CYMBIDIUM SPECIES

About 86 species are found through Asia and the Pacific Islands and can be divided into three basic groups. The first group are the large flowered species that are found in the Himalayas and higher elevations of China and they require a pronounced cool period to initiate flowering. The second group grows in cool to intermediate temps year round and does not need a distinct cool snap to flower. The third and last group are the warm growing tropical plants that require year round warm temps and because of their pendant inflorescence are best planted in hanging wire baskets. The often large and showy flowers have free, spreading or erect sepals and petals, a 3 lobed, sessile lip with a short column foot with the lateral lobes erect around the column, the midlobe recurved and a disc with 1 to 3, glabrous or pubescent ridges. The column is elongate, has 2 deepy grooved or 4 subglobose to pyramidal pollina attached to the broad viscidium by a short caudicle.

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/indexco.htm



Cymbidium insigne Rolfe 1904 SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970 Photo courtesy of © Lourens Grobler

Flower Closeup Photo courtesy of Jean Claude George

Another Color Form

Alba color form Photo courtesy of Eric Hunt



Common Name The Splendid Cymbidium - In China Mei Hua Lan

Flower Size 2.8 to 3 1/2" [7 to 9 cm]

Found in Thailand, Vietnam and Hainan China in highland primary cloud forests in shallow, sandy soils among sandstone rocks often in the shade of low bushes at elevations of 1000 to 2600 meters as a large to giant sized, cool to cold growing terrestrial with ovoid, lightly bilaterally flattened pseudobulbs carrying 6 to 10, narrowly linear-elliptic, tapering to an acute apex leaves articulated to a broadly sheathing base, 2 to 6'' [5 to 15 cm] from the pseudobulb that blooms in the fall through spring on a sheathed, erect, 3'4'' to 4'8'' [100 to 150 cm] tall, loosely several to many [to 27] flowered inflorescence and carrying, non-fragrant, close set flowers.

Synonyms Cymbidium insigne f. album (O'Brien) O.Gruss & M.Wolff 2007; Cymbidium insigne var. album O'Brien 1917; Cymbidium insigne var sandreae [O'Brien] Hort 1909; Cymbidium insigne subsp. seidenfadenii P.J.Cribb & Du Puy 2007; Cymbidium sanderi O'Brien 1905; Cyperorchis insignis (Rolfe) Schltr. 1924

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cyminsigne.htm



Cymbidium atropurpureum (Lindl.) Rolfe 1903 SECTION Cymbidium Hunt 1970 Photo courtesy of Steve Feldman



Common Name The Black Purple Cymbidium - In China Ye Xiang Lan

Flower Size 1.4" to 1.8" [3.5 to 4.5 cm]

Found in southern Thailand, Central Malaysia, Vietnam, Borneo, Sumatra and the Philippines in lowland and lower montane forests at an elevations of sea level to 1630 meters as a large sized, hot to cool growing terrestrial or lithophyte on vertical rock faces with clustered pseudobulbs enveloped completely by leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying strap shaped, somewhat hard, deeply grooved, very leathery, long leaves that blooms in the summer and fall on an arching to pendulous, 3'4'' [1 meter] long, racemose, densely many [7 to 33] flowered inflorescence with closely set flowers that smell of rancid coconut oil.

Synonyms Cymbidium atropurpureum var olivaceum J.J.Sm. 1910; Cymbidium finlaysonianum var atropurpureum [Lindl.] Veitch 1894; *Cymbidium pendulum var. atropurpureum Lindl. 1854; Cymbidium pendulum var. purpureum [Roxb.] W. Wats. 1890;

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymatropurpureum.htm



Cymbidium bicolor Lindl. 1833 SECTION Cymbidium Hunt 1970 Photo by © Eric Hunt and his Orchid Species Photo Website

Inflorescence Photo courtesy of Zainal Abidin Bin Othman

<u>Closeup of Flower C bicolor var pubescens</u> Photo courtesy of The Oman and His <u>Orchid Website</u>



Common Name The Two-Colored Cymbidium - In Thailand - Kare karawn dam khaow - Katae taimai

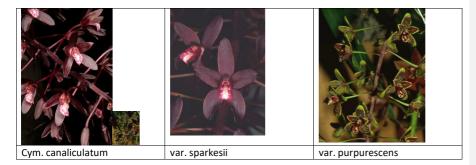
Flower Size 1 3/4" [4.5 cm]

Found from Vietnam, pennisular Malaysia, Borneo, Sulawesi, Java, Sumatra and the Philippines in evergreen broadleaf and in semi-deciduous and deciduous dry lowland forests and savana-like woodlands at elevations of 400 to 1100 meters as a large sized hot to warm growing epiphyte with ellipsoid, laterally compressed pseudobulbs carrying ligulate, thick, coriaceous, oblique to unequally bilobed apically leaves that blooms in the spring and summer on a 2' 5'' [72 cm] long, basal, racemose scape that can be arched or pendant with up to 26, fragrant flowers that have brown scarious basal sheaths.

This species likes even year round, humid and warm conditions with regular fertilizer.

Synonyms Cymbidium aloifolium Sensu Bl. 1825; Cymbidium aloifolium var pubescens [Lindl.] Ridl. 1911; Cymbidium bicolor subsp. obtusum Du Puy & P.J.Cribb 1988; Cymbidium bicolor subsp. pubescens (Lindl.) Du Puy & P.J.Cribb 1988; Cymbidium celibicum [Schlechter]Schtr. 1925; Cymbidium flaccidum Schltr. 1913; Cymbidium pubescens Lindl. 1840; Cymbidium pubescens Lindl. var celibicum Schlechter 1911

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymbbicolor.htm



Cymbidium canaliculatum R. Brown 1810 SECTION Austrocymbidium Schlechter 1924 Photo by © Lourens Grobler

Flower Closeup Photo courtesy of Eric Hunt, plant grown by Bill Weaver



Common Name The Small Grooved Leaf Cymbidium - In Australia The Channeled Boat-Lip Orchid - The Tiger Boat-Lip Orchid

Flower Size 3/4" to 1 3/4" [1.8 to 4 cm]

This medium to just large sized, warm to cool growing epiphytic species is found in Northern Territories and Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales in forests of Sclerophyll in hollows of dead branches at elevations of 5 to 900 meters with clustered, grey green, narrow ellipsoid pseudobulbs enveloped basally by several sheaths carrying 2 to 6, linear, erect, rigid, thick and grooved above leaves that blooms in the spring on a basal, arching, crowded, many small flowered, to 1 1/2' [45 cm] long, racemose scape with often more than one per pseudobulb giving rise to waxy, color variable, fragrant flowers that can be found growing quite happily in full sun and in dry conditions.

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymcanaliculatum.htm



Cymbidium dayanum Rchb.f 1869 SECTION Himantophyllum Schlechter 1924

Flower Closeup Photos by © Eric Hunt and his Orchid Species Photo Website



Common Name Day's Cymbidium [English Orchid Grower 1800's] - In Japan Hetsukaran - In China Dong Feng Lan

Flower Size 1.6 to 2" [4 to 5 cm]

This medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphytic or terrestrial species occurs low down on tree trunks in evergreen lowland forests at elevations of 200 to 1800 meters and can be found in Assam India, eastern Himalayas, Sikkim, Thailand, Cambodia, China, Vietnam , Borneo, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sulawesi, Sumatra, Taiwan, Ryukyu Islands and Japan, with indistinct, strongly compressed-ellipsoid pseudobulbs enveloped by scarious, persistent leaf bases and cataphylls and carrying 5 to 12, disitichous, narrow-linear, dark green, slightly leathery, pale green, acute to acuminate, sessile [no petiole] leaves with the articulation 1.2 to 2.4" away from the base that blooms in the summer and fall on a basal, erect to pendant, several [5 to 15] flowered, 9" [22.5 cm] long, racemose scape subtended with pink veined sheaths and triangular, acute, purplish floral bracts and carrying mostly non-fragrant flowers, and needs even year round conditions.

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymdayanum.htm



Cymbidium eburneum Lindl. 1847*SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970* Photo by © Lourens Grobler

Flower Closeup Photo by Jean Claude George



Common Name The Ivory-Colored Cymbidium - In China Du Zhan Chun

Flower Size 3.8 to 4.8" [8 to 12 cm]

Commented [DG1]:

Found in Assam India, eastern Himalayas, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, southern China and Vietnam in highland cloud forests on trees and rocks at elevations around 300 to 2000 meters as a small to medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte or occasional lithophyte with clustered, ovoid to fusiform, bilaterally flattened pseudobulbs enveloped basally by several imbricating leaf bases carrying 9 to 17, distichous, linear-ligulate, thin textured, acute or acutely bifid leaves articulated 2 to 4" [5 to 10 cm] from the pseudobulb that blooms in the winter and spring on an erect to sub-erect, from within the leaf axils, 8 to 21 basally sheathed, 20 to 28" [50 to 70cm] long inflorescence with 1 to 2 [3], fragrant [lilacs], waxy, long-lasting flowers.

Synonyms Cymbidium eburneum var dayi Jennings 1875; Cymbidium eburneum var. longzhouense Z.J.Liu & S.C.Chen 2006; Cymbidium eburneum var philbrickianum Rchb.f 1886; Cymbidium eburneum var williamsianum Rchb.f 1881; Cymbidium syringodorum Griff. 1851; Cyperorchis eburnea (Lindl.) Schltr. 1924

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymeburneum.htm



floribundum Lindl. 1833 SUBGENUS Cymbidium SECTION Floribundum Seth & Cribb 1984 Photo courtesy of Eric Hunt

Another Flower Photo by © Pieter C. Brouwer and his Nature Photo Website



Common Name The Many Flowered, Small Cymbidium - In China Dua Hua Lan

Flower Size 1.2 to 1.6" [3 to 4 cm]

Found in southern China in Yunnan State, southern Taiwan and in northern Vietnam in primary, broadleaf, evergreen forests in shaded gorges and ridge tops [also naturalized to the warmer parts of Japan] at elevations around 400 to 3300 meters as a small to medium sized, cool to cold growing terrestrial, epiphyte or lithophyte with small, ovoid, slightly bilaterally compressed pseudobulbs enveloped by 5 scarious sheaths and carrying 5 to 6, linear-elliptic, arching, acute, usually oblique apically, articulated to the pseudobulb leaves that blooms in the spring on a robust, suberect, 6 to 10'' [15 to 25 cm] long, several to many [6 to 45] flowered inflorescence with 6 to 8, becoming scarious, cylindrical in the lower half, becoming expanded and cymbiform, acute bracts and triangular, short, acute floral bracts and carrying close set, nonscented flowers that turn rosy to red after pollination.

Basically this species and C suavissimum have many similarities but they differ in that this one has small, 1.12" [3.3 cm] long pseudobulbs with green cataphylls and a smaller in length as well as width leaf, a shorter inflorescence with less flowers that are unscented, have no auricle at the column base, with smaller sepals and petals and blooms in the spring.

C suavissimum has larger pseudobulbs to 2.4" [6 cm] long, purple cataphylls, a much longer leaf to 28" [to 70 cm] long, a much wider leaf, a to 20" [50 cm] long inflorescence carrying more flowers [to 50], that are fruit scented, has an auricle at the column base, longer sepals and petals as well as blooming in the summer.

Synonyms Cymbidium chawalongense C.L.Long, H.Li & Z.L.Dao 2003; Cymbidium floribundum f. virescens (Makino) O.Gruss & M.Wolff 2007; Cymbidium floribundum var. pumilum (Rolfe) Y.S. Wu & S.C. Chen 1980; Cymbidium illiberale Hayata 1914; Cymbidium pumilum Rolfe 1907; Cymbidium pumilum f. virescens Makino 1912

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymfloribundumvarpumilum.htm



Cymbidium hookerianum Rchb. f. 1866 SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970 Photo courtesy of Eric Hunt



Common Name Hooker's Cymbidium [English Botanist 1800's] - In China Hu Tou Lan

Flower Size to 5 3/5" [to 14 cm]

Found in Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim on steep banks in dense, damp forests or evergreen-oak forests often where thick moss occurs at elevations of 1500 to 2600 meters as a medium to large sized, cold to cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte with ovoid, elongate, bilaterally flattened pseudobulbs carrying linear-elliptic, acute, leaves that are articulate 1.6 to 4" [4 to 10 cm] from the pseudobulb that blooms in the late winter and early spring on a very stout, sheathed below, arching to pendant, slightly flattened, to 2 1/2' [75 cm] long, apically racemose inflorescence with triangular floral bracts and carrying 6 to 15, mostly nodding, extremely fragrant, long-lasting flowers.

Synonyms Cymbidium giganteum var. hookerianum [Rchb.f] Bois 1893; Cymbidium grandiflorum Griff. 1851; Cymbidium grandiflorum var punctatum Cogn 1893; Cymbidium hookerianum var hookerianum Wu & Chen 1980; Cyperorchis grandiflora (Sw.) Schltr. 1924

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymhookeriana.htm



Cymbidium Iowianum var. iansonii (Rolfe) P.J. Cribb & Du Puy 1984 Photo courtesy of Eric Hunt, plant grown by Brian Lothrop

Common Name Ianson's Cymbidium

Found in Northern Burma and

Synonyms Cymbidium iansonii Rolfe 1900; Cymbidium lowianum var. iansonii (Rolfe) P.J. Cribb & Du Puy 1984; Cymbidium lowianum var. kalawense (Colyear) Govaerts 1999; Cymbidium mandaianum Gower 1912; Cyperorchis iansonii (Rolfe) Schltr. 1924

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymiansonii.htm

Cymbidium insigne Rolfe 1904 SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970 Photo courtesy of © Lourens Grobler

Flower Closeup Photo courtesy of Jean Claude George

Another Color Form

Alba color form Photo courtesy of Eric Hunt



Common Name The Splendid Cymbidium - In China Mei Hua Lan

Flower Size 2.8 to 3 1/2" [7 to 9 cm]

Found in Thailand, Vietnam and Hainan China in highland primary cloud forests in shallow, sandy soils among sandstone rocks often in the shade of low bushes at elevations of 1000 to 2600 meters as a large to giant sized, cool to cold growing terrestrial with ovoid, lightly bilaterally flattened pseudobulbs carrying 6 to 10, narrowly linear-elliptic, tapering to an acute apex leaves articulated to a broadly sheathing base, 2 to 6'' [5 to 15 cm] from the pseudobulb that blooms in the fall through spring on a sheathed, erect, 3'4'' to 4'8'' [100 to 150 cm] tall, loosely several to many [to 27] flowered inflorescence and carrying, non-fragrant, close set flowers.

Synonyms Cymbidium insigne f. album (O'Brien) O.Gruss & M.Wolff 2007; Cymbidium insigne var. album O'Brien 1917; Cymbidium insigne var sandreae [O'Brien] Hort 1909; Cymbidium insigne subsp. seidenfadenii P.J.Cribb & Du Puy 2007; Cymbidium sanderi O'Brien 1905; Cyperorchis insignis (Rolfe) Schltr. 1924

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cyminsigne.htm



Cymbidium lowianum (Rchb. f.) Rchb. f. 1879 SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970

Flower Closeup Photos by © Gerry Sinclair

Another Flower Photos by © Eric Hunt and His Orchid Website



Common Name Low's Cymbidium [English Nursuryman 1800's] - In China Bi Yu Lan

Flower Size 3 to 4" [7.5 to 10 cm]

Found in Myanmar, Thailand, southwest China and Vietnam in shaded, highland montane cloud forests at elevations of 1200 to 2400 meters as a large sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte with compressed pseudobulbs enveloped basally by distichous, leaf bases carrying to 9, narrowly linear-lanceolate, acuminate leaves articulate 2.4 to 4" [6 to 10 cm] from the pseudobulb which blooms in the late winter and spring on a stout, suberect to horizontal, 3'4" foot [100 cm] long, with several to many [12 to 40] flowered inflorescence enveloped by sheaths and triangular floral bracts with long-lasting, fragrant or not, flowers situated at the apex.

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymlowianum.htm



Cymbidium madidum Lindley 1840 SECTION Austrocymbidium Schlechter 1924 Photo courtesy of Jeff Aguillon

Flower Closeup Photo courtesy of Danny Lentz plant grown by the Atlanta Botanical Garden



Common Name The Moist Forest Cymbidium - In Australia The Giant Boat-Lip Orchid

Flower Size 1.1" to 1.15" [2.6 to 2.8 cm]

This species occuring in Queensland and New South Wales Australia as a large to giant sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte that acts like a terrestrial as it rarely grows on bark, is found in hollows and crooks of branches where a lot of jungle detritus has collected and it likes shady conditions in or near rainforests of sea level up to 1300 meters in elevation with conical, ovoid pseudobulbs carrying up to 10, linear, acute, coriaceous, decurved when long leaves that blooms in the late winter through summer on a basal, pendant to arcuate, few to many flowered, 1 to 2' [30 to 60 cm] long, racemose inflorescence carrying faintly fragrant, fleshy flowers.

Synonyms Cymbidium albuciflorum F. Mueller 1888; Cymbidium iridifolium A Cunn. 1839; Cymbidium leai Rendle 1898; Cymbidium leroyi St.Cloud 1955; Cymbidium madidum var. leroyi (St.Cloud) Menninger 1961; Cymbidium queenianum Klinge 1899

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymmaudidum.htm



Cymbidium parishii Rchb. f. 1874 SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970

Photo courtesy of Eric Hunt



Common Name Parish's Cymbidium [English Missionary in Thailand 1800's]

Flower Size

Found in Myanmar in montane forests at elevations around 1650 meters as a medium to large sized, cool growing epiphyte with fusiform pseudobulbs enveloped basally by persistent, distichous leaf bases and carrying 11 to 14, apical, ligulate, acute, unequally bilobed apically leaves with a short, mucro in the sinus that are articulated to the broad sheaf bases which blooms in the late spring and early summer on an axillary, to 10" [to 25 cm] long, 2 to 3 flowered inflorescence with several, cymbiform to cylindrical sheaths and triangular floral bracts all carrying smaller than C eburneum, not opening well, fragrant flowers.

CAUTION I am unsure of this determination. Said to be lost to cultivation. Does not match Du Puy & Cribbs drawing 2007.

Synonyms Cymbidium eburneum var parishii [Rchb.f] Hookr. f. 1891; Cyperorchis parishii (Rchb.f.) Schltr.1924

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymparishii.htm

Cymbidium sanderae Sander ex Rolfe 1904 SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970 Photo by © Lourens Grobler



Common Name Sander's Cymbidium [Wife of Renowned English Orchid Nurseryman 1800's]

Flower Size 3" [7.5 cm]

Found in Myanmar in open, humid, evergreen, montane forests on trees as a medium sized, cold to warm growing epiphyte with clustered, ovoid, lightly bilaterally compressed pseudobulbs enveloped basally by several imbricating leaf bases carrying 9 to 15, linear-elliptic, thin textured, tapering to an acute, entire apex leaves articulated to a broad sheathing base, 3.6'' [9 cm] from the pseudobulb that blooms on a 12 to 20'' [30 to 50 cm] long, suberect to arching, 3 to 15 flowered inflorescence with very fragrant flowers occuring in the winter and late spring.

Synonyms Cymbidium parishii var. sanderae Rolfe 1904

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymsanderae.htm



Cymbidium roseum J.J.Sm. 1905 SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970 Photo by © K G Lam and the <u>FlickRiver Photo Site</u>

Another Flower Color Photo courtesy of Leong Tuck Lock and the Orchids of Asian Website



Common Name The Rose-Colored Cymbidium

Flower Size 2 to 2.4" [5 to 6 cm]

Found in penninsular Malayasia, Java and Sumatra in crevices on vertical rock faces or low down on trees at elevations around 1450 to 2400 meters as a medium sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte or terrestro-lithophytic orchid with stem-like pseudobulbs completely enveloped by leaf sheaths and carrying 7 to 12, strap-shaped, somewhat unequally bilobed apically, tough, leathery leaves that blooms in the fall on an axillary, erect to horizontal, 12" [30 cm] long, 2 to 5 flowered inflorescence mostly enveloped by 9 sheaths and carrying triangular, acute floral bracts and faintly fragrant flowers that do not open fully.

Both of the specimens pictured are correct. This is a variable species in both form and color.

Synonyms Cyperorchis rosea (J.J.Sm.) Schltr. 1924

References <u>W3 Tropicos, Kew Monocot list</u>, <u>IPNI</u>; Die Orchideen Von Java J.J.Sm. 1905; AOS Bulletin Vol 31 No 11 1962 photo as Cyperorchis rosea; Flora of Malaya Vol 1 Holttum 1957; Encyclopedia of Cultivated Orchids Hawkes 1965 as Cyperorchis rosea; Orchid Digest Vol 44 No 5 1980 photo fide; Die Orchideen lieferung 24 Schlechter/Brieger 1991; The Orchids of Penninsular Malaysia and Singapore Seidenfaden & Wood 1992 drawing fide; Orchids of Sumatra Comber 2001; The Genus Cymbidium Du Puy & Cribb 2007 photo/drawing fide; Wild Orchids of Penninsular Malaysia Ong, O'Byrne, Yong & Saw 2011 photo fide

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymroseum.htm



Cymbidium suave R. Brown 1810 SECTION Austrocymbidium Schlechter 1924

<u>Close up of flowers</u> Photo courtesy of Neville DeLaRue

Plant in situ

Plant in situ with inflorescence

Plant in situ with inflorescence Photos by John Pacewicz



Common Name Refers to being soft, gentle, mild, or mild smelling ? which one? - In Australia The Grassy Boat-Lip Orchid

Flower Size 3/4" to 1 1/4" [2 to 3 cm]

Found in coastal Queensland and New South Wales Australia as a large to giant sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte that is found at elevations of sealevel to 1350 meters in decaying heartwood of Eucalyptus trees without pseudobulbs and has a thin, woody stem enveloped by leaf sheath bases and carrying 6 to 11, thin textured, distichous, ligulate, arching, obtuse to subacute leaves. It flowers from late winter though early summer on a basal, arching to pendant, 6 to 14" [15 to 35 cm] long, racemose many [40] flowered inflorescence with sweetly fragrant, closely set flowers.

This species is often found in conjunction with ants and may benefit from their presence

Synonyms Cymbidium gomphocarpum Fitz.

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymsuave.htm



Cymbidium tracyanum Rolfe 1890 SECTION Cyperorchis Hunt 1970 Photo courtesy of Eric Hunt, plant grown by May On Orchids

Side View Of Flower Photo courtesy of © Lourens Grobler



Common Name Tracy's Cymbidium [English Orchid Grower 1800's and first to flower species] - In Thailand Ueang dinn noe - Phisuea - Ueang chat- Kare karawn khao - In China Xi Zang Hu Tao Lan

Flower Size 4 to 6" [10 to 15 cm]

Found as a large sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte or lithophyte in China, Thailand and Myanmar on tree trunks, forks and damp rocks on wooded slopes at elevations of 1200 to 1900 meters where it needs even year round watering and fertilizer and has bilaterally compressed, elongate-ovate pseudobulbs enveloped basally by several sheaths and carrying linear-ligulate, distinctly keeled on the underside, acute, mid green leaves that blooms on an erect, basal, 3 to 4'4'' [90 to 130 cm] long, arching, densely many [10 to 20] flowered inflorescence with triangular floral bracts and carrying strongly fragrant flowers occuring in the fall and early winter . Synonyms Cymbidium zaleskianum L.Linden 1901; Cyperorchis tracyana (L.Castle) Schltr. 1924

URL: http://www.orchidspecies.com/cymbtracyanum.htm