CROSSWORDS

THE GESNERIAD HYBRIDIZERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Number 2, June 1981

Our editorial page would not be complete without our quarterly remonstrance to the membership to sit down today, and write, type or crayon an article, observation, question, or comment pertaining to hybridizing. We have been told that saying "Write an article." equates with "Come see us sometime!" And sometime never comes. So, to be specific, you don't have to develop a yellow saintpaulia to write for these pages; your goals, interests and methods to obtain your hybrid gesneriads are of interest to us. And if you are developing a miniature streptocarpus, a compact kohleria, or an episcia that tolerates 50°F temperatures, we'd like to hear from you.

Anne Crowley
Ron Myhr

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SEED EXCHANGE

David Zaitlin
Davis, CA

I hate to say it, but time really does fly. By the time you read this, it will have been over six months since I last published in *CrossWords*.

Soon after the last issue of *CrossWords* of 1980, I uprooted myself and travelled to Davis, California, where I now reside. Davis is a small progressive community about 20 miles southwest of Sacramento, and except for local agriculture, the only thing here is one of the University of California campuses. The weather here is milder than it was in Tucson, and because the humidity is somewhat higher, I am certain that my plants will fare better than they did in "arid-zona". Another major plus to living here is the close proximity to the Bay Area and all that it offers.

When I left Tucson, I transported everything I own to Northern California in a 4' x 6' U-haul trailer pulled by a 1967 Pontiac Firebird. Since it turned out that space was at a premium, I was forced to radically cut back all of my mature plants and take just the bare tubers. Large plants that covered a cumulative 50 square feet of bench space were rapidly and conveniently consolidated into a 2 cubic foot box. All told they weighed less than 10 lbs. It goes without saying that they withstood the journey very well in this state.

Since my arrival, most of the tubers have become established in their new environment. The hothouse is made of glass (not fiberglass) and the intensity of light is much higher than it was in Tucson. The plants responded vigorously and all are more attractive and more compact than their former selves.

As of late April, virtually all of the sinningia hybrids were in bud. It will be at least two weeks before any crosses can be made. I anticipate the first Davis hybrid harvest in early July. No new seed contributions have been submitted and I have nothing to offer. Look for my new material in the next issue. I plan on directing my efforts toward small, diploid sinningias with purple foliage and red flowers. Most of the seed lots from *CrossWords* 4(4) are still available. Through an inexplicable turn of fate, however, I have lost all of the Howard Burns seed. My apologies. Georgie Bull's *Gloxinia* 'Damask' seed is all gone.

My thanks to Anne Crowley for filling in during my move and resettlement.

BACK ISSUES

Back issues of *CrossWords* may be obtained from Zelda Mines, 2206 East 66th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11234. The cost is $5.00 for Volumes 1 and 2, and $6.00 for Volumes 3 and 4. Individual issues of the current volume may be obtained for $1.50.

GESNERIACEAE CHROMOSOME NUMBERS IV. Gloxinia to Niphaea

Laurence E. Skog
Washington, DC

Earlier parts of this series on the chromosome counts of the species of Gesneriaceae appeared in previous issues of CROSSWORDS as follows:

I.	Achimenes to Ancylostemon	Volume 4, number 3 (September 1980), pages 7-14
II.	Beccarinda to Columnea	Volume 4, number 4 (December 1980), pages 6-15
III.	Conandron to Gesneria	Volume 5, number 1 (March 1981), pages 3-10

Chromosome counts are arranged below in alphabetic order by genus and species. The number as given by the counter in the original publication appears in the middle two columns, n or 2n. References to the publications of the numbers are given in the right hand column. Full references will be given only in the part where first cited. Please refer back to earlier parts of this series for references not included here. Particularly troublesome in finding and reporting new counts have been authors who give what appear to be new counts in their papers because they do not indicate that the counts may have been copied from an earlier paper, either their own paper or that of another author.

The names of the genera and species will be those currently in use, but the name of the plant under which the count first appeared will also be given with a cross reference to the current name of the species.

Typographical errors have been corrected where possible. I am especially interested in learning of counts or publications that I have overlooked or where an error has been made. My address is Department of Botany, NHB 166, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC 20560.

Genus, species, author	n=	2n=	References
GLOXINIA			
gymnostoma Griseb.	13		Wiehler 1972; Wiehler 1975b; Wiehler 1976
lindeniana (Regel) Fritsch as Kohleria lindeniana (Regel) H. E. Moore		26	Rogers, in Lee 1962a
lindeniana (Regel) Fritsch	13		Wiehler 1976
lindeniana (Regel) Fritsch as Tydaea lindeniana Regel	13		Eberle 1956
maculata L'Hér. =Gloxinia perennis (L.) Fritsch	13		Eberle 1956
nematanthodes (O. Kuntze) Wiehl.	13		Wiehler 1972; Wiehler 1976

Genus, species, author	n=	2n=	References
GLOXINIA (continued)			
perennis (L.) Fritsch		26	Rogers 1954
perennis (L.) Fritsch	13		Wiehler 1976
perennis (L.) Fritsch as Gloxinia maculata L'Hér.	13		Eberle 1956
sylvatica (Kunth) Wiehl. as Seemannia latifolia Fritsch	13		Lee 1966b
sylvatica (Kunth) Wiehl. as Seemannia sylvatica (Kunth) Hanst.	13		Lee 1962b
sylvatica (Kunth) Wiehl.	13		Wiehler 1975b; Wiehler 1976
sylvatica (Kunth) Wiehl. 'Yellowbird' as Seemannia sylvatica (Kunth) Hanst. Yellowbird'	13		Lee, in Moore 1963
HABERLEA			
rhodopensis Friv.	22		Lepper 1970
rhodopensis Friv.		38	Borhidi 1968
rhodopensis Friv.		44	Milne 1975
HEMIBOEA			
bicornuta (Hay.) Ohwi as Chirita bicornuta Hay.	18		Hsu 1968; Ratter 1975
HEPPIELLA			
ampla Hanst.	13		Wiehler 1972
corymbosa (Sw.) Urb. =Pheidonocarpa corymbosa (Sw.) L. Skog	14		Lee 1966a
viscida (Lindley & Paxton) Fritsch	26		Wiehler 1971; Wiehler 1972; Wiehler 1976
HEXATHECA			
fulva C. B. Cl.	17		Ratter & Milne 1970

Genus, species, author	n=	2n=	References
HYPOCYRTA			
glabra Hook. =Nematanthus sp.		16	Ratter 1963
nervosa Fritsch =Nematanthus nervosus (Fritsch) H. E. Moore	8		Lee 1964
nummularia Hanst. =Neomortonia nummularia (Hanst.) Wiehl.		18	Rogers 1954
perianthomega (Vell.) Tenore =Nematanthus perianthomegus (Vell.) H. E. Moore	8		Lee 1964
radicans Kl. & Hanst. =Nematanthus gregarius D. Denh.		16	Ratter 1963
selloana Kl. & Hanst. =Nematanthus fissus (Vell.) L. Skog	8		Lee 1962a
selloana Kl. & Hanst. =Nematanthus fissus (Vell.) L. Skog		16	Ratter 1963; Morley 1967
strigillosa Mart. =Nematanthus strigillosus (Mart.) H. E. Moore		16	Ratter 1963
wettsteinii Fritsch =Nematanthus wettsteinii (Fritsch) H. E. Moore	8		Lee & Grear 1963
ISOLOMA			
bogotense Nichols. =Kohleria bogotensis (Nichols.) Fritsch	13		Eberle 1956
hirsutum Hort. =Kohleria eriantha Benth. (?)	13		Eberle 1956; Eberle 1957a; Lee 1962a
pictum Hort. =Kohleria bogotensis (Nichols.) Fritsch	13		Eberle 1956; Eberle 1957a; Lee 1962a
speciosa (?) =Kohleria "speciosa"	13		Eberle 1956; Lee 1962a

Genus, species author	n=	2n=	References
KLUGIA			
notoniana Wall. =Rhynchoglossum notonianum (Wall.) B. L. Burtt	10		Eberle 1956; Eberle 1957a
KOELLIKERIA			
erinoides (DC.) Mansf.	13		Fussell 1958; Wiehler 1975b; Wiehler 1976
KOHLERIA			
allenii Standl. & L. O. Wms.	13		Wiehler 1975b
bella Morton	13		Lee 1967
bogotensis (Nichols.) Fritsch	13		Fussell 1958; Wiehler 1975b
bogotensis (Nichols.) Fritsch as Isoloma bogotense Nichols.	13		Eberle 1956
bogotensis (Nichols.) Fritsch as Isoloma pictum Hort.	13		Eberle 1956; Eberle 1957a; Lee 1962a
'Cecilia'	13		Fussell 1958
digitaliflora (Linden & Andre) Fritsch	13		Wiehler 1975b; Wiehler 1976
elegans (Decne.) Loesn. =Moussonia elegans Decne.	11		Lee 1964; Davidse 1970
eriantha (Benth.) Hanst. (?) as Isoloma hirsutum Hort.	13		Eberle 1956; Eberle 1957a; Lee 1962a
eriantha (Benth.) Hanst.	13		Wiehler 1975b; Wiehler 1976
'Eriantha Hybrid"'		26	Rogers 1954
hirsuta (Kunth) Regel	13		Davidse 1971; Wiehler 1972; Wiehler 1976
hirsutissima Morton =Moussonia hirsutissima (Morton) Wiehl.	11		Lee 1967
lanata Lem.	13		Wiehler 1975b; Wiehler 1976
lindeniana (Regel) H. E. Moore =Gloxinia lindeniana (Regel) Fritsch		26	Rogers, in Lee 1962a

Genus, species, author	n=	2n=	References
KOHLERIA (continued)			
longifolia Hanst. =Kohleria spicata (Kunth) Oerst.	13		Lee 1967
magnifica (Planch. & Lind.) H. E. Moore	13		Wiehler 1975b
peruviana Fritsch	13		Wiehler 1972
platylomata (J. D. Sm.) Wiehl. =Kohleria villosa (Fritsch) Wiehl.	13		Wiehler 1975b
"refulgens"	12-14		Heitz, in Tischler 1927
schiedeana Hanst. =Kohleria spicata (Kunth) Oerst.	13		Lee 1967
'Sciadotydaea Hybrid'		26	Rogers 1954
"speciosa" as Isoloma speciosa (?)	13		Eberle 1956; Lee 1962a
spicata (Kunth) Oerst.	13		Davidse 1970; Wiehler 1975b; Wiehler 1976
spicata (Kunth) Oerst.		26	Rogers 1954
spicata (Kunth) Oerst. as Kohleria longifolia Hanst.	13		Lee 1967
spicata (Kunth) Oerst. as Kohleria schiedeana Hanst.	13		Lee 1967
tubiflora (Cav.) Hanst.	13		Davidse 1970; Lee 1962a; Wiehler 1975b
villosa (Fritsch) Wiehl. as Kohleria platylomata (J. D. Sm.) Wiehl.	13		Wiehler 1975b
sp.	13		Lee 1962a
LOXOCARPUS			
conicapsularis (C. B. Cl.) B. L. Burtt	9		Milne 1975

Genus, species, author	n=	2n=	References
LYSIONOTUS			
serratus D. Don		32	Fussell 1958; Ratter & Prentice 1964
MITRARIA			
coccinea Cav.		±74	Ratter 1963
MONOPHYLLAEA			
horsfieldii R. Br.	10		Ratter & Prentice 1967
horsfieldii R. Br.	16	32	Oehlkers 1923
MONOPYLE			
maxonii Morton	13		Lee 1966a; Wiehler 1976
MOUSSONIA			
deppeana (Schlecht. & Cham.) Hanst.	11		Wiehler 1975b
elegans Decne.	11		Wiehler 1976
elegans Decne. as Kohleria elegans (Decne.) Loes.	11		Lee 1964; Davidse 1970
hirsutissima (Morton) Wiehl. as Kohleria hirsutissima Morton	11		Lee 1967
hirsutissima (Morton) Wiehl.	11		Wiehler 1976
septentrionalis (D. Denh.) Wiehl.	11		Wiehler 1975b
strigosa (Morton) Wiehl.	11		Wiehler 1975b
sp. G-828 from Guatemala	11		Wiehler 1975b
NAEGELIA			
zebrina (Paxton) Regel =Smithiantha zebrina (Paxton) O. Kuntze	12		Sugiura 1931; Sugiura 1936b; Eberle 1956
NAUTILOCALYX			
bullatus (Lem.) Sprague		18	Rogers 1954

Genus, species, author	n=	2n=	References
NAUTILOCALYX (continued)			
bullatus (Lem.) Sprague as Episcia tesselata Hort. ex Lem.	9		Eberle 1956; Eberle 1957b
cataractarum Wiehl.	9		Wiehler 1975e
forgetii (Sprague) Sprague	9		Eberle 1956
lynchii (Hook. f.) Sprague		36	Rogers 1954
lynchii (Hook. f.) Sprague as Alloplectus lynchii Hook. f.	17-18		Eberle 1956
melittifolius (L.) Wiehl. as Episcia melittifolia (L.) Mart.	9		Lee 1962a; Wiehler 1976
membranaceus (Morton) Wiehl.	9		Wiehler 1976
panamensis (Seem.) Seem.	9		Wiehler 1972; Wiehler 1976
picturatus L. Skog as Nautilocalyx sp. G-938	9		Lee 1966b; Skog 1974
villosus (Kunth & Bouché) Sprague	9		Lee 1966a; Wiehler 1976
sp. G-514 from Peru	9		Lee 1962a
NEGRIA			
rhabdothamnoides F. v. Muell.	±45	±90	Ratter & Prentice 1967
NEMATANTHUS			
fissus (Vell.) L. Skog as Hypocyrta selloana Kl. & Hanst.	8		Lee 1962a
fissus (Vell.) L. Skog as Hypocyrta selloana Kl. & Hanst.		16	Ratter 1963; Morley 1967
fluminensis Hort. =Nematanthus fritschii Hoehne	8		Lee & Grear 1963
fritschii Hoehne as Nemathanthus sp. G-612 and Nematanthus fluminensis Hort.	8		Lee 1962b; Lee & Grear 1963

Genus, species, author	n=	2n=	References
NEMATANTHUS (continued)			
"glabra Hook." as Hypocyrta glabra Hook.		16	Ratter 1963
gregarius D. Denh. as Hypocyrta radicans Kl. & Hanst.		16	Ratter 1963
hirtellus (Schott) Wiehl.	8		Wiehler 1972
longipes DC.		16	Fussell 1958; Morley 1967; Ratter 1963
nervosus (Fritsch) H. E. Moore as Hypocyrta nervosa Fritsch	8		Lee 1964
perianthomegus (Vell.) H. E. Moore as Hypocyrta perianthomega (Vell.) Tenore	8		Lee 1964
strigillosus (Mart.) H. E. Moore as Hypocyrta strigillosa Mart.		16	Ratter 1963
wettsteinii (Fritsch) H. E. Moore as Hypocyrta wettsteinii Fritsch	8		Lee & Grear 1963
NEOMORTONIA			
nummularia (Hanst.) Wiehl. as Alloplectus nummularia (Hanst.) Wiehl.	9		Wiehler 1972
nummularia (Hanst.) Wiehl. as Hypocyrta nummularia Hanst.		18	Rogers 1954
rosea Wiehl.	9		Wiehler 1975a
NIPHAEA			
oblonga Lindl.	11		Lee 1964

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Wiehler, H. 1975e. Nautilocalyx cataractarum (Gesneriaceae), a new species from Angel Falls, Venezuela. Selbyana 1: 165-167.

NOTICE OF RELEASE OF CHRYSOTHEMIS PULCHELLA 'AMAZON'

United States Department of Agriculture
Science and Education Administration
Agricultural Research

The United States Department of Agriculture, Science and Education Administration, Agricultural Research, announces the release of a container-grown ornamental, *Chrysothemis pulchella* (J. Donnex Sims) Decne CV. (Family Gesneriaceae) 'Amazon' P.I. 424916. 'Amazon' was collected by R. J. Knight, Jr. and H. F. Winters in Belem, Para, Brazil, in February 1978. 'Amazon' is a herbaceous perennial that grows to 30 cm or more, with opposite, elliptic-ovate, serrulate, pubescent leaves. Its upper leaf surface varies in colour from a very dark green (Maerz & Paul 16E4) that may lighten to M & P 16H8, and in older leaves may fade to M & P 15L8, lighter bronzy-green.

The undersurface of the leaves of 'Amazon' is normally a clear Perilla purple (M & P 47J3). In older leaves this may fade to M & P 46J1. Leaves vary from 20 to 25 cm long by 7 to 9 cm at their widest point.

Flowers of 'Amazon' are zygomorphic and of a deep chrome yellow colour (M & P 9L7). They are oppositely paired and borne in the leaf axils, normally in groups of four. They have a tubal length of 3 cm, and the corollas are 1.5 cm wide. A conspicuous red guideline divides the bottom corolla lobe at its midpoint from top to bottom. One or all of the remaining four lobes may be lightly marked with a similar red line, or they may be entirely yellow. Red spots may appear on the petals in warm weather.

The corolla of 'Amazon' is subtended by a waxy, bright orange-red five-lobed calyx that is 2.5 cm deep by 2.5 cm wide. Calyces appear before and persist after the flowers, are conspicuously attractive, and enhance the plant's decorative value. The calyx at its first appearance is a bright blood red (M & P 3L11) but as it develops lightens to M & P 3I10, intermediate between Coralbell and Old Coral.

'Amazon' is easily propagated from 2 to 4 leaf terminal cuttings which root rapidly under intermittent mist in a warm glasshouse when set in a medium composed of a mixture of equal parts of peat and perlome. This cultivar has not set seed when self-pollinated, and appears to be self-sterile. Older plants form a fleshy tuber characteristic of the species. Where collected, the plants were exposed to full sunlight, and the introduction has survived without shading in a southern Florida greenhouse. However, it has been more successful during summer under the half-shade of a lath house. It needs heat and high humidity for best growth and does not tolerate cool conditions well. It thrives in a soil suitable for African Violets.

'Amazon' is recommended for trial as a container-grown ornamental under conditions where Episcia and other warm-climate Gesneriads thrive. Limited quantities of rooted cuttings are available to research institutions and commercial growers from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Subtropical Horticulture Research Station, 13601 Old Cutler Road, Miami.

SINNINGIA 'CLAIRE'S CHOICE'

William Guyett
San Diego, CA

I began hybridizing miniature sinningias many years ago. In 1978 I crossed *S.* 'Little Imp' on *S.* 'Hircon' (the fertile variety of *S.* 'Freckles'). That produced three fertile seedlings of a deep red wine color. The best was named for Claire Roberts of Clovis, NM. I am glad I sent her some stock because all of mine had been lost in moving from New York to California.

A brief description:

Size - same as *S.* 'Hircon'
Leaves - dark green
Bloom - red-wine

My advice to beginner hybridizers is to try as many crosses as possible because repeating crosses can produce different results the second or third time.

GREEN AND ORANGE BLOOMS IN AFRICAN VIOLETS

William Guyett
San Diego, CA

With all the new colors appearing in *Saintpaulia,* especially the corals and coral reds, it seems that with the correct genetic combination we should have an orange African Violet by now.

I believe a color that hybridizers have neglected in their experimenting is the green flowered variety, especially the really green doubles, *S.* 'Lovie-Dovie' and *S.* 'Green Ice'.

In 1970 I crossed *Saintpaulia* 'Lovie-Dovie' on an unnamed single pink seedling. The resulting colors were amazing; everything from single wine and blue; double white with a thin blue edge; to white with a green edge. One of the most unusual seedlings was a salmon-orange with a heavy green edge. It originally opened pink, deepening in color as it aged. I named this one *S.* 'Orange Elf'. Another seedling from the cross was a small double apricot that I named *S.* 'Orange Sherbet'.

I firmly believe that if hybridizers used some of the lesser known greens we would have more of the unusual color tones. An added bonus: The greens are very fertile and set seed readily. Lyndon Lyon once told me that *S.* 'Lovie-Dovie' and *S.* 'Pat's Pet' came out of green and brownish blooms. There is certainly a rich color heritage in the background, therefore recrossing might result in a nice deep orange in the future.

EPISCIAS FOR COOLER TEMPERATURES

Anne Crowley
Hyde Park, MA

I thought that episcias would suffer the fate of the passenger pigeon in the wake of the energy crunch. Only two out of the fifteen plants survived a winter in my nightly 60°F plant room. But there is hope for those who live north of the sun belt because hybridizers have begun to breed cold tolerant episcias.

Ray Paquette of Somerset, MA has been breeding superior episcia hybrids for some years and now he has begun a breeding program to produce plants that will tolerate 50°F temperatures. Two of his 1980 introductions, *E.* 'Cape Cod Sunrise' (*E.* 'Mint Julip' x *E.* 'Ruby Red Dress') and *E.* 'Cape Cod Sunset' (*E.* 'Temptation' x *E.* 'Ruby Red Dress') also have the added benefits of being slow growing and thriving on minimum light.

TWO NEW HYBRIDS

Frances N. Batcheller
Durham, NH

Gloxinia 'Arion' is a cross between *G.* 'Medusa' (*G. sylvatica* x *G. gymnostoma*) x *G. perennis*. This hybrid resembles *G. perennis* much more than *G.* 'Medusa' in plant habit, leaf colour, corolla shape and colour. The main advantage of this plant is that the flowers are long-lasting, remaining in good condition for 10 days or more, apparently acquiring this characteristic from *G.* 'Medusa', as the flowers of *G. perennis* usually drop in one or two days. The hybrid grows to 30 cm or more in height.

The leaves are dark green with a shiny appearance, the reverse is red. The ovate leaves are about 8 cm long by 6 cm wide, with a sharp tip, resembling those of *G.* 'Medusa' in size and shape, but not in colour. The calyx lobes are somewhat spoon-shaped, pressed against the base of the corolla. The calyx tube is strongly ribbed. The large violet corolla (RHS 80C) is campanulate, with rounded lobes, 2.3 cm in diameter, 3.5 cm long. The tube is longer than that of *G. perennis*. There are glandular hairs around the wide mouth and the inside of the throat is spotted.

Gloxinia sylvatica is a variable species. The flower color may be yellow, orange or red. The plant habit may be erect with terminal inflorescence or spreading with axial inflorescence. The leaf shape may be narrow or broad. Dr. Wiehler has given the cultivar name 'Broadleaf' to the form originally introduced from Cornell University as *Seemannia latifolia*. Three collections made in Peru by Dr. Harold Moore were given cultivar names - 'Yellow Bird', 'Red Bird', and 'San Lorenzo'. A new orange-flowered collection introduced by Selby Gardens has been named 'Bolivia'.

A new collection of *Gloxinia perennis*, also introduced by Selby Gardens, is reported to be strongly fragrant.

The fertile hybrid combination of *G. sylvatica* x *G. gymnostoma* was used by Lyndon Lyon for the very popular cultivar *G.* 'Chic'. Charles Spaugh of Island Gesneriads which specializes in the rhizomatous gesneriads, is introducing three cultivars - 'Island Sunset', 'Cardinal Glow' and 'Cherry Belle'. Georgina Bull's hybrid *G.* 'Damask' was mentioned in the seed exchange in *CrossWords* (Vol. 4, #4). There is considerable variation in the F_1 generation of the *G. sylvatica* x *G. gymnostoma* so it should be possible to produce compact plants in a good color.

A backcross of *G.* 'Arion' x *G.* 'Medusa' has been made, in the hope of retaining the large flower, but changing the color to bright red.

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x*Achicodonia* 'Tyche' is a cross between *Eucodonia* (*Achimenes*) 'Frances' and *Achimenes mexicana*. This hybrid is compact in size, about 15 cm. in height. Although it does not have the neat rosette habit of *E.* 'Frances', it is a great improvement over the tall shrubby *Achimenes* parent.

The leaves are dark bronze-green, red-backed. Ovate in shape, they are 7 cm. long and 4 cm. wide. The purple corolla (RHS 79C) has a strongly contrasting white throat. The corolla is 3 cm. in diameter and 3.5 cm. long. The tube is straighter, less pouched on the lower side than . 'Frances'. The coloring is similar to *E.* 'Frances', and the pedicels are shorter, so the blossoms are closer to the leaves, not held above the foliage.

One interesting aspect of this cross has been the occurrence of some seedlings with strong pink or white leaf variation. Some seedlings were albino and soon perished. In most cases the pink appears on one or two pairs of leaves, then subsequent growth will revert to all green. It is an unexpected and interesting development, but unless it can be fixed more reliably it will not be of any great horticultural value.

Tyche is the name of the Greek goddess who holds a cornucopea filled with good fortune or luck.

Eucodonia (Achimenes) 'Frances' is a species, perhaps a form of *E. andrieuxii*. It was collected in Oaxaca, Mexico in 1972 by Michel and Pardue and brought back to the New York Botanical Garden. Rhizomes were distributed by Irwin Rosenbloom. The collection proved to have two different components, which were eventually given the cultivar names and registered.

E. 'Frances' has a flat rosette growth habit resembling a saintpaulia or *Sinningia* 'Dollbaby'. The white-throated lavender flowers are held up above the foliage. . 'Naomi' has smaller very dark green leaves and trailing stems beautifully clothed with long red hairs. The flowers are smaller and paler in color. This cultivar is obviously a form of *E. andrieuxii*.

Achimenes mexicana is an unusual achimenes, in growth habit resembling a kohleria. The large purple flowers are campanulate (bell-shaped) rather than the usual salver-form (narrow tube, wide flat limb) found in most achimenes.

CrossWords is published quarterly by the Gesneriad Hybridizers Association, a non-profit organization established to facilitate the sharing of information about the hybridizing of gesneriads and to further the appreciation of the results of that hybridizing. Subscription is by membership. Membership fees are $5.00 and applications, along with cheques, should be sent to Meg Stephenson at the address below, as should address changes and other subscription correspondence. Editorial correspondence may be sent to either of the editors. Editorial deadlines are January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 for publication two months later. All editorial content is copyright by the G.H.A.

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