

NEW CULTIVARS

Keywords: *Pinguicula* 'Riva', *Drosera binata* 'Ghost', *Nepenthes ampullaria* 'Black Widow', *Nepenthes ampullaria* 'Caramel Candy Stripe', *Nepenthes ampullaria* 'Lime Delight', *Nepenthes ampullaria* 'Chocolate Delight', *Nepenthes ampullaria* 'Cherry Delight', *Nepenthes ampullaria* 'Bronze Delight'.

Pinguicula 'Riva'

Submitted: 22 February 2018

The parents of *Pinguicula* 'Riva' (Fig. 1) are *P. agnata* (with scented flowers) \times *P. gigantea* (to the best of my knowledge; the second parent may have been a *P. gigantea* \times *P. emarginata*). This cross was done and the resulting seed germinated in late 2013 by me in San Francisco, California. This particular plant made its specialness apparent after about 2 years of growth under lights when it began flowering. The flower is approximately 2 cm wide by 2.5 cm long and is white with a bright yellow center which is surrounded by a flaring purple ring. The petals are 1 cm long, 7-9 mm wide, slightly ruffled, and the top 2 petals have irregular slightly serrated upper margins. The spur is 12 mm long, green and straight. The flower stalk is 18-20 cm long. And, the flower is scented, quite heavily in warmer conditions. The flower does not produce pollen or seed so it is sterile. The leaves of the plant are nice as well, ranging from 4-5.5 cm long and about 3 cm wide. The leaf shape is oblong egg-shaped with the rounded end distal from the central growth point. The color of the leaves ranges from pale green with burgundy tinting and margins to muted burgundy with green undertones. The margins of the leaf are slightly upturned. The leaves also have a noticeable shimmer and sparkle resulting from the "glue" production and glandular definition. The rosette may have anywhere from 7-12 leaves at a time. The plant does not produce dormant more succulent-like leaves but will propagate easily from pulling the carnivorous leaves. The plant divides itself readily and produces numerous (2-4) flowers at the same time almost constantly.



Figure 1: *Pinguicula* 'Riva' flowering plant (left) and flower (right).

Pinguicula ‘Riva’ is named for Riva Rubnitz, my mother.

At this time, plants are currently only available through me, but may soon be of limited availability through California Carnivores.

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Drosera binata ‘Ghost’

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In 2014 *Drosera binata* ‘Ghost’ grew in my collection between apparently normal, seed propagated *D. binata*. I separated the plant for its striking white appearance and started to propagate it vegetatively by root cuttings and division. Usually the plant starts with very pale green to white petioles and leaves after winter dormancy (Figs. 2–4). During the growing season, also some normal green leaves emerge; therefore, the plant appears seasonally variable: either with all leaves white, white mixed with green, or for short periods even all green. Usually the white leaves predominate and even after short periods with only green leaves the white color returns. Since 2014, I forwarded the plant to some CP-friends for closer inspection and they all confirmed that the white petioles and leaves occur reliably for three years now. Therefore, the characteristics of this cultivar are stable and not just a seasonal “outlier” due to whatever conditions.

Apart from its color, *Drosera binata* ‘Ghost’ grows usually as T-form; however, mature plants temporarily develop also some dichotomous leaves, which are also either white or pale green. For cultivation, it needs the same conditions and requirements like a normal *D. binata* and the leaves die back during winter dormancy.

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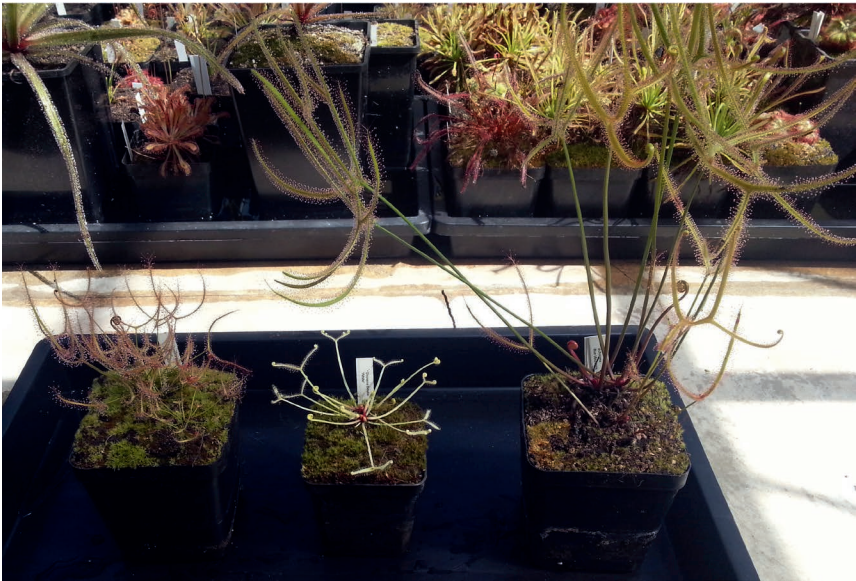


Figure 2: *Drosera binata* ‘Ghost’ (center), *D. binata* “T-form” (left), and *D. binata* var. *dichotoma* (right). Photo by Klaus Ivanez.



Figure 3: *Drosera. binata* 'Ghost' with two developing dichotomous leaves. Photo by Klaus Ivanez.



Figure 4: *Drosera binata* 'Ghost' close up. Photo by S. Hartmeyer.

Six new *Nepenthes ampullaria* cultivars

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Nepenthes ampullaria is a widespread species of lowland *Nepenthes* that occurs in Peninsula Malaysia, Borneo, New Guinea, Singapore, Sumatra, Thailand, and the Maluku Islands. Over the entirety of its range, *N. ampullaria* shows spectacular diversity in pitcher coloration, even though morphologically there is very little variation. These color varieties are stable in both the field and cultivation. Jacky Chiem of Chiemexotics, a *Nepenthes* nursery based in Vietnam, has amassed a collection of over 70 different clones and has previously registered *N. ampullaria* ‘Black Miracle’ and ‘Black Pearl’ (Carniv. Pl. Newslett. 46: 159, 2017), here six more of the most brilliant clones are formally registered as cultivars. The distinguishing features of these different cultivars focus on the striking combinations of pitcher and peristome color. All of these cultivars can only be propagated by cuttings from the original clones.

Nepenthes ampullaria ‘Black Widow’

The lower pitchers have a very dark brown almost black coloration, with red markings, reminiscent of the red on black markings of the black widow (or red back) spider.



Nepenthes ampullaria 'Caramel Candy Stripe'

The lower pitchers have a predominantly caramel color with a few brown markings, and the striking peristome is yellow with red candy stripes.



Nepenthes ampullaria 'Lime Delight'

The lower pitchers are almost pure dark brown/black with a few small lime green markings which contrast with the pure lime green peristome.



Nepenthes ampullaria 'Chocolate Delight'

The lower pitchers are chocolate brown with green markings and the peristome is a pure deep chocolate brown.



Nepenthes ampullaria 'Cherry Delight'

The lower pitchers are brown with green markings and the peristome is beautiful cherry red color, evoking images of the popular Australian confectionary, Cherry Ripe®.



Nepenthes ampullaria 'Bronze Delight'

The lower pitchers are a red-bronze color with brown markings and the peristome is the same color on the outer margins and gradually fades to a yellow-bronze at the inner margin.

