

Species Data Sheet – *Paphiopedilum liemianum*

(Fowlie) K.Karas. & K.Saito, Bull. Hiroshima Bot. Gard. 5: 57 (1982)

[Paff-ee-oh-PEH-di-lum lee-MY-a-num]

Found in northern Sumatra at elevations of 60 to 1000 meters (2000 to 3000 ft) as a small to medium sized, warm growing terrestrial or lithophyte on vertical limestone cliffs and on the ground in humus around them. The leaves are arguably the most attractive among *Paphiopedilums*. The overall tone of green is dark with a faint mottling of several shades of green. The undersides are attractively striped lengthwise dark maroon with stripes sometimes extending to the leaf tips and a deep tiger striping at the leaf bases. The leaf margins are notably ciliate (the edges of the leaves have short, stiff hairs). Inflorescences and bracts are also heavily marked burgundy,



Paphiopedilum liemianum
'Ares' FCC/AOS
Mar 2016, NS 8.5 x 7.5 cm



Foliage of *Paphiopedilum liemianum*

6 to 8" [15 to 20 cm] long, dark brown, carrying successively 1 to 2 flowers from late winter to early spring.



Paph. victoria-regina (aka. *Paph. chamberlainianum*) flower and foliage, the most common species *Paph. liemianum* is confused with.

Paphiopedilum liemianum identified initially as a subspecies in 1971 elevated to species status in 1982. It is distinguished from its relatives in the *Cochlopetalum* subgenus by its distinct, well-delineated dorsal sepal halo in shades of white, cream or pale yellow-green. The dorsal sepal may also be striped or overlaid with red-brown, but usually not as defined as in its relatives. The halo and attractive foliage (described above) help *Paph. liemianum* stand apart whether in bloom or not. The pouch of this species also has a noticeably bulbous shape.

The wild population is estimated at less than 50 plants, but it is widespread in cultivation. Plants masquerading under the name of *Paph. chamberlainianum* also occur in many collections, but those often tend to be of hybrid origin and are not *Paph. liemianum*.

Synonyms:

Paphiopedilum chamberlainianum subsp. *liemianum*
Paphiopedilum chamberlainianum var. *liemianum*
Paphiopedilum victoria-regina subsp. *liemianum*

Varieties / forms:

None

Awards:

	FCC	AM	HCC	AQ	JC	CCM	CCE	CHM	CBM	TOTAL
AOS	1	32	25		1					59
Year(s) Awarded	2016	1973-2018	1981-2018		2007					

It is stated in the literature that superior clones of Paph. liemianum can have very wide petals and sepals, although this is NOT supported by the awards data.

Breeding Characteristics:

Paphiopedilum liemianum appears (based on photos of first-generation progeny) to be slightly dominate for the dorsal sepal halo and I suspect strongly for successive blooming. No information on vegetation characteristics.

Paph. liemianum	Registration decade					Total
	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	
Register Crosses	0	1	28	29	19	77
Assoc. Awards	0	2	38	7	6	53

From the above table, breeding with Paph. liemianum has been relatively low but constant since it was first introduced in 1970. All awards have been to first-generation progeny. The first of the fourteen 2nd generation hybrids was registered in 1994.

Although there is clearly a most awarded and a most progeny crosses, there is NO dominate cross either from a Paph. liemianum or a Paphiopedilum view point.

'Major' Hybrids:

Paphiopedilum Transdoll (Paph. liemianum x Paph. rothschildianum), 1991, H. Doll, 2 F1 progeny, 9 AOS awards (2 AMs, 7 HCCs). No major progeny.

Paphiopedilum Song of Love (Paph. liemianum x Paph. lowii), 1991, H. Doll, 1 F1 progeny, 5 AOS awards (1 AM, 4 HCCs). No major progeny.

Paphiopedilum Salvadore Dali (Paph. liemianum x Paph. chamberlainianum), 1991, H. Doll, 9 F1 progeny, 4 AOS awards (2 AMs, 2 HCCs). No major progeny.



Paph. Transdoll
'Debbie G.' AM/AOS
May 2018, NS 17.1 x 10.3 cm



Paph. Song of Joy
'Carolyn's Joy' AM/AOS
May 2017, NS 13.0 x 7.8 cm



Paph. Salvadore Dali
'Yvonne' AM/AOS
Apr 2007, NS 9.8 x 7.3 cm

2017-2018 registration and AOS Quality Awardees:

References:

www.orchidspecies.com

<http://apps.kew.org/wcsp/qsearch.do>

<https://secure.aos.org/aqplus/SearchAwards.aspx>

OrchidWiz.Database x5.2, update: March 2019

Birk, L. A.; The Paphiopedilum Growers Manual, 2004.

Orchid Digest, Oct., Nov., Dec. 2018, An Annotated Checklist of Paphiopedilum Species,
Koopowitz, H.; Vol. 82, pp. 178-235

Orchids, Nov. 2011, *Discover Cochlopetalum Paphiopedilums – Everblooming Slipper Orchids*
Worth a Try, Gemeinhart, E.; Vol. 80, pp. 668-675



Paph. Wallula Glenn
'Carol Renee' AM/AOS
May 2017, NS 9.0 x 6.7 cm
(Paph. Betty Glenn x
Paph. liemianum)
(75+% Paph. liemianum)