



Brassanthe 'Elizabeth'. Orchid hybrid of ornamental value high for Cuba

Brassanthe 'Elizabeth'. Híbrido de orquídea de alto valor ornamental para Cuba

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ABSTRACT: *Brassanthe*, is not a natural gene, it's the result of the pollination among *Brassavola*, native from South America and the Antilles, and *Guarianthe*, native from Mexico and Central America. The hybrids *Brassanthe* 'Elizabeth' actually is registered and published in the database of the Royal Horticultural Society of England in *Orchids Review Supplement* 125 (1320), September 2017.

Key Words: genre, orchids, cross-pollination.

RESUMEN: *Brassanthe* no es un género natural, es el resultado de la polinización entre los géneros *Brassavola*, originario de Sudamérica y las Antillas, y *Guarianthe*, procedente de México y Centroamérica. El híbrido *Brassanthe* 'Elizabeth' actualmente se encuentra registrado y publicado en la base de datos de la Sociedad Hortícola Real de Inglaterra en *Orchids Review Supplement* 125 (1320), Septiembre 2017.

Palabras clave: híbrido, orquídeas, polinización cruzada, cultivo *in vitro*, semillas.

INTRODUCTION

Producing hybrid orchids through *in vitro* seed culture made great contributions at the beginning of the 19th century, when numerous important orchid hybrids of high ornamental value began to be commercialized. In 1960, the Royal Horticultural Society of England assumed responsibility for the international registration of hybrid orchids, a task that continues to this day.

ORIGIN

Brassanthe 'Elizabeth' is the result of hand cross-pollination carried out in April 2010 between *Brassavola nodosa* and *Guarianthe skinneri*. The hybrid seeds were

germinated by *in vitro* culture. The first plants started to flower in July 2015. This new hybrid has a high ornamental and aesthetic potential.

CHARACTERISTICS

Epiphytic plant, with fusiform pseudobulbs, reduced and thin up to 10 cm. Fleshy and bifoliate leaves. Terminal inflorescence with flowers in variable groups at the end of a short floral scape. Showy flowers, 10.0 cm wide, sepals and petals similar, magenta-pink, 4.5- 5.0 cm long and 0.8- 1.0 cm wide. It has a labellum rolled and narrow, with magenta-pink leading edge, followed by a white throat and purple nodular dots over the entire surface (Photo 1).

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Photo 1. *Brassanthe* 'Elizabeth' orchid