New Cultivars

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Sarracenia 'Eyes'

Submitted: 16 September 2018

I bought some seedlings of *Sarracenia leucophylla* × 'Adrian Slack' from Miroslav Srba at the June 2014 Italian Meeting in Tradate. After several years, I identified one of these seedlings with good potential. The mature pitchers are nearly 70-80 cm tall. In Autumn you can see the best pitchers with the cultivar's characteristics. The pitcher is white with green veins similar to a *S. leucophylla* and has two red spots in the throat (Fig. 1). I have named this plant *Sarracenia* 'Eyes' because in the throat of the pitchers there are spots that recall human eyes.

Sarracenia 'Eyes' should be reproduced only by vegetative means to ensure that the unique characteristics are maintained.

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Figure 1: *Sarracenia* 'Eyes' pitcher.

Sarracenia ‘Dunes’

Submitted: 26 October 2018

Sarracenia ‘Dunes’ is a *S. moorei* from the cross between *Sarracenia leucophylla* and a *Sarracenia flava* circulated by the unestablished name “Goldie”. The flowers are yellow. Spring pitchers are the tallest, with 98 cm measured for this clone. Pitchers are first a green color then they become very quickly yellow. The throat is very slightly colored red at the opening of the pitcher and then the spot increases in size and darkens becoming dark red or almost black (Fig. 2).

The very yellow color of this *S. moorei* made me think of the desert when I started searching for a name and the name ‘Dunes’ seemed to me quite adequate for this plant. It can also be a wink to the monstrous worm that appears in “Dune”, the 1984 film by David Lynch.

This cultivar must be only propagated by rhizome cutting or division.

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Figure 2: *Sarracenia* ‘Dunes’ pitchers.

Sarracenia ‘Shakra du Coeur’

Submitted: 28 October 2018

Sarracenia ‘Shakra du Coeur’ is a *S. moorei* from the same cross as *Sarracenia* ‘Dunes’, namely *Sarracenia leucophylla* and a *Sarracenia flava* circulated by the unestablished name “Goldie”.

It is a pretty plant, 80 cm tall, which has the peculiarity of having pitchers that are not very colorful at the opening (Fig. 3 left), but the tube has gentle veining while the throat and the underside of the cap is pink. As the summer progresses, the pink coloration becomes more and more intense (Fig. 3 center and right). The top of the cap is white, lightly veined with green. The flowers are pale yellow.

Like many *S. moorei*, the plant produces very beautiful traps in the spring with a break in summer, then it has a second phase of production during the fall with less impressive but always colorful pitchers.

Shakra is a 5,000-year-old science that comes from the ancient Rishis of India. The word meant a disc of metal symbolizing the power of a Râja said Chakravarti: the one who turns the wheel of destiny of men, who holds their life in his hands, but also, perhaps, the one who is at the picture of Surya, the sun. The Shakras are distinguished by associations of color and the pink, white, and green colors that characterize the heart (French: coeur) shakra are the same colors that can be found on this *Sarracenia*.

This cultivar must be only propagated by rhizome cutting or division.

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Figure 3: *Sarracenia* ‘Shakra du Coeur’ pitchers: early spring (left) and mid-summer (center and right).

Sarracenia ‘Sergeant Hartman’

Submitted: 26 October 2018

Sarracenia ‘Sergeant Hartman’ is a *S.* × *moorei* sold by the Gent Botanical Garden during the annual European Exchange and Exhibition of Carnivorous Plants (EEE) meeting in September 2009. It was a Belgian collector and friend, Julien Gillot, who noticed it among a lot of plants that gardeners brought in a wheelbarrow. While I was chatting with him, I saw him practically jump in this wheelbarrow to reserve a plant. When I saw the plant he had reserved, I did not believe my eyes. The plant was beautiful and I stayed stuck for a long time.

Once back home, Julien was kind enough to give me one little spare piece, and thankfully, because the following winter was extremely cold in Belgium, with negative temperatures close to -25°C for several weeks. In spring his mother plant was dead.

So, I took care of my plant in order to multiply it and spread it in collections, but it was then that I realized this *Saracenia* had a rather unique character. Indeed, it is the most demanding *Sarracenia* I have ever had in cultivation. It produces only between 1 to 3 pitchers per year maximum and if the growing conditions are not at best, it can very well produce only phyllodes.

Sarracenia ‘Sergeant Hartman’ is a very colorful plant, richly veined with very beautiful dark red lips becoming almost black as the pitcher ages. The cap remains white and the pitcher’s throat is either slightly green or it takes a beautiful yellow hue with light veins. When the pitchers open, they are barely colored (Fig. 4 left). The color shades come in a few days (Fig. 4 center) and then increase throughout the summer season (Fig. 4 right). Pitchers on a mature plant can reach 1 m in height and pitcher openings almost 10 cm in diameter.

Sergeant Hartman is one of the main characters of the movie “Full Metal Jacket”. An extremely demanding personality, he does not leave a single moment of repentance to his young recruits and leaves no breach unpunished. I find this character fits perfectly with what the plant in culture requires to be at the top. This name is therefore totally appropriate.

This cultivar must be only propagated by rhizome cutting or division.

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Figure 4: *Sarracenia* ‘Sergeant Hartman’, from left, early season, mid-summer, late summer.

Sarracenia purpurea subsp. *purpurea* 'Merlot'

Submitted: 27 November 2018

During summer 2011, I met Bill Smith and Jason Austin who were coworkers at a plant nursery in New Jersey. Bill is commonly known by his self-given nickname of "Bogman". While visiting his home for the first time, Bill showed me a lovely *Sarracenia purpurea* that was completely red and patternless (Fig. 5). Bill and Jason had received seed from plants in Massachusetts, USA. Of all the plants the seed produced, this one was a patternless red plant. Bill subsequently gave me a division, which I am growing in my own bog garden, also in New Jersey. Bill and Jason said that they named the plant 'Merlot' but had not registered the name. I asked Bill if I could register the plant name and was given permission.

This clone has glabrous pitcher surfaces and exhibits the typical form and growth vigor of *Sarracenia purpurea* subsp. *purpurea*, as one would expect in a plant from New England. The color and the fact that it is patternless, or nearly so, makes this plant distinct from other registered cultivars. The color is present in the crown and the earliest growth stage of each pitcher, as opposed to developing later as the pitcher matures. The color of young pitchers is a distinct pink, rather than dark red-purple. It is my belief that in addition to the extra anthocyanin giving it a much redder color, that this plant is also a veinless plant as published by Carl Mazur and Jay Lechtman (2005). In their article, they discuss the veinless trait appearing to have a cline from purely veinless, to plants that have very faint veins. In *S.* 'Merlot' I see this trait under some circumstances. I expect that *S.* 'Merlot' would produce seed offspring that are very similar. However, in order maintain the characteristics of *S.* 'Merlot', a plant must be a clone, that is, a division or rooted leaf pulling. *S.* 'Merlot' may indeed prove to be an interesting plant to cross with other *Sarracenia* for those interested in such crosses.

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Reference

Mazur, C.J., and Lechtman, J. 2005. A veinless form of *Sarracenia purpurea* subsp. *purpurea* discovered in Ontario, Canada. Carnivorous Plant Newsletter 34(3): 79-84.

Figure 5: *Sarracenia purpurea* subsp. *purpurea* 'Merlot' growing in Bill Smith's yard in Warren Grove, New Jersey in 2011.

Submitted: 12 December 2018

We traced the origin of this clone to Brooks Garcia, the originator of *Sarracenia* ‘Leah Wilkerson’. Sometime in the early 2000s, the plant was sold by Brooks to a small nursery in North Carolina mis-labeled *S.* ‘Leah Wilkerson’. Flytrap King nursery purchased a division of the plant in 2009. After a significant amount of deliberation, we concluded that it is a distinct clone of high merit that is worthy of a cultivar name.

Spring pitchers are approximately 60 cm tall, 4-5 cm diameter, bright white with red venation on the top (Fig. 6). August pitchers are 50 cm tall, 6.5 cm diameter, and more rigid. Peristomes mature to red when grown in bright light. Hood columns are narrow, often resulting in the lid touching in the back. Established plants typically produce two leaves per growth point in the spring, followed by summer phylodia. In August, plants typically produce two more leaves per growth point.

Plants should be reproduced by vegetative means.

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Figure 6: *Sarracenia* ‘Lunchbox’.