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A New Species of *Huntleya* Lindl. Erroneously Identified as *Huntleya meleagris* Lindl., *Huntleya burtii* (Endrés & Rchb. f.) Pfitzer or *Huntleya grandiflora* Lam. is Described From a Collection Made in 1943 West of Mocoa, Department of Putumayo, Colombia.

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Abstract

The identity of a species of *Huntleya* Lindl. which circulated in cultivation since 1943 with the names *Huntleya meleagris* Lindl., *Huntleya burtii* (Endrés & Rchb. f.) Pfitzer or *Huntleya grandiflora* Lam. (not validly published) is determined and described as a new species.

The genus *Huntleya* was established in 1837 by Lindley validating the unpublished genus *Huntleya* of Bateman. *Huntleya meleagris* Lindl. was included as a species in the original description of the genus. The material available for study was limited resulting in what have been proven to be distinct species to be included in the concept of *H. meleagris*. *Huntleya burtii* (Endrés & Rchb. f.) Pfitzer originally described as *Batemannia burtii* Endrés & Rchb. f. was included in the concept of *H. meleagris*. In 1889 Pfitzer included *H. burtii* in the genus *Huntleya*. However, several authors still considered *H. burtii* conspecific with *H. meleagris* (Dunsterville & Garay, 1965; Williams, Allen & Dressler, 1980). As more material becomes available for study a clear picture becomes apparent that the two species are distinct.

What was considered a large flowered *Huntleya* has circulated in cultivation for many years, even receiving awards at orchid exhibitions. The epithet *Huntleya grandiflora* Lam. was applied to these plants. Exactly when this epithet was applied to this large flowered *Huntleya* is not known. Prior to the application of *H. grandiflora* to this large flowered *Huntleya* it was considered a spectacular form of *H. meleagris*.

At present The Plant List lists as an accepted name *Huntleya grandiflora* Lam., Ill. Hort. 15 (Misc.): 59 1869 (record 100835) based on data supplied on 2012-03-23 from WCSP. The WCSP record for that date was: Accepted: *Huntleya grandiflora* Lam., Ill. Hort. 15 (Misc.): 59 (1869). Colombia 83 CLM. In addition *H. burtii* and *H. meleagris* were also accepted names on that WCSP list. Indicating that a third species distinct from *H. burtii* and *H. meleagris* existed.

Also at present the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and flora accepts *H. grandiflora* Lam. (Taxon id: 19705 Appendix II). Indicating that a third species distinct from *H. burtii* and *H. meleagris* exists.

The epithet *Huntleya grandiflora* Lam., *Ill. Hort. 15 (Misc.): 59 1869* is not a valid published name. Instead it is as WCSP correctly now lists it:

Huntleya grandiflora (A. Rich.) Lem., *Ill. Hort. 15 (Misc.): 59 (1869)*.

This name is a synonym.

Accepted Name: *Galeottia grandiflora* A. Rich., *Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot., ser. 3, 3: 25 (1845)*.

Homotypic Names:

Batemannia grandiflora (A. Rich.) Rchb. f., *Bonplandia (Hannover) 4: 323 (1856)*.

Zygopetalum grandiflorum (A. Rich.) Benth. & Hook. f. ex Hemsl., *Biol. Cent.-Amer., Bot. 3: 251 (1884)*.

Mendoncella grandiflora (A. Rich.) A. D. Hawkes, *Orquídea (Rio de Janeiro) 25: 7 (1963)*.

We here describe this species originally identified as *Huntleya grandiflora* Lam. as a new species.

Huntleya cristinae* Uribe-Velez & Sauleda, *sp. nov.

Type: Colombia, original collection in department of Putumayo, west of Mocoa, 1943. Cultivated in soil in the farm at Sasaima, department of Cundinamarca, from there transplanted to two different farms, eventually in 1974 transplanted to Bogotá where type plant is cultivated and type collection was made. Collector: *Carlos Uribe Lince, s. n.*, 1943. (Holotype: HPUJ).

Etymology

Species named in honor of Maria Cristina Samper de Uribe wife of Carlos Uribe-Velez the senior author. When the type plant received numerous national and international awards it was exhibited with the clonal variety Cristina.

Diagnosis

Huntleya cristinae is similar to *Huntleya burtii* but differs in several characters. *Huntleya cristinae* is considerable larger (12-14 cm) than *H. burtii* (9-10 cm). They also differ in the wings of the column; *H. burtii* has rounded wings, *H. cristinae* has square wings. The tuft of hairs in a semi-circle at the base of the labellum is broader but shorter in *H. burtii* than in *H. cristinae*. The labellum of *H. burtii* is more aciculate than *H. cristinae*. The basal half of the labellum of *H. burtii* is white, where the labellum on *H. cristinae* is white only at the very base. In addition, the apex of the labellum of *H. cristinae* is hooked with the tip parallel to the column, where *H. burtii* has the tip slightly angled forward. The angle of the petals on *H. cristinae* is perpendicular to the flower where the petals of *H. burtii* are slightly angled upward. *Huntleya cristinae* has been identified as *H. meleagris* but differs in size and *H. meleagris* lacks the red spots at the base of the petals. In addition, in both *H. burtii* and *H. meleagris* the fimbriae on the crest are white where on *H. cristinae* the fimbriae on the lateral edges are red or pink.

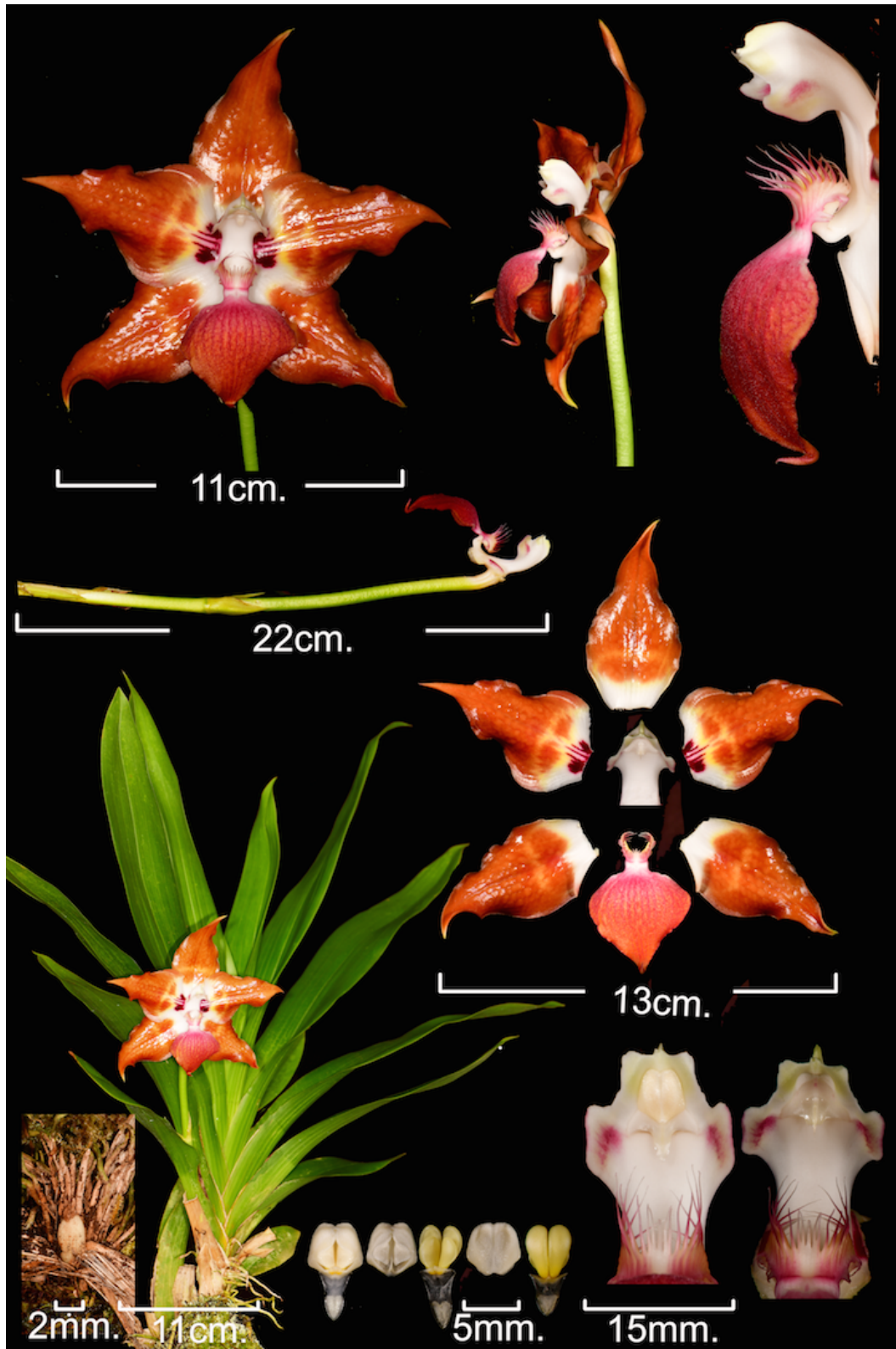
Description

Plants creeping, to 60 cm tall; rhizomatous, to 10 cm long; with a minute obtuse flattened pseudobulb to 3 mm long, 2 mm wide; to 14 leaves, linear to lanceolate, basally petiolate, conduplicate, acute, to 58 cm long, 7 cm wide; flowers on short peduncle, to 10 cm long; floral sheath narrowly lanceolate, acuminate to 2 cm long, 4 mm wide; pedicel to 10 cm long; sepals and petals similar, basally white, reddish-brown towards apex, texture giving appearance of tessellation, basally broadly obovate, narrowing rapidly towards apex, apex acuminate, to 8 cm long, 4 cm wide, margins undulate; petals with 3-5 short red lines and with either a red spot on either side of the lines or just at the base (flowers on the same plant can demonstrate either condition); column white, to 2 cm long, 1.5 cm wide, column wings white, square with red suffusion on underside; labellum, red, basally white at point of attachment, acuminate, apex reflexed, to 5 cm long, 5 cm wide; crest fimbriate, fimbriae on lateral edges red or pink and longer than the white apical fimbriae; anther white.

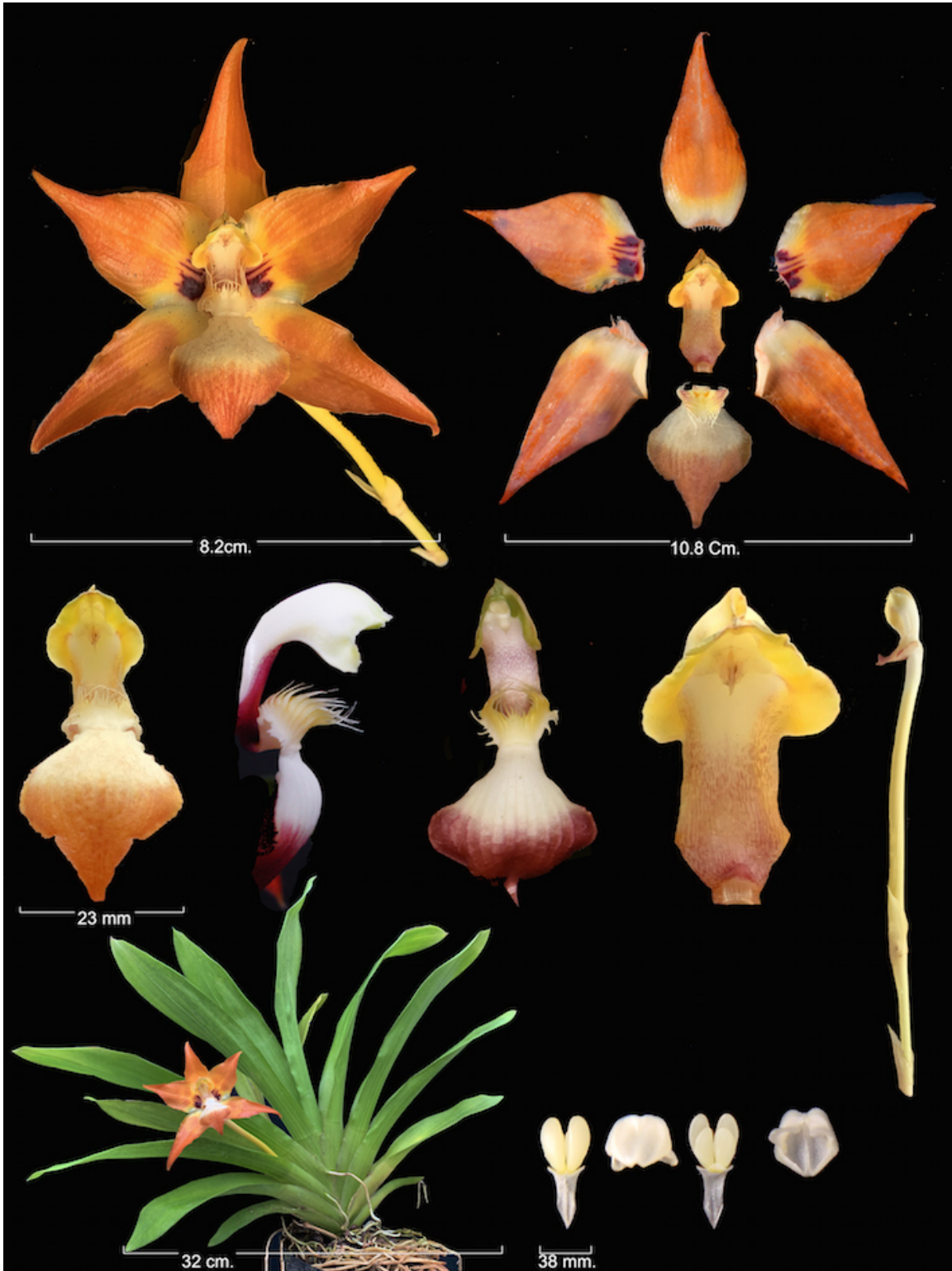
The genus *Huntleya* has been characterized as not having pseudobulbs but with a “definite thick stem, which is an extension of the rhizome” (Harding, 2008). This species has this “extension of the rhizome” which actually appears to be a minute but leafless pseudobulb. This same structure can be found in some species of *Tolumnia* Raf. and there referred to as leafless pseudobulbs.



Huntleya cristinae Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.



Huntleya cristinae Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.



Huntleya burtii (Endrés & Rchb. f.) Pfitzer.



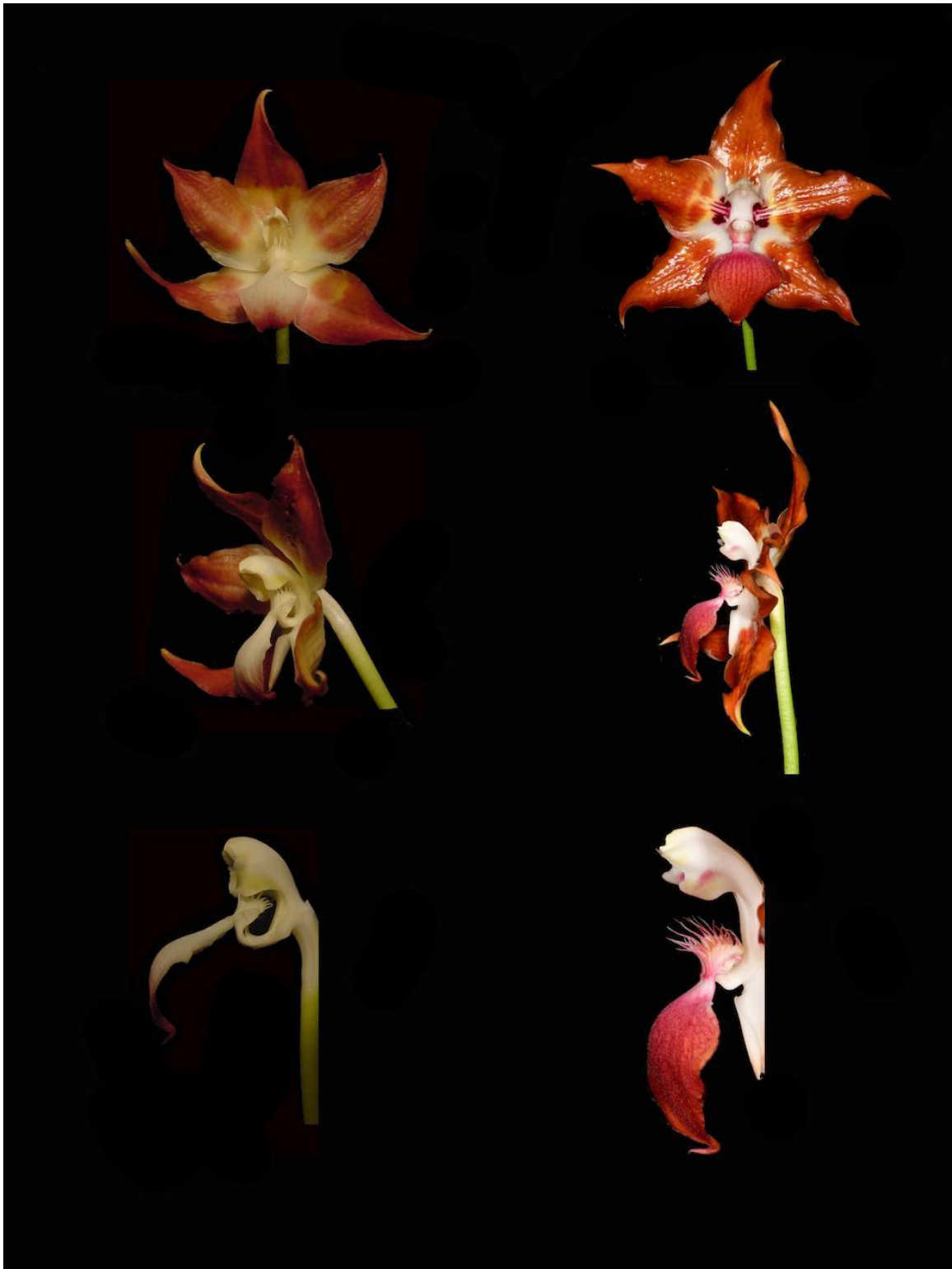
Holotype of *Huntleya meleagris* Lindl. at K. The illustration is reproduced with the kind permission of the Director and the Board of Trustees, Royal Botanic Garden, Kew.



Huntleya meleagris Lindl.



Comparison, *Huntleya burtii* and *Huntleya cristinae*.



Comparison *Huntleya meleagris* and *Huntleya cristinae*.



Huntleya cristinae



Huntleya burtii



Huntleya cristinae

Huntleya burtii



Huntleya cristinae

Huntleya burtii



Huntleya burtii (Endrés & Rchb. f.) Pfitzer.



Huntleya cristinae, type plant exhibited at the orchid show of Asociacion Caldense de Orquideologia at Manizales by the senior author on April 30, 2003.



Huntleya cristinae

Huntleya meleagris



The type plant was exhibited at the orchid show of Asociacion Caldense de Orquideologia at Manizales by the senior author on April 30, 2003. The plant received the best plant of the show, best Colombian species, best cultivated plant, best plant in the Chondrohyncha complex, best plant in the Asociacion Bogotana de Orquideologia exhibit, an American Orchid Society award (Award of Merit of 82 points) for flower quality and a Comité Colombiano de Orquideología award. The plant was awarded as *Huntleya meleagris* 'Cristina' by the American Orchid Society Award No: 20031061.

Over the years individuals of this species have been exhibited at orchid shows and pictures of this species have appeared on the internet without specific locality. The plants have been erroneously identified as super forms of *H. burtii* or *H. meleagris*. Seedlings of the selfing of the type plant are now in cultivation by the senior author.



Huntleya burtii pollinated.



Huntleya cristinae pollinated.



Galeottia grandiflora A. Rich.

Acknowledgements

All photographs by the senior author.

Literature Cited

Harding, P. A. 2008. *Huntleyas and Related Orchids*. Timber Press, Inc. Portland, Oregon.