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ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDITOR'S NOTE

THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ELECTRONICALLY TO ALL MEMBERS FOR WHOM WE HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS. IF YOU WISH TO SWITCH FROM PAPER TO ELECTRONIC DELIVERY, NOTIFY ME AT (ROBERT.LUCAS@USASK.CA). EMAIL ME IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER BY THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

APRIL MEETING

THE APRIL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 25TH AT JOHN DOLAN SCHOOL, COMMENCING AT 1:30 P.M.

GARDENScape

THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS WHO BROUGHT THEIR PLANTS FOR THE SOS DISPLAY, AND WHO VOLUNTEERED TO STAFF THE DISPLAY AND SHARE THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND KNOWLEDGE OF ORCHID CULTURE WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC. SPECIAL THANKS ARE EXTENDED TO AL HARTRIDGE (AND SON), DAVE ROBINSON, EUGENE KUCEY, BOB LUCAS, CAL CARTER, SHERIDA GREGOIRE, EVETTE Lyster AND TRACEY THUE FOR THEIR HELP IN THE SET UP AND TAKE DOWN OF THE DISPLAY.

EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE FOR THE 2010-11 YEAR WILL BE HELD DURING THE APRIL MEETING. WE HAVE A NUMBER OF VACANCIES FOR NEXT YEAR. IF YOU WISH TO NOMINATE SOMEONE OR WISH TO STAND FOR ELECTION YOURSELF, PLEASE NOTIFY SHERIDA OR ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BEFORE THE MEETING.

APRIL PLANT ORDER

PIPING ROCK ORCHIDS, SPECIALIZING



IN PAPHS AND PHRAGS, WILL BE VISITING THE OSA IN MAY. CARL AUSTIN HAS OFFERED US AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTAKE IN A PRE-ORDER. THE ORDER DEADLINE IS THE APRIL MEETING. YOU CAN ALSO FAX OR EMAIL YOUR ORDER TO HEATHER AT: FAX # 652-1347 OR HJANDERSON4@HOTMAIL.COM CHECK OUT THE CATALOGUE AT WWW.PIPINGROCKORCHIDS.COM/

PLANT RAFFLE AND SALE

THE REMAINING BETTY BETHIEUME PLANTS WILL BE AUCTIONED IN APRIL. BE SURE TO PURCHASE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS FROM TRACEY AT THE LIBRARY TABLE, \$1 OR 3 FOR \$2.

MEETING PRESENTATION

LORNE HYSKA FROM WINNIPEG WILL BE PRESENTING A TALK ENTITLED "ORCHIDS IN THAILAND." LORNE IS PAST PRESIDENT OF THE MOS AND THE COC. HE IS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIVE ORCHID CONGRESS. LORNE IS AN ACCOMPLISHED PHOTOGRAPHER OF ORCHIDS AND HIS WORK HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN MANY VENUES INCLUDING THE ORCHID DIGEST.

MEETING AGENDA

- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PROBLEM CORNER
- SHOW AND TELL
- COFFEE/SUPPLIES
- "ORCHIDS IN THAILAND"
- PLANT RAFFLE AND SALE

MARCH 21ST MEETING MINUTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GARDENSCAPE – GARDENSCAPE IS COMING UP NEXT WEEKEND – MARCH 26-28 2010. THERE ARE STILL SPOTS TO FILL TO MAN THE DISPLAY, SO MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SIGN UP. GARDENSCAPE IS OPEN EARLIER THIS YEAR AND LATER FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY. FOR THOSE UNABLE TO PICK UP VOLUNTEER PASSES ON THURSDAY EVENING 5-7 PM, THERE ARE A FEW PASSES AVAILABLE FROM SHERIDA TODAY. BLOOMING PLANTS ARE TO BE DROPPED OFF THURSDAY, 5-7:30PM AT HALL C – PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME ON THE BOTTOM OF THE POTS, AND PLEASE HAVE THEM CLEAN AND STAKED. PLANTS MUST BE PICKED UP BETWEEN 5 AND 5:30 PM ON SUNDAYS.

FORESTVIEW ORDERS - YOU WILL BE CONTACTED IF YOU HAVE ORDERED FROM FORESTVIEW. FORESTVIEW WILL AGAIN BE AT GARDENSCAPE WITH MANY PLANTS FOR SALE.

RAFFLE – THERE ARE MANY PLANTS ON THE TABLE TODAY – SOME ARE POTTED IN SPHAGNUM, SO THEY WILL HAVE TO BE REPOTTED.

ELECTIONS – NEXT MONTH WE WILL BE HOLDING OUR ELECTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE. THERE A SEVERAL SEATS VACANT, SO MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED BY BEING CONSIDERED FOR A POSITION.

PLANT RAFFLE – A BOUQUET OF FRESH FLOWERS WAS ARRANGED AND DONATED BY SANDY FROM SAFEWAY. ORCHIDS WERE DONATED.

BY SAFEWAY. THERE WERE 30+ PLANTS – A MIX OF PHALS AND CATS

PROBLEM CORNER:

Q – PHALS HAVE SILVERY WHITE POKED SPOTS. THEY HAVE BEEN WATERED WITH TAP WATER. NEW LEAVES ARE HEALTHY. IS IT AN INSECT?

A – COULD BE A WATER PROBLEM. CITY WATER HAS A VERY HIGH PH (OVER 9.0) AND OTHER MEMBERS HAVE FOUND THIS TO BE DETRIMENTAL TO THEIR PLANTS.

SHOW AND TELL:

PLANTS WERE SHOWN BY : YVETTE LYSTER, ELLEN ROSS, EUGENE KUCEY, JOANNE KLIMASZEWSKI, HEATHER ANDERSON, SHERIDA GREGOIRE

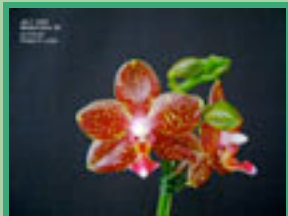
DEMONSTRATION:

BOB LUCAS REPOTTED A PHRAG SEEDLING OUT OF FIR BARK AND INTO SPHAGNUM WITH PELLETS FOR DRAINAGE; HE ALSO REPOTTED A PHAL WHOSE ROOTS ARE GROWING OUT OF THE POT, PLANTING IT INTO LAYERS OF PELLETS AND SPHAGNUM.

TRACEY THUE DEMONSTRATED HOW TO MOUNT A BRASSOVOLA CATTLEYA CROSS ON A PIECE OF CORK BARK; SHE ALSO DIVIDED AND REPLANTED A LARGE CATTLEYA.

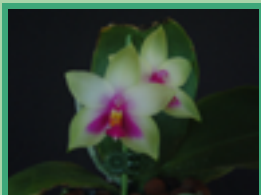
PLANT SALE – A GOOD SELECTION OF APPROXIMATELY 30 PLANTS WERE AVAILABLE FOR SALE.

ADJOURNMENT – 3:40 P.M.



PHAL BEDFORD GEM

*EXECUTIVE
ELECTIONS WILL
BE HELD IN APRIL*



PHAL BELLINA

WEB PAGE OF THE MONTH

EACH MONTH WE WILL FEATURE A WEB PAGE. IF YOU HAVE A FAVORITE, SEND IT TO THE EDITOR. THIS MONTH'S PAGE, COURTESY OF THE EDITOR, IS

[HTTP://WWW.PIPINGROCKORCHIDS.COM/](http://www.pipingrockorchids.com/)

AS THE NAME SUGGESTS, THIS IS A COMMERCIAL SITE SPECIALIZING IN PAPH AND PHRAG ORCHIDS. HOWEVER IT ALSO HAS USEFUL

LINKS TO ALL THE AOS CULTURE CARE CONTENTS. FINALLY, IT FEATURES TWO ARTICLES BY GLEN DECKER ON PHRAG KOVACHII AND KOVACHII HYBRIDS THAT APPEARED IN THE ORCHID DIGEST IN 2007 AND 2009. THESE ARTICLES, COMPLETE WITH PICTURES, ARE REQUIRED READING FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE IMPACT OF PHRAG KOVACHII ON THE PHRAG WORLD.

THE GENUS DRACULA PART IV

BY JOHN LEATHERS, GARY MEYER, JOE PARKER AND KENNETH CAMERON. (REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE ORCHID DIGEST, VOL. 72-4, OCT. NOV. DEC. 2008.) EDITOR'S NOTE: SEE THE JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH NEWSLETTERS FOR PARTS I THROUGH III.

DRACULA VELUTINA F. XANTHINA – THE MOST COMMONLY SEEN “MUTANT” YELLOW DRACULA IN CULTIVATION, THIS PLANT IS GENERALLY EASY TO GROW AND FLOWER. IT SEEMS TO PREFER A MORE INTERMEDIATE GROWING ENVIRONMENT, AS IT IS PRONE TO LEAF SPOTTING IF GROWN TOO COLD.

DRACULA GOROGONA F. XANTHINA ‘COLOMBO’ FCC/AOS – PERHAPS THE MOST REMARKABLE OF THE YELLOW DRACULAS, IT BLOOMS WITH A LARGE, BRIGHT LEMON-YELLOW AND WHITE FLOWER. IT WAS ORIGINALLY A WILD-COLLECTED PLANT CULTIVATED BY S. TSUBOTA OF PEREIRA, COLOMBIA, AND A DIVISION WAS GIVEN TO COLOMBORQUIDEAS IN MEDELLIN. THIS WAS A FORTUNATE DECISION BECAUSE TSUBOTA'S PIECE OF THE PLANT PROMPTLY DIED. THE HISTORY OF THIS CLONE UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF DISTRIBUTING RARE, ONE-OF-A-KIND MATERIAL

TO AS MANY SKILLED GROWERS AS POSSIBLE TO INCREASE CHANCES FOR SURVIVAL AND PROPOGATION.

DRACULA HIRTZII – EQUALLY STRIKING ARE THE FOUR KNOWN YELLOW CLONES OF THIS SPECIES. THESE PLANTS ORIGINATED FROM AN OUTCROSS MADE BY J&L ORCHIDS, AND SHOW DISTINCT DIFFERENCES. THE FLOWER OF DRACULA HIRTZII ‘J&L'S GOLD AM/AOS IS, IN FACT, GOLDEN-COLORED AND WONDERFULLY BROAD AND FLAT, WHICH ‘HOODVIEW’ IS CLEANER YELLOW AND SOMEWHAT SMALLER.

DRACULA VERTICULOSA F. ALBA – A MORE RECENT ADDITION TO THIS ELITE GROUP, ALL DIVISIONS ORIGINATE FROM A SINGLE PLANT IN THE COLLECTION OF FRANCISCO BILLEGAS OF MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA. THERE IS A LOT OF BLOOM-TO-BLOOM VARIATION IN TAIL LENGTH AND FOLLOWER SIZE WITH THIS PARTICULAR CLONE, BUT THE INSIDE COLOR IS AN



PHAL SUN JE
DIAMOND



*NATURAL HYBRIDS
HAVE BEEN LURK-
ING WITHIN THE
GENUS*

INCREDIBLE, EYE-BALL SEARING YELLOW.

OTHER YELLOW DRACULAS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED INCLUDE ANDREETTAE AN EXTREMELY RARE PURE YELLOW FORM, AND ANOTHER WITH A FEW LARGE BROWN SPOTS). GIGAS (SEVERAL CLONES), DIANA (SEMI-XANTHIC WITH AN ORANGE SUNBURST CENTER), HIRSUTE, AND ERYTHROCHAETE (NOT IN CULTIVATION OUTSIDE OF COSTA RICA).

DRACULA HYBRIDS — ACCIDENTAL OR INEVITABLE

IN THE MID 1980S IT BECAME APPARENT THAT DRACULAS IN CULTIVATION IN THE OPEN-AIR GREENHOUSES OF MEDELLIN, COLOMBIA WERE BEING CROSS-POLLINATED AND PRODUCING SUCCESSFUL ‘SPONTANEOUS’ HYBRIDS. LUES THEN REALIZED THAT SOME OF THE DESCRIBED SPECIES THAT WERE LACKING COLLECTION DATA MIGHT, IN FACT, BE HYBRIDS. HE FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT SOME TAXA THAT HAD BEEN OBSERVED IN THE WILD, INCLUDING D. PILEUS, D. RADIO-SYNDACTYLA, AND D. HAWLEYI, MIGHT BE NATURAL HYBRIDS. ONGOING RESEARCH BY DR. GARY MEYER AND DR. KEN CAMERON, WHO ARE USING DNA MARKERS TO EXPLORE THE PHYLOGENETIC RELATIONSHIPS OF THE GENUS DRACULA, HAS FINALLY UNMASKED THE IDENTITY OF SOME OF THESE HYBRIDS. (CAMERON K. A. AND MEYER, G. E., 2007). THE EXACT PARENTAGE CAN BE DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY WITH CERTAINTY IN SOME CASES BECAUSE SOMETIMES THERE IS NOT ENOUGH VARIATION IN THE DNA SEQUENCES TO SEPARATE CERTAIN CLOSELY RELATED

SPECIES. HOWEVER, THERE ARE DISTINCTIVE ELEMENTS IN THE DNA SEQUENCES THAT SUGGEST A HYBRID ORIGIN FOR SOME SPECIES, EVEN WHEN ONE OR BOTH PARENTS ARE HARD TO SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFY. IN OTHER CASES, THE PARENTS HAVE DISTINCT ENOUGH DNA SEQUENCES TO BE IDENTIFIED.

OF THE PLANTS LUER THOUGHT MIGHT BE HYBRIDS, D. CIRCE, D. VENEFICA, D. PILEUS, AND D. ANICULA SHOW EVIDENCE OF BEING HYBRIDS. DRACULA PILEUS APPEARS TO BE, AS LUER SUGGESTED, A HYBRID BETWEEN D. BELLA AND D. CHIMERA. DRACULA ANICULA, ALSO AS PREDICTED, APPEARS TO BE A CROSS BETWEEN D. CUTIS-BUFONIS AND D. WALLISII.

DRACULA INCOGNITA, AS THE NAME IMPLIES, WAS A PLANT OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN. IT WAS ORIGINALLY FOUND IN THE COLLECTION OF ALBERTO AND DAISY VILLAGAS. GENETIC EVIDENCE SHOWS IT IS A HYBRID INVOLVING D. IRICOLOR AND PROBABLY —ALTHOUGH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE TO BE CERTAIN—D. HOUTTEANA. THE FLOWER OF D. INCOGNITA IS A PLAUSIBLE COMBINATION OF THE TWO PARENTS. PERHAPS MORE REMARKABLE, IS THE SPIKING HABIT: DRACULA IRICOLOR BLOOMS BASALLY. DRACULA INCOGNITA PRODUCES TWO SPIKES FROM EACH GROWTH—ONE UPRIGHT, ONE HORIZONTALLY. THIS PRETTY AND FLORIFEROUS PLANT HAS NEVER BEEN FOUND IN THE WILD, BUT IS NONETHELESS A HAPPY ACCIDENT.

SOME NATURAL HYBRIDS HAVE BEEN LURKING HIDDEN IN THE GENUS, AND SUGGEST THE POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER SLIGHT,

THAT HYBRIDIZATION COULD BE A MECHANISM INVOLVED IN THE SPECIATION OF PLANTS IN THE GENUS. *DRACULA APHRODES* IS THE PRODUCT OF *D. INSOLITA* (POD PARENT) AND PROBABLY *D. VERTICULOSA*. BOTH *D. INSOLITA* AND *D. VERTICULOSA* RESIDE IN THE SAME VALLEY NEAR CALI, COLOMBIA, WHICH IS NOT SURPRISING THE SAME LOCATION FROM WHICH *D. APHRODES* IS FOUND. THE FLOWER IS A PERFECT COMBINATION OF THE TWO PARENTS — PURPLE SPOTTED ON THE OUTSIDE AND TAN ON THE INSIDE LIKE *D. VERTICULOAS*, BUT WITH THE FAINT TIGER STRIPPING OF *D. INSOLITA*. THE LIP IS SHAPED LIKE THE DODSONIA-TYPE LIP OF *D. INSOLITA*, BUT COVERED IN RUGAE INHERITED FROM *D. VERTICULOSA*. FINALLY, THE PLANT BLOOMS ON UPRIGHT SPIKES LIKE *D. INSOLITA*.

THE LOVELY *D. KARENIAE* HAS BEEN COLLECTED ONLY ONCE NEAR MALDONADO ON THE COLUMBIAN /ECUADORIAN BORDER. THE DNA EVIDENCE SHOWS IT IS A HYBRID BETWEEN *D. SODIROS* SSP. *ERYTHROCODON* (POD PARENT), WHICH IS COMMON IN THE AREA, AND A SPECIES IN THE *D. RADIOSA* GROUP. THIS PARENT IS MOST LIKELY *D. RADIELLA*, WHICH ALSO GROWS IN THE AREA. THE FLOWER OF *D. KARENIAE* AGAIN SHOWS THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BOTH PARENTS—BELL SHAPED BUT WIDE WITH LONG TAILS. INSIDE IT HAS A BROWN TIPPED COLUMN AND STRON'CHEEK-BONES' FLANKING THE COLUMN (BOTH TYPICAL OF *D. RADIELLA*). INTERESTINGLY, AN INTENTIONAL HYBRID HAS BEEN MADE BETWEEN *D. SODIROI* AND *D. GIGAS*, WHICH PRODUCES CLONES THAT ARE ALMOST IDENTICAL TO *D. KARENIAE* IN BLOOM, EXCEPT LACKING THE BROWN-TIPPED COLUMN AND 'CHEEK-BONES' WHICH ARE NOT FEATURES FOUND IN *D. GIGAS*. *DRACULA SIJIMII*, WHICH

COMES FROM A SINGLE PLANT IN THE ECUAGENERA COLLECTION, ALSO APPEARS TO BE A HYBRID WITH *D. SODIROI* SSP. *ERYTHROCODON*, AND MAY IN FACT BE ANOTHER CLONAL REPRESENTATION OF THE CROSS THAT PRODUCED *D. KARENIAE*.

OTHER DUBIOUS TAXA WITHIN THE GENUS ARE ALSO HYBRIDS. THE 'COPPER' FORMS OF *D. PHOLEODYTES* CAME FROM A GROUP OF WILD-COLLECTED *D. VERTICULOSA* THAT J&L ORCHIDS HAD RECEIVED FROM COLUMBIA. THESE PLANTS PRODUCE GLOBOSE BLOOMS THAT ARE COPPERY-ORANGE ON THE INSIDE AND PURPLE-FLECKED ON THE OUTSIDE. THE STRONGLY CUPPED SHAPE OF THE PLANTS LED TO THEIR BEING NAMED *D. PHOLEODYTES*, EVEN THOUGH THE LIP IS COMPLETELY UNLIKE THE TRUE *D. PHOLEODYTES*, AND THEY WERE COLLECTED NOWHERE NEAR WHERE *D. PHOLEODYTES* LIVES. THIS PLANT, TOO, IS A NATURAL HYBRID MOST LIKELY INVOLVING *D. VERTICULOSA*. THE OTHER PARENT IS HARD TO DECIPHER, BUT *D. BENEDICTII* IS A POSSIBILITY BASED ON THE MORPHOLOGY OF THE FLOWER (ALTHOUGH *D. BENEDICTII* HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED FROM THIS AREA.)

DRACULA SHUDELLII WAS NAMED RELATIVELY RECENTLY FROM A PLANT COLLECTED BY ALEXANDER HIRTZ. HOWEVER, PLANTS IDENTICAL TO *D. SHUDELLII* HAVE BEEN KNOWN FROM COLOMBORQUIDEAS SINCE THE 1980S (UNDER THE NAMES OF *D. WALLISII* NO.3 AND NO. 15). ALL THREE PLANTS HAVE A DISTINCTIVE TOILET-BOWL



PHAL GEORGE
VASQUEZ



*VERIFIABLE
NATURAL HYBRIDS
REMAIN RARE.*

SHAPED LIP WITH AN INCURVED MARGIN. GENETIC EVIDENCE SHOWS THE TYPE PLANT OF *D. SCHUDELLII* AND THE TWO COLOMBORQUIDEAS PLANTS CAME FROM A *D. BELLA* SEED POD. THE COLOMBORQUIDEAS PLANTS WERE FOUND GROWING AMONG PLANTS OF *D. WALLISII* WHICH IS A PLAUSIBLE, BUT NOT CERTAIN, POLLEN PARENT BOTH MORPHOLOGICALLY AND GENETICALLY. INSECT-CARRIED POLLINIA AND SEEDS CAN BE CARRIED OVER IMPRESSIVE DISTANCES, SO THE LOCATION OF SEEDLINGS IN A MIXED COLLECTION IS AN EQUIVOCAL INDICATOR OF POTENTIAL PARENTS.

SOME PLANTS THAT HAVE BEEN FLOATING AROUND COLLECTIONS FOR YEARS WITHOUT CLEAR IDENTIFICATION SHOW EVIDENCE OF BEING HYBRIDS. ADDITIONAL HYBRIDS ARE LIKELY LURKING WITHIN THE GENUS, BUT WILL REMAIN HIDDEN UNTIL MORE DNA MARKERS ARE STUDIED. NO GENETIC EVIDENCE CURRENTLY SUGGESTS *D. RADIO-SYNDACTYLA* IS A HYBRID. FURTHER, NONE OF THE *D. GIGAS*-LIKE TAXA (*DALSTROMII*, *HAWLEYI*, *TRINYPHARUM*, AND *LEVII*) SHOW ANY VARIATION WHATSOEVER IN THE DNA MARKERS THAT HAVE BEEN STUDIED TO DATE. THUS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW AT THIS POINT IF *D. HAWLEYI* IS A HYBRID. SO, WHILE WE AWAIT FURTHER DNA STUDIES, AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH IS BEING PURSUED BY THE AUTHORS OF THIS ARTICLE. WE HAVE BEGUN MAKING THE PUTATIVE CROSSES RESPONSIBLE FOR *D. APHRODES*, *D. KARENIA* AND *D. HAWLEYI*. FURTHER, WE ALREADY HAVE F1 SEEDLINGS GROWING OF F1 SELFING OF THE *D. SCHUDELLII* TYPE PLANT, WHICH WOULD BE EXPECTED TO VARY SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE PARENT IF THE PARENT WAS A HYBRID ITSELF.

THE PROSPECT THAT NATURAL HYBRIDIZATION IS OCCURRING IN THE GENUS IS INTRIGUING AND POTENTIALLY REPRESENTS AN

EVOLUTIONARY MECHANISM FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NEW SPECIES.

INDEED, PEOPLE WHO STUDY DRACULAS IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT CAN FIND IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO DRAW THE LINES BETWEEN DISCRETE SPECIES BECAUSE OF THE INTERGRADE FORMS. THIS IS PARTICULARLY EVIDENT AT LOS CEDROS RESERVE IN NORTHWEST ECUADOR, WHERE SEVERAL KNOWLEDGEABLE DRACULA RESEARCHERS HAVE HAD DIFFICULTY WITH INTERGRADES BETWEEN *D. CHIROPTEA*, *D. LAFLUERII*, AND *D. PUBESCENS*. A POPULATION GENETICS APPROACH IS NEEDED TO UNDERSTAND BETTER HOW MUCH INTERBREEDING HAPPENS IN THE WILD.

A SUCCESSFUL HYBRID DRACULA WOULD LIKELY BE FERTILE, AND IT WERE ABLE TO ATTRACT THE SAME POLLINATORS THAT CREATED IT IN THE FIRST PLACE, COULD POTENTIALLY BE PROPAGATED AND DEVELOP INTO A 'SPECIES' OVER A RELATIVELY SHORT EVOLUTIONARY TIME. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE ASSUMED INITIALLY AT ANY SINGLE TIME POINT THE HYBRID WOULD BE RARE, AND PURE FORMS OF THE PARENTS WOULD OUTNUMBER THE HYBRID PROGENY.

BACKCROSSING TO THE MORE COMMON PARENT SPECIES COULD LEAD TO INTROGRESSION AND DILUTION OF THE NEW HYBRID TAXA. OVER TIME, HOWEVER, IF THE HYBRID CROSSING HAPPENS FREQUENTLY ENOUGH, AND THE OFFSPRING ARE ROBUST, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH A POPULATION OF SELF-REPRODUCING HYBRIDS. VERIFIABLE NATURAL HYBRIDS REMAIN RARE, BUT THE PROSPECT OF HYBRIDIZATION AS AN EVOLUTIONARY MECHANISM IN DRACULA IS FASCINATING AND MORE WORK SHOULD BE DONE TO DETERMINE IF PLANTS LIKE *D. KARENIAE* AND *D. APHRODES* CONTINUE TO BE MADE, OR CAN REPRODUCE SUCCESSFULLY ON THEIR OWN IN THE WILD.

TO BE CONT'D.