

NEW CULTIVARS

Keywords: cultivar, *Cephalotus* ‘Tom Thumb’, *Dionaea* ‘Carboni Ardenti’, *Dionaea* ‘F.S. Colombian Dwarf Caiman’, *Dionaea* ‘F.S. Anemone’, *Dionaea* ‘Periscope’, *Nepenthes* ‘Candy Apple’, *Sarracenia* ‘Joker’, *Sarracenia* ‘White Beast’.

Abstract: Eight new carnivorous plant cultivars are named and described: *Cephalotus* ‘Tom Thumb’, *Dionaea* ‘Carboni Ardenti’, *Dionaea* ‘F.S. Colombian Dwarf Caiman’, *Dionaea* ‘F.S. Anemone’, *Dionaea* ‘Periscope’, *Nepenthes* ‘Candy Apple’, *Sarracenia* ‘Joker’, *Sarracenia* ‘White Beast’.

Dionaea ‘Carboni Ardenti’

Submitted: 16 July 2021

Dionaea ‘Carboni Ardenti’ (Fig. 1) was selected in 2019 by Valerio Guidolin from Diflora. This cultivar came from an in vitro random mutation of Diflora’s *Dionaea* ‘Periscope’ which derives from *Dionaea* ‘Microdent’ × ‘Cupped Trap’.

Similar to *Dionaea* ‘Microdent’ it has different colors especially the inner trap’s side, a larger number of trigger hairs, and also different cilia.

The unique phenotype of *Dionaea* ‘Carboni Ardenti’ shows short cilia and a high number of trigger hairs in the inner orange-red coloured traps side. The name “carboni ardenti” means burning coals and was chosen by Valerio Guidolin because he imagined that the inside trap is similar to “walking on burning coals” for an insect.

Dionaea ‘Carboni Ardenti’ is a unique cultivar that can only be propagated by leaf/floral or rhizome cuttings to preserve the phenotype.

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Figure 1: *Dionaea* ‘Carboni Ardenti’.

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Dionaea ‘Periscope’ (Fig. 2) was produced in 2016 by Paolo Mattevi by breeding *Dionaea* ‘Microdent’ with *Dionaea* ‘Cupped Trap’. Numerous seeds from this breeding were germinated in vitro by Valerio Guidolin of Diflora. From subsequent growth of these seedlings, *Dionaea* ‘Periscope’ was selected as a unique phenotype.

Dionaea ‘Periscope’ is characterized by small green leaves with large deep red traps that show the unique red outline, traps are also wide with *D.* ‘Microdent’ like short cilia, but more dense and big trigger hairs that are fully functional.

The name “periscope” was chosen in July 2021 by Valerio Guidolin because of the rotated traps that sometimes *Dionaea* ‘Periscope’ shows.

Dionaea ‘Periscope’ must only be propagated by leaf/floral or rhizome cutting to preserve the phenotype.

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Figure 2: *Dionaea muscipula* ‘Periscope’.

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While cultivating typical *Dionaea muscipula* from the FloraSalvaje Lot (F.S.) of the Engineer Juan Camilo Páez Jiménez, a unique specimen was noted and separated for further growth and study. These unique characteristics persisted and the plant is given the cultivar name *Dionaea* 'F.S. Colombian Dwarf Caiman'.

The plant has pale yellowish green tones which maintains the same coloration under full sunlight (Fig. 3A). The leaves are wide and about 3-4 cm long with a slight inward curvature with no noticeable midrib. There is a short petiole between the leaf and the trap. When the trap is forming there are no teeth, just jaws or gums (Fig. 3B). The traps are elongated and have an inward curvature of the lobe as if it formed gums. As it grows its lobes thicken and internally the lobe produces a soft orange coloration. The trap eventually develops teeth and fangs that go inward like the dwarf caiman with a pronounced jaw or gum (Fig. 3B). Over time, in some cases, some of the teeth come out of the closed trap (Fig. 3B, C). The teeth are 5 mm long. There are 4 trigger hairs with almost transparent coloring.

Dionaea 'F.S. Colombian Dwarf Caiman' has a perfect thick gum, uniform and sharp teeth that enter the trap almost touching the trigger hairs, disarticulated lobes, imperceptible transparent trigger hairs, growth of longer and wider leaves, internal green coloration in the trap when in direct sun, the trap does not have a long curvature and has a high reproductive capacity through dividing. These are some marked differences compared to cultivars like *D.* 'Alien' and *D.* 'Louchapates'. *Dionaea* 'Jaws Smiley' is slow growing, the lobes are attached laterally, and the interior is crimson-red in direct sunlight, the traps are long and slightly curved, the trigger hairs can be noticed, the petioles are short (making them stiff or narrow), it has teeth between short and long interspersed that do not enter the lobe when they are closed, they do not leave teeth outside the trap; these are contrary characteristics when compared to *D.* 'F.S. Colombian Dwarf Caiman'.

The name 'Dwarf Caiman' lies in the resemblance of its cilia with the teeth and fangs of a dwarf caiman located in the Orinoquia or Amazon of our Colombian area. Another reason for selecting this name is to enhance the Colombian wildlife. 'Colombian' is because we are proud that it is the first cultivar of *Dionaea* from Colombia.

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Figure 3: *Dionaea* 'F.S. Colombian Dwarf Caiman'. A) Plant; B) trap forming, no teeth (bottom) and a few teeth emerging (left); C) mature trap with some teeth outside the trap.

Submitted: 28 July 2021

While cultivating seedlings from cross-pollinated typical *Dionaea muscipula* from FloraSalvaje (F.S.) of the Engineer Juan Camilo Páez Jiménez, a unique specimen was noted and separated for further growth and study. After two years, its particular dental characteristic persisted and the plant is given the cultivar name *Dionaea* 'F.S. Anemone'.

The plant is lemon green with a slight yellow coloration (Fig. 4). The leaves grow in the shape of a rosette and can reach an average size of 2.5 cm wide and 5 cm long. The petiole has a remarkable width with a heart shape and wrinkles in the upper curves, in addition to its young leaves being wavy. There is no midrib or it is very small in size, facilitating a close connection between the leaf and the trap. The traps are rigid with medium opening capacity. In direct sunlight, the exterior of the lobe produces a faint orange coloration. The average size of the traps is 1.5 cm wide \times 2 cm long. It is an active cultivar, but when closing its traps, they tend to hit their teeth and become scattered. The main characteristic is its tentacle-shaped cilia that are directed towards different positions, giving the impression that they are sensitive. Their spiny cilia can bend both outward and sideways. There are 6 trigger hairs with transparent coloring.

Dionaea 'F.S. Anemone' has a similar shape with several *Dionaea* cultivars, but the growth of its teeth in a dispersed and independent way makes us differentiate it from cultivars such as *D.* 'Cross Teeth' and *D.* 'Fused Tooth' where the teeth intersect and fuse. *Dionaea* 'Phalanx' and *D.* 'Paradisía' produces its long, straight teeth, unlike *D.* 'Anemone' that produces short, bent teeth. Its thin, spiny teeth differ from the serrated teeth of cultivars such as *D.* 'Sawtooth', *D.* 'Bristle Tooth', and *D.* 'FTS Lunatic Fringe'.

The name was selected because the anemone has long, flexible, and mobile tentacles that bear a great resemblance to the teeth of the traps of this cultivar. In addition to resembling the wild spirit and the hunting mode of the sea anemone.

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Figure 4: *Dionaea* 'F.S. Anemone'.

Submitted: 29 August 2021

Nepenthes 'Candy Apple' (Fig. 5) is a curious specimen from the complex hybrid *Nepenthes* ((('Rokko' \times *boschiana*) \times *veitchii*) \times *veitchii*) which was produced by Geoff and Andrea Mansell of Exotica Plants, Australia. This plant was grown in my collection since May of 2020 and was selected and named after it started producing mature pitchers in January 2021. Since I first obtained the plant, I had noticed that it maintained a widely flared peristome even when aged. However, I only made this selection after the plant matured when the pitchers then became extremely waxy on the exterior and gained an intense red coloration, which distinguished this specimen from the other plants I have seen of this same hybrid grex.

The name 'Candy Apple' was chosen because in both waxiness and coloration, the pitchers of this plant are reminiscent of the candy dipped apples commonly seen at the seasonal fairs in my home state of Massachusetts. Notably, the pitchers of this cultivar open with a very bright yellow and striped peristome which very gradually darkens to a honey color, it also has a very dense, but short, indumentum all over the pitchers, leaves, and stems.

This plant grows well in intermediate conditions; however, the best coloration is seen when the plant is given cooler nights along with very bright light.

To maintain the unique characteristics of this plant, it should only be propagated by stem or basal cuttings, the latter of which it produces prolifically.

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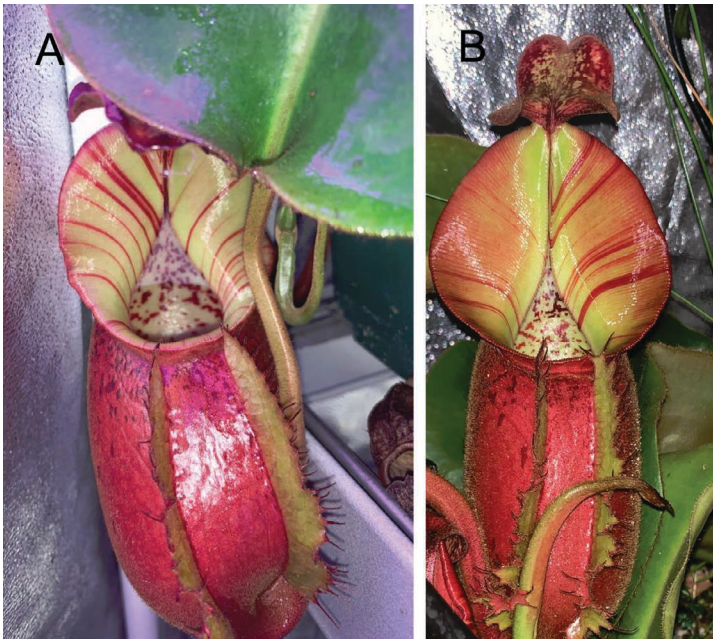


Figure 5: *Nepenthes* 'Candy Apple'. A) Freshly opened pitcher displaying peristome and body coloration. B) Aged pitcher displaying the flared peristome characteristic, along with its short but dense indumentum.

Submitted: 29 October 2020

Sarracenia 'Joker' was grown from seed in 2012 whose parents are ((*Sarracenia leucophylla* × *flava* var. *rugelii*) × *moorei* 'Leah Wilkinson') × *moorei* 'Adrian Slack'.

Sarracenia 'Joker' is a tall upright clone. The tallest recorded pitcher is 80 cm. The peristome is 9 cm wide. The lid is wider than the peristome and dips forwards. From above, the lid is predominantly white with a few veins. Inside the lid is white with red veins and the throat of the pitcher is a solid red blotch from one end to the other (Fig. 6).

Named in 2019 after the character 'The Joker' from the Batman films. The solid red throat resembles the eccentric makeup used to emphasise the insanity of the character and the dipping wavy lid resembles the crazy hairstyle of the character.

The cultivar needs to be propagated by vegetive means to keep the unique character of the clone.

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Figure 6: *Sarracenia* 'Joker' pitcher (left) and lid (right).

Submitted: 3 September 2021

I wish to dedicate this cultivar to Dimitar (Dimi) Daskalov, a very dear friend of mine who recently passed away. We met via CPM Forum many years ago through a common love for *Cephalotus* and stayed strong friends. Dimi was an avid Bulgarian *Cephalotus* grower who at one time had a very large collection of named clones and cultivars.

Dimi received this clone in Europe from a U.S. grower in 2014 and passed a division on to me in 2015. The original source is not known, nor is it known if it was more widely distributed in the USA.

Dimi was a very generous grower, and he would often send me clones without asking for anything in return. Like myself, he eventually reduced his collection to those clones for which he considered to have truly unique forms, with two of his favourites being *Cephalotus* ‘Bananito’ and *Cephalotus* ‘Squat’, the latter of which he registered as a cultivar.

Dimi and I collaborated in naming *Cephalotus* ‘Tom Thumb’ and authoring this description. The description was published online, but until now has never been submitted for cultivar name registration. I have been growing this clone ever since receiving it from Dimi in 2015 and it still maintains its diminutive pitcher size.

Cephalotus ‘Tom Thumb’ (Fig. 7) has an easily distinguishable characteristic in that the pitchers are miniature, typically measuring no greater than 1.5 cm from the base to the top of the peristome. As typical of *Cephalotus*, pitcher size for a particular clone is a function of environmental conditions, but given identical conditions, thus far this clone has shown to create smaller pitchers than typical. The shape of the base of the pitcher is hooked and acutely tapered.

Under certain conditions, the pitcher colour is very dark maroon, with the base of the pitcher taking on the deepest colouration, graduating up the pitcher. However, colouration does not form part of this clones’ distinctive characteristics, as typical of *Cephalotus*, colour can vary greatly under different growing conditions, rather it is the small pitcher size that makes this clone distinctive and worthy of recognition.

Etymology: Tom Thumb is an English folklore character of diminutive stature.

Asexual propagation (vegetative) is required to preserve the clones’ unique characteristics.

Dimi’s soul will live on in my memories and I hope this clone and the others he loved and advocated will serve as a record in history of a fantastic *Cephalotus* grower. RIP my friend Dimi.

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Figure 7: *Cephalotus follicularis* ‘Tom Thumb’. A) plant, B) mature pitcher 1.4 cm, C) typical *Cephalotus* pitcher (left) and *Cephalotus* ‘Tom Thumb’ pitcher (right). Photos by Dimitar Daskalov.

Submitted: 4 September 2021

Sarracenia leucophylla 'White Beast' is a *S. leucophylla* crossing made in 2016. This particular seedling really stood out because of its vigorous growth and nice white colour. As the seedling grew larger, the very big mouth got my attention.

The adult plant stands out because of this feature (Fig. 8). In the spring it produces a set of phyllodia and pitchers which already stand out in size compared to other *S. leucophylla* plants. The big and nice purple/red flowers are in size comparable with that of a *S. flava* flower. In late summer and autumn, it produces many full-sized pitchers. The sturdy and yet elegant pitchers are about 80 cm in height (grown in west Germany) but I expect they can grow even larger when cultivated in a warmer climate. The mouth of the pitcher has a very wide somewhat angular opening and a width of 8.5 cm is no exception. The opening stays very wide all the way down to the bottom of the pitcher. The lid is usually about half a centimeter less wide than the mouth, which makes it rather small in comparison. The colour of the pitcher is a very nice white and the veining varies from green till brown-reddish depending on the time of the year.

The name 'white beast' was given because of its big and beastly appearance in comparison to other *S. leucophylla* plants.

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Figure 8: *Sarracenia leucophylla* 'White Beast' plant, pitcher, and flower.