orchid Review*, Vol. 12, June, p. 164) stated “it is doubtful whether the original plants now exist”
 - In 1916 (*Orchid World*, Vol. 6, 1916, p. 129) stated of *Cym. parishii*, “which so far as is known is not in cultivation.”
- Little material has been preserved.
 - Type specimen, Parish 56, consists of a 2-flowered scape and a leaf, and is the only specimen at Kew
- Paintings
 - Two unpublished paintings by Day and by Parish (at right), both preserved at Kew
 - Reichenbach’s painting in *Xenia Orchidacea*, provides extra information about the coloring of the flower and, in particular, the habit of the plant.
 - R. Warner and B. S. Williams’ *Orchid Album*, and L. Linden’s *Lindenia* are stylized



Plate 26. *Cymbidium parishii*. Myanmar [Burma], Megala Chyong. Illustration of the type by Charles Parish, 1867, Kew collection.

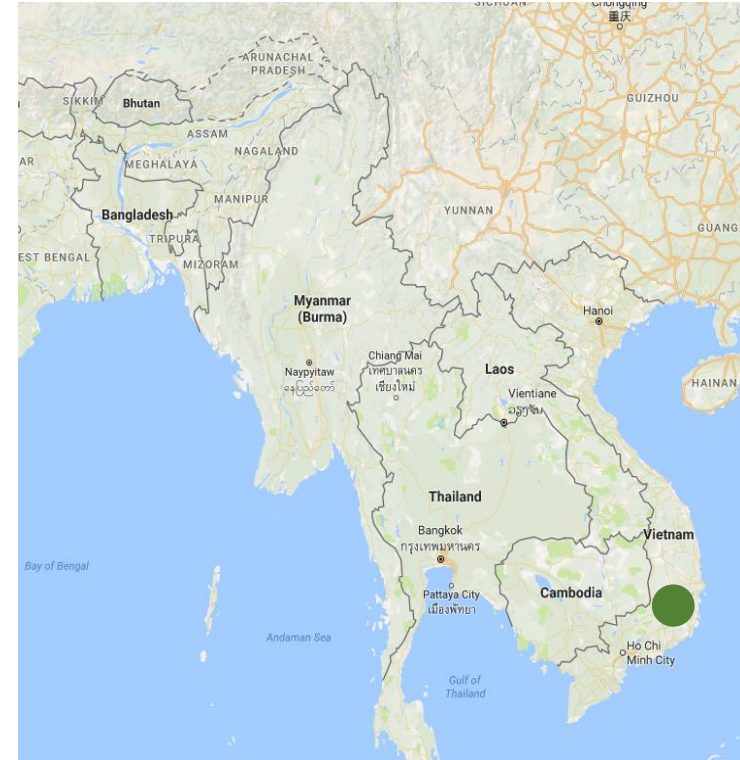
Cymbidium parishii, cont'd

- Reichenbach's painting in *Xenia Orchidacea*, provides extra information about the coloring of the flower and, in particular, the habit of the plant.



Cymbidium sanderae

- *Cymbidium sanderae* was discovered by Wilhelm Micholitz in 1904 on the Da Lat Plateau (Lang Bian Plateau) in Vietnam (Annam), in the same locality as *Cym. insigne*.
- The specimens of *C. insigne* that W. Micholitz sent to Messrs. Sander's nursery were given the name *Cym. sanderi*, whereas those of this species were named after Sander's wife as *Cym. sanderae*.
 - This latter name was not validly published, and Rolf subsequently published it at varietal rank within *Cym. parishii* [*Cym. parishii* var. *Sanderae* and *Cym. parishii* 'Sanderae'].
 - That decision was based on the similar flower color of the two species
 - Further study has shown that the two are distinct and that *C. sanderae* is more closely related to *Cym. insigne* than to either *Cym. parishii* or *Cym. eburneum*.
- In 1904
 - *Cym. parishii* 'Sanderae' received an FCC/RHS (the plant bloomed in transit to England)



Differences

	Cym. parishii	Cym. sanderae	Cym. insigne
Flower		'Emma Menninger'	
Habitat	~5500 ft (1650 m), Myanmar near Thailand border in montane forests	4500-4900 ft. (1400-1500 m), Lang Bian Plateau, Vietnam. Associated with Polyodium Ferns	3300 – 8200 ft. (1000 – 2000 m), southern Vietnam and Hainam Island, China, in sandy soil and on sandstone rocks in low, open Pinus-Ericaceae (Heath family) woodland or in Ericaceae-Arundinaria (bog like) associations.
Pseudobulbs	11.5 long, 4 cm diameter, fusiform, which grow and flower for several seasons before producing new growths	6 cm long, 4 cm diameter, ovoid, well-developed, produced annually	8 cm long, 5 cm diameter, ovoid, well-developed, produced annually
Leaves	11-14 apical leaves, 28-53 x 1.8-3 cm, unequally bilobed or forked at the apex	~10 leaves, 50 x 2.5 cm linear-elliptic, tapering to an entire, acute apex (forms a point)	6-10 leaves, 100 x 0.7-1.8 cm narrowly elliptic tapering to an acute apex
Flower spike	25 cm, originates from the leaf axials towards the center or apex of the pseudobulb	30-50 cm, originates from the base of the pseudobulb	100 – 150 cm, originates from the base of the pseudobulb
Number of Flowers	2-3	Up to 15	Up to 27 closely spaced
Flowering	June – July	January – March (May)	December – May

Are there really differences

Trimble stated 'After talking to several experts, I found that the general opinion is that ...'

- How the flower spike is initiated
 - They both will flower both ways
- Number of flowers
 - Is dependent on a number of conditions
- The lips are different
 - Diversity
- The flower segments fold back a bit more on *Cym. parishii*

Will comment on these comments in a few slides

Cym. sanderae - Rediscovered

- Cym. sanderae was uncommon in cultivation, and was believed to have been lost until, in 1961, Emma Menninger uncovered a single specimen in the nursery of Armacost and Royston, California
- This plant flowered in 1963.
 - The named cultivar 'Emma Menninger'
- The plant was a diploid and converted to a tetraploid by Don Wimber

2n to 4n Comparisons



2n

4n

Cym. Ceres



Cym. Solana Beach 'St. Francis'



Peter Pan 'Greensleeves'

Peter Pan 4N ©1998 Loren Batchman



Cym. Fifi 'Harry'

Push to convert diploid to tetraploid occurred in the 1960's, present day Cymbidiums are nearly all tetraploids.

Cym. parishii 'Emma
Menninger' 2n / 4n



- The plant was a diploid and converted to a tetraploid by Don Wimber
 - Increased flower size, especially in the width of the sepals and petals, and the size of the lip (Du Puy – Cribb comment)
 - Look how the camera picks up a color distinction from the two ploidies. The tetraploid is thicker and lets less light through so it has a different color. (Easton comment)

Initial Primary Cymbidium Hybrids

Seed Name		Pollen Name		Primary Hybrid	Yea	Registr.	Offs.	Awds.
Cym. eburneum	x	Cym. lowianum	=	Cym. Eburneo-lowianum	1889	Veitch	42	0
Cym. eburneum	x	Cym. lowianum	=	Cym. Veitchii (1889)	1889	Veitch	6	1
Cym. elegans	x	Cym. erythraeum	=	Cym. Gammieanum	1895	hort.	2	0
Cym. iridioides	x	Cym. mastersii	=	Cym. Winnianum	1898	Mantin	2	0
Cym. giganteum	x	Cym. hookerianum	=	Cym. Zaleskianum	1899	Linden	3	0
Cym. hookerianum	x	Cym. mastersii	=	Cym. Maronii	1900	Maron	1	0
Cym. lowianum	x	Cym. grandiflorum	=	Cym. Lowio-grandiflorum	1902	Veitch	56	0
Cym. lowianum	x	Cym. mastersii	=	Cym. Lowio-Mastersii	1902	Charlesworth Lt	8	0
Cym. hookerianum	x	Cym. lowianum	=	Cym. Sedeni	1902	Veitch	0	0
Cym. eburneum	x	Cym. tracyanum	=	Cym. Wiganianum	1902	Wigan	22	0
Cym. iridioides	x	Cym. tracyanum	=	Cym. Bennett-Poei	1903	Bennett-Poe	4	0
Cym. lowianum	x	Cym. tigrinum	=	Cym. Lowgrinum	1903	R.I.Measures	5	0
Cym. eburneum	x	Cym. mastersii	=	Cym. Ballianum	1904	hort.	3	0
Cym. mastersii	x	Cym. tracyanum	=	Cym. Woodlandense	1904	Sanders[St Alba	0	0
Cym. eburneum	x	Cym. iridioides	=	Cym. Eburneo-Giganteum	1906	Charlesworth Lt	2	0
Cym. eburneum	x	Cym. hookerianum	=	Cym. Holfordianum	1906	Sanders[St Alba	20	0
Cym. elegans	x	Cym. iridioides	=	Cym. Maggie Fowler	1908	Fowler	0	0
Cym. hookerianum	x	Cym. tracyanum	=	Cym. Rosefieldense	1908	Crawshay	15	0
Cym. tracyanum	x	Cym. elegans	=	Cym. Forster Alcock	1909	J.Forster Alcock	0	0
Cym. eburneum	x	Cym. insigne	=	Cym. Gottianum	1911	Sanders[St Alba	70	0
Cym. insigne	x	Cym. schroederi	=	Cym. J. Davis	1911	Fowler	23	0
Cym. devonianum	x	Cym. lowianum	=	Cym. Langleyense	1911	Veitch	10	8
Cym. insigne	x	Cym. lowianum	=	Cym. Pauwelsii	1911	Pauwels	185	4
Cym. insigne	x	Cym. tracyanum	=	Cym. Doris	1912	McBean's	55	4
Cym. erythrostylum	x	Cym. iridioides	=	Cym. Florinda	1913	Edw.Moss	3	0
Cym. hookerianum	x	Cym. insigne	=	Cym. Coningsbyanum	1914	Hamil. Smith	65	0
Cym. insigne	x	Cym. sanderae	=	Cym. Dryad	1914	Sir George Holf	32	0
Cym. erythrostylum	x	Cym. tracyanum	=	Cym. Hanburyanum	1914	Hanbury	15	0
Cym. insigne	x	Cym. iridioides	=	Cym. Iona	1914	Armstrong/Bro	1	0
Cym. erythrostylum	x	Cym. insigne	=	Cym. Albanense	1915	Sanders[St Alba	44	3
Cym. lowianum	x	Cym. sanderae	=	Cym. Garnet	1915	Sir George Holf	22	0
Cym. iansonii	x	Cym. sanderae	=	Cym. Seamew	1915	Sir George Holf	10	0
Cym. insigne	x	Cym. tigrinum	=	Cym. Insignigrinum	1917	Hamil. Smith	1	0
Cym. erythrostylum	x	Cym. lowianum	=	Cym. Atalanta	1918	Sanders[St Alba	5	0
Cym. iridioides	x	Cym. lowianum	=	Cym. Iris	1918	Edin.Bot.Gdn.	6	0
Cym. iansonii	x	Cym. insigne	=	Cym. Ceres	1919	Hamil. Smith	136	5
Cym. iansonii	x	Cym. lowianum	=	Cym. Lotta	1922	Colman	0	0
Cym. erythrostylum	x	Cym. iansonii	=	Cym. Radiant	1923	Armstrong/Bro	0	0
Cym. pendulum	x	Cym. tracyanum	=	Cym. Mona	1924	Cowan	0	0
Cym. eburneum	x	Cym. erythrostylum	=	Cym. Niveum	1926	Hanbury	6	0
Cym. devonianum	x	Cym. insigne	=	Cym. Vogelsang	1928	Lambeau	76	4
Cym. lowianum	x	Cym. tracyanum	=	Cym. Gattონense	1930	Colman	19	0

Hybridization

- First registered hybrid
 - Cym. sanderae – Cym. Dryad (insigne x sanderae), 1914, Sir George Hoft
 - Cym. parishii – Cym. Hugh Gordon (aloifolium x parishii), 1979, Featherhill
- But per Trimble, W. J. The Rev. Parish's Cymbidium, CSA Journal, 2016, 16(4), 34-37

“So what does the future have in store for us? Luckily, new plants of Cymbidium parishii/sanderae are being found in Vietnam and Cambodia. And with the opening of tourist trade in Myanmar [Burma] we might see plants from the original collection area where Rev. Parish found his plants all those years ago.
- On Andy Easton's website

“... we NEVER change either grex or varietal names on any of our plants...”

Is this why we are still seeing Cym. parishii as a parent??
Is this 'feeding' the confusion??

Historical Cym. sanderae Breeding Lines

(more than ~2500 progeny, line started prior to 1950, stop in 1950s)

Name	Parent	Parent	Year	F1 Offspr	Total Offspr	Originator	Perc Sand
Dryad	sanderae	insigne	1914	32	10290	Sir G. Holford	50.0%
Redstart	Dryad	Pauwelsii	1920	21	2768	Sir G. Holford	25.0%
Morvyth	Alexanderi	Redstart	1928	7	1303	Alexander	12.5%
Corinth	Morvyth	Regina	1941	2	1292	S. Low	6.3%
Alnwick Castle	Reginald	Corinth	1954	56	1290	S. Low	3.1%
Merlin	Dryad	Alexanderi	1920	13	5076	Sir G. Holford	25.0%
Flamingo	Merlin	Alexanderi	1925	62	3663	Sir G. Holford	12.5%
Mirabel	Flamingo	Petrel	1933	8	3297	Alexander	19.0%
Miretta	Claudette	Mirabel	1946	117	2906	McBean's	8.9%
Landrall	Dryad	lowianum	1920	12	3744	Sir G. Holford	25.0%
Sussex	Landrall	Profusion	1940	50	3651	McBean's	12.9%
Sussex Dawn	Sussex	Ramboda	1955	108	2669	McBean's	6.0%
Kittiwake	Dryad	Gottianum	1920	10	4353	Sir G. Holford	25.0%
Rosanna	Alexanderi	Kittiwake	1927	127	4096	Alexander	12.5%
Balkis	Alexanderi	Rosanna	1934	308	3035	L. de Rothschild	6.0%
Garnet	sanderae	lowianum	1915	22	7243	Sir G. Holford	50.0%
Petrel	Garnet	Pauwelsii	1922	15	3878	Sir G. Holford	25.0%
Mirabel	See Merlin line in Dryad above						
Bustard	Lowio-grandiflorum	Garnet	1922	6	4887	Sir G. Holford	25.0%
Chiron	Bustard	President Wilson	1935	12	4842	Armstrong / Brown	12.9%
Doris Aurea	Chiron	Lysander	1942	74	3683	Black & Flory	5.9%
Constance Flory	Chiron	Edzell	1942	10	1993	Black & Flory	6.3%
Fascination	Joyful	Constance Flory	1954	44	1969	Armstrong / Brown	3.1%
Sensation	Spartan Queen	Fascination	1961	158	1806	Wondabah	1.6%
Elfin	sanderae	Pauwelsii	1918	15	3136	Sanders [St. Albans]	50.0%
Cremona	J. Davis	Elfin	1933	15	3108	McBean's	25.0%
Carisona	Carisbrook	Cremona	1947	47	2689	McBean's	12.5%
Khyber Pass	Profita	Carisona	1956	76	2314	Stewart Inc.	6.3%

Recent *Cym. sanderae* Primary Hybrids



Cym. Harriet Ishitani 'Madame Gigi' AM/AOS
(*Cym. George Formby* x *Cym. sanderae*) May 2009, NS 13.5 cm
"sepals and petals pale yellow, coarse, random medium rusty red spots concentrated centrally"



Cym. Canal Parish, 2011
(*Cym. sanderae* x *Cym. canaliculatum*)



Cym. Shining Parish, 2009
(*Cym. Kusuda Shining* x *Cym. sanderae*)

Recent *Cym. sanderæ* – *Cym. Alnwick Castle* Hybrids
(Major *Cym. Alnwick Castle* F1 progeny is
Cym. Coraki [*Cym. Wyalong* x *Cym. Alnwick Castle*], regr. 1967)



Cym. Shocking Moon 'Carol' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Bronze Moon* x *Cym. Hazel Fay*)

Feb 2016, NS 10.9 cm

“sepals and petals yellow, overlaid light burgundy,
stippled burgundy”



Cym. Don's Delight 'Diane' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Don Hosfeldt* x *Cym. Ernest Hetherington*)

Mar 2016, NS 11.5 cm

“sepals and petals gold-yellow, sepals finely spotted
along veins, a very dense concentration apically; petals
finely spotted on veins, very dense on midvein”

Recent *Cym. sanderæ* – *Cym. Miretta* Hybrids

(Major *Cym. Miretta* F1 progeny is

Cym. Lunagrad [*Cym. Miracle* {*Cym. Ramboda* x *Cym. Miretta*} x *Cym. San Miguel*], regr. 1967

Cym. Peter Pan [*Cym. ensifolium* x *Cym. Miretta*], regr. 1967)



Cym. Nicomaine Mendoza 'Jaybee' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Lucky Shamrock* x *Cym. Yai*)

Mar 2016, NS 10.0 cm

“dorsal sepal white, suffused light pink, broadly striped dark pink centrally; lateral sepals white, suffused light pink; petals cream yellow”



Cym. Charles Parker McKinney

'Hampshire' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Clarisse Austin* x *Cym. Earlisue*)

Jan 2015, NS 10.6 cm

“sepals and petals blushed pink, striped pink centrally”

Recent *Cym. sanderae* – *Cym. Sussex Dawn* Hybrids

(Major *Cym. Sussex Dawn* F1 progeny is

Cym. Sleeping Beauty [*Cym. Durham Castle* x *Cym. Sussex Dawn*], regr. 1970)



Cym. Etienne Chan Tin 'Ori Gem' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Memoria Amelia Earhart* x *Cym. Tiger Haze*)

Feb 2016, NS 6.9 cm

“sepals yellow-green, finely spotted red-brown, denser along veins; petals yellow-green finely spotted red-brown paralleling margins and on midvein”



Cym. Nicomaine Mendoza 'Jaybee' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Lucky Shamrock* x *Cym. Yai*)

Mar 2016, NS 10.0 cm

“dorsal sepal white, suffused light pink, broadly striped dark pink centrally; lateral sepals white, suffused light pink; petals cream yellow”

Recent *Cym. sanderae* – *Cym. Balkis* Hybrids
(Major *Cym. Balkis* F1 progeny is
Cym. Fred Stewart [*Cym. Early Bird* x *Cym. Balkis*], regr. 1964)



Cym. Golden Orange 'Bob's Best' AM/AOS

(*Cym. Kickapoo* x *Cym. Peetie*)

Feb 2014, NS 13.0 cm

“sepals and petals light creamy yellow overlaid rose”



Cym. Pink Splendor 'Showtime' AM/AOS

(*Cym. Red Beauty* x *Cym. Valley Splash*)

Feb 2014, NS 16.3 cm

“sepals ivory blushed light pink centrally; petals ivory, margins blushed pink”

Recent *Cym. sanderae* – *Cym. Doris Aurea* Hybrids

(Major *Cym. Doris Aurea* F1 progeny is *Cym. San Miguel* [*Cym. Doris Aurea* x *Cym. Sicily*], regr. 1967)



Cym. Nicomaine Mendoza 'Jaybee' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Lucky Shamrock* x *Cym. Yai*)

Mar 2016, NS 10.0 cm

“dorsal sepal white, suffused light pink, broadly striped dark pink centrally; lateral sepals white, suffused light pink; petals cream yellow”



Cym. Don's Delight 'Diane' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Don Hosfeldt* x *Cym. Ernest Hetherington*)

Mar 2016, NS 11.5 cm

“sepals and petals gold-yellow, sepals finely spotted along veins, a very dense concentration apically; petals finely spotted on veins, very dense on midvein”

Recent *Cym. sanderae* – *Cym. Sensation* Hybrids
(Major *Cym. Sensation* F1 progeny is
Cym. Yowie Flame [*Cym. Tapestry* x *Cym. Sensation*], regr. 1981)



Cym. Lillian's Ruby 'Hatfields' HCC/AOS
(*Cym. Lillian Fujimoto* x *Cym. Ruby Pendant*)
Mar 2015, NS 6.0 cm
"sepals and petals cream overlaid red-brown, cream
picotee"



Cym. Assassination Tango
'Fires of Spring' HCC/AOS
(*Cym. Memoria Amelia Earhart* x *Cym. Khai Tango*)
Feb 2014, NS 6.4 cm
"sepals and petals chartreuse overlaid with dense
mahogany stipples, darker stippled veins, yellow picotee"

Recent *Cym. sanderæ* – *Cym. Khyber Pass* Hybrids

(Major *Cym. Khyber Pass* F1 progeny is
Cym. Tapestry [*Cym. Khyber Pass* x *Cym. Voodoo*], regr. 1963)



Cym. Shocking Moon 'Carol' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Bronze Moon* x *Cym. Hazel Fay*)

Feb 2016, NS 10.9 cm

“sepals and petals yellow, overlaid light burgundy,
stippled burgundy”



Cym. Don's Delight 'Diane' HCC/AOS

(*Cym. Don Hosfeldt* x *Cym. Ernest Hetherington*)

Mar 2016, NS 11.5 cm

“sepals and petals gold-yellow, sepals finely spotted
along veins, a very dense concentration apically; petals
finely spotted on veins, very dense on midvein”

References

- www.orchidspecies.com
- <http://apps.kew.org/wcsp/qsearch.do>
- <https://secure.aos.org/aqplus/SearchAwards.aspx>
- <http://www.newhorizonorchids.com>
- <https://prezi.com/wskbu03xllpe/the-polyploid-avantage/>
- OrchidWiz.Database 13.1
- Du Puy, D. & Cribb, P., 1988, *The Genus Cymbidium*
- Du Puy, D. & Cribb, P., 2007, *The Genus Cymbidium (Botanical Magazine Monograph)*
- Carpenter, M. O., 1987, Temperature Tolerant Cymbidiums, *Amer. Orchid Soc. Bull.* 56(2): 123-129
- Gripp, P., 1967, Ten Proven Diploid Cymbidiums Good for Future Use, *Amer. Orchid Soc. Bull.* 36(7): 582-586
- Trimble, W. J. *The Rev. Parish's Cymbidium*, *CSA Journal*, 2016, 16(4), 34-37
- Menninger, E. D. *Parishii Regained*, *CSA Journal*, 2016, 16(4), 34-37 (Reprint from *AOS Bulletin*, 1965, 34(10), 892-897)