



# HIBISCUS INTERNATIONAL



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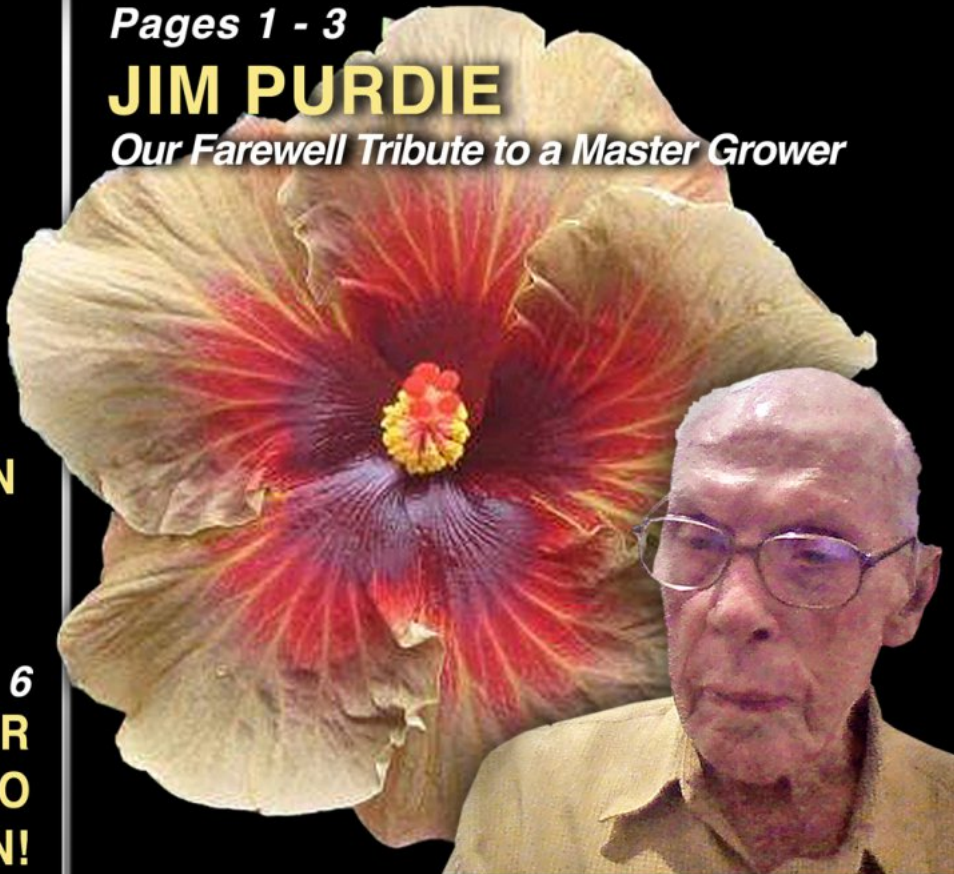
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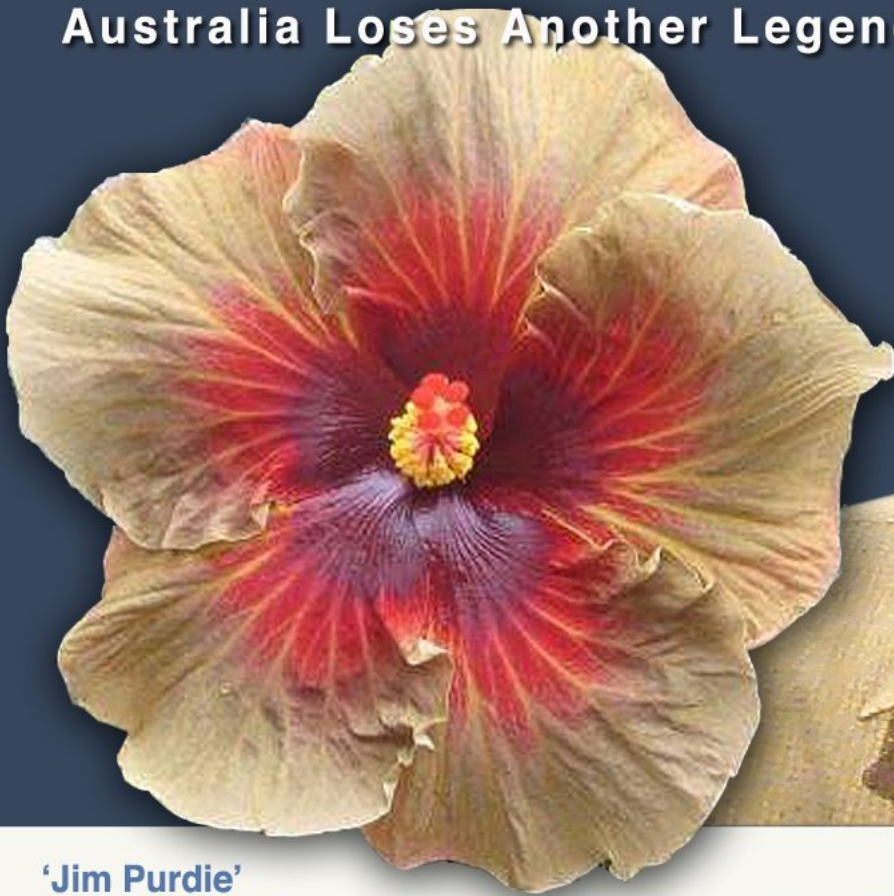
**and  
 more!**



# Farewell to a Master Grower of the Hibiscus World

## JIM PURDIE

Australia Loses Another Legend



**'Jim Purdie'**  
(Emerald Isle x Tigerama) hybridized by Allan and Elaine Little

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing in September of Jim Purdie, a towering figure in the Hibiscus world.

Jim was born in Brisbane, Australia. His education was interrupted by WWII, during which he worked as a typewriter repairman for Australian and American Forces. Moving with advances in technology he studied radio and radiogram repair until, with the advent of television, he became the Manager of the Gold Coast branch of a repair company. Later still Jim and his wife, Ruth, bought a news agency, and then a snack bar. After a heart attack in 1989, Jim said he did nothing else but play with Hibiscus.

Jim and Ruth joined the Australian Hibiscus Society in 1989. In 1991 he was elected President of the Australian Hibiscus Society and became the editor of their newsletter, 'The Hibiscus.' He served as president until 1994 and editor until 1995. Being on the HOTY committee he was a seedling evaluator and also a recorder for the Gold Coast Branch. As an evaluator, Jim had to grow seedlings being considered for HOTY for three years.

Not limited to Australia, Jim also served both as President of the International Hibiscus Society and as Editor of 'Hibiscus International' where his knowledge and expertise in the world of Hibiscus was spread around the world.

*Adapted from an article by Gloria White, 'Hibiscus International' 2002 - linked here.*







The hibiscus world has lost another icon. This will weigh on me for a time, as I considered Jim a good friend, although I have only met him in person a couple of times. Not only was Jim a past President of the AuHS, but also the IHS and has served both societies in many capacities. Jim Purdie and Allan Little were instrumental in the acceptance and affiliation of the IHS and the AuHS.

*- Richard Johnson, Tahiti*

I felt so sad to read the words about Jim Purdie. I never saw him in person. But his posts and words inspired me to hook into this hobby this long. His beautiful hibiscus hedges pictures are still fresh in my mind which I admired wholeheartedly!

When he came to know my habit of peeking into new seedling buds he advised me 'patience is a virtue' that rings into my ears every now and then.

Heart aches when I see these great hibiscus personalities disappear from this world silently. But surely their work speaks in abundance and people fondly remember them throughout their lives.

*- Pushpa Suresh, India*

Ohhh, what a very sad new! Rest in peace Jim Purdie, you are now one more Star lightening in the sky! My condolences to Ruth and extended Family.

*- Beth Jordan, Brazil, South America*



Was very saddened to read of the passing of Jim Purdie, his knowledge and friendship will be very much missed, not to mention his coffee table display photos. Condolences to Ruth and his extended family.

*- Sue and Eddy Lansdown and the Members of the Hibiscus Society of Western Australia.*

The news of Jim's passing is indeed a sad day for the hibiscus community worldwide. On the few occasions I had the chance to speak with him on Skype, he impressed me with his humbleness but most of all for his wry sense of humour. Although I only spoke to him a few times he made a lasting impression on me and he will be sorely missed.

On behalf of the BOD I offer our deepest condolences to his wife Ruth and his family and friends around the world. Now there is another master grower in that celestial garden to add even more beauty. Good blooming, Jim!

*- Kes Winwood, Ontario, Canada*

Jim Purdie was a friend, one I never met but who helped me with sound advice over the years. His passing is sad, and I will miss him. One thing that our beautiful hibiscus blooms have done for me and others is to bring lasting friendships, so the beauty of our favorite flower has brought us these acquaintances in far away countries. We may never meet in person, but we share this common bond. Rest in peace, my friend.

*- Damon Veach, Louisiana, USA*

**Jim Purdie -  
Master Grower**







# PUTTING YOUR BEST FACE FORWARD

or

## Fitting a Rectangle into a Square

Kes Winwood

Kes lives in southern Ontario, Canada where the climate ranges from very hot and sticky in the summer to bitterly cold in the winter when there is deep snow. In spite of the severe weather extremes, Kes manages to grow beautiful Hibiscus. In addition to a green thumb his IT skills and formidable creative energy mean that Kes, our current President, is also the driving force behind the IHS website. Here Kes explains how to create the perfect photograph for Hibiscus registration.

Almost two years ago you planted those precious *rosa-sinensis* seeds in the hopes that they would eventually produce a bloom worthy enough to register and to propagate. Over that time you carefully watched over those precious seedlings that sprouted, carefully tending them as they grew. Slowly those frail looking seedlings grew stronger and larger, eventually branching out and hardening into wood.

After what seemed like a lifetime, buds began to form and you could hardly wait until those buds opened to reveal that unique one-of-a-kind bloom. Not all of them were up to your standards and were not noteworthy enough to be registered or to be used in hybridizing. But there was one or two that after careful evaluation you deemed worthy of registering for posterity and so they were submitted for approval using the official web registration.

### BUT DID YOU DO THEM JUSTICE?

The cultivar you registered is your pride and joy and you want to show it off to the world and so you submit a photograph. You want to show the unique patterns of colour and the form of the bloom, so you take a close up photo to highlight these feature, just as in the photograph below left.



That certainly shows off the colours and the bloom features but did you remember that all photos of blooms on the IHS website are shown in a square format? So the photo must be cropped to a square format as below.

Right: We now have a square format but a great deal of the bloom has had to be sacrificed in order to fit it into the square format. This is akin to a passport photo with the top of your head and your ears cut off.





## HOW CAN I FIX THIS?

The solution to the problem is quite simple – take your photos further back with enough background to allow the photo to be cropped properly. The examples below show this clearly.



ORIGINAL



CROPPED WITH  
COMPLETE BLOOM  
SHOWING

Show off your new cultivars in their best light by being careful about how you take your photos – leave adequate room for cropping!! You don't have to crop the photos yourself unless you are familiar with how to accomplish this as it will be done during the review process.

Also think about lighting when taking photos; outdoors in natural light is best.

Photos taken in deep shade do not display the colours very well nor do indoor shots where a flash is used as this tends to distort the colour.

If you are patient enough to wait for up to two years or more for your plant to bloom, then it deserves the extra attention to present it at its very best!



# WHY NOT TURN YOUR FAVORITE HIBISCUS PHOTO INTO A CUSHION?



If you go online and do a search for "personalised photo cushion covers" you will find any number of companies offering to turn your photo into an extra special bit of home decor.

With Christmas now not too far away this could be a perfect extra special present and talking point.

Just think how beautiful it would look on a favorite chair!

*Hibiscus: Mooresque (Moorea Miss Moorea x Moorea Princess Ashley) by Charles Atiu.*



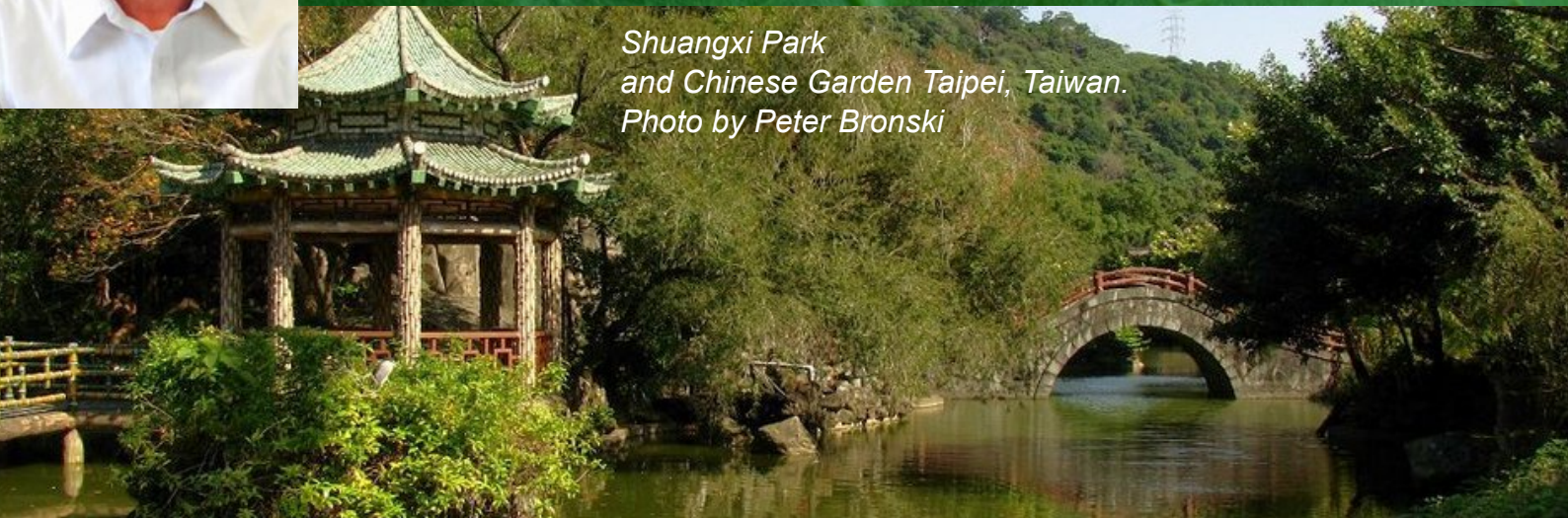




# BLOOM CHARACTERISTICS

## Learn to describe your Hibiscus

William J Huang



Shuangxi Park  
and Chinese Garden Taipei, Taiwan.  
Photo by Peter Bronski

William lives in Taipei, the capital city of Taiwan, where he teaches at both Shih Hsin University and Soochow University. Taipei has a subtropical climate with long-lasting, hot and humid summers accompanied by occasional heavy rain and typhoons. Winters are short, warm and often foggy.

When registering a brand new Hibiscus it is important to be able to recognize the features of the bloom you are describing. William has compiled the following self explanatory and very helpful visuals using information gleaned

from Hibiscus International, the IHS database, and material found in *"Hibiscus - Queen of the Flowers"* by Jim Howie (1980). The image below illustrates a full description and the following pages describe bloom characteristics.

**Hibiscus Bloom  
Pattern  
Illustration**





Bloom Colors:  
Color of veining:  
**White**,  
Color of Spots and  
Splashes: **None**,  
Eye Zone Color:  
**White**,  
Number of Colors:  
**three**,  
Number of Rings  
of Color: **two**,  
Color of Stamen  
Pads: **Red**

## Illustration

Tahitian Autumn  
Starlight

Hybridizer: Richard  
Johnson



Bloom  
Characteristics:  
Form of Bloom: **Flat**,  
Bloom Features:  
**Ruffled and Tufted**,  
Petal Overlap: less  
than 1/2,  
Veining: **extensive**,  
Substance: **excellent**,  
Duration: 2 day,  
Lateral to upward,  
Eye Zone Size: **large**

## REGULAR SINGLE

Petals separated for  
less than half the  
distance from the  
outer edge giving a  
regular scalloped  
appearance to edge.  
Many hibiscus  
blooms fall into this  
category.





# CARTWHEEL SINGLE

Petals completely overlapped to the tips, giving a regular, circular appearance.



# CRESTED SINGLE

Basic type may be any form of single but normal bloom exhibits petaloides on end of staminal column forming a perfect crest. This does not include many varieties that may occasionally show a malformed crest.





# SINGLE WINDMILL

Petals narrow  
and separated  
for nearly their  
entire length.



# FRINGED SINGLE

Edges of  
petals split &  
fringed.  
Staminal  
column  
sometimes  
long &  
pendulous.





# DOUBLE

Many petals & petaloides in a tight formation, giving a ball type appearance on top of a flat circle of petals which stand out, staminal column usually missing.



# SEMI DOUBLE

Loose petal formation with a few petals that may be twisted or quilled. All petals form from base of bloom. Staminal column may be missing.





# CRESTED SEMI DOUBLE

Loose double appearance, with petaloides arising from staminal column, stigmas usually present.



# FULL DOUBLE

Many petals & petaloides in a tight formation, giving a full ball shaped appearance. Staminal column usually missing. No flat under petals standing out. Sometimes with 5 florets in center.





# CUP & SAUCER

Outside guard petals follow single form, center tuft of petaloides all arise from center & are distinctly separated from guard petals.



Graph from Jim Howie's Book

# FLUTED

Can be single or double, petals are soft on edges, sort of wavy.

Hawaiian Salmon from Bill Schmidt's post





# RUFFLED

Frilly, ruffled edges on petals & /or foliage.



# TUFTED

Small upstanding creases on inside edge of petals.





## QUESTION AND ANSWER

# Why are the Stigma Pads a different Colour?



### QUESTION from Gail Cahi, South Africa

On comparing the first & second blooms of this seedling, I noticed that in the first bloom the stigma pads were red and in the second bloom, they have changed to yellow ..... is this quite a normal occurrence?

Penhill Glory - December left and June right

### ANSWER by Richard Johnson, Tahiti

I wouldn't say that the change of color of the pads is a common occurrence, but it does happen. I have had High Voltage with different colored pads. A lot of people use pad color in identification of cvs, but it is not a 100% characteristic.





# A CELEBRATION OF BEAUTY

A selection of fabulous photos shared by members of the  
International Hibiscus Society



## SHIVA

(Dark Continent x Madame Curie)  
Hybridized and photographed by Pushpa Suresh





## KILIMANJARO

(Born to Be Wild x Mountain Air)  
Hybridized by Charles Black  
Photo by Darren Eminian



## MOOREA BOONDAH BOO

(Moorea Abyss x Moorea Imperial Blossom)  
Hybridized by Charles Atiu  
Photo by Masami Kume



## ALBO LACINATUS

(H tentalus white x H schizopetalus)

Hybridizer unknown

Photo by Gil T Friedman

*Copyright Gil T Photography*



## SOUL MATE

(Dark Continent x Madame Curie)

Hybridized by Pushpa Suresh

Photo by Todd Alvis





# SILVER MEMORIES

(Elderberry x Amber Suzanne)  
Hybridized by Yasha and Daniel Brandt  
Photo by Petar Tiholov



# TAHITIAN PURPLE SPLENDOR

HOTY 2004

(Midnight Blue x Silver Memories)  
Hybridized and photographed by Richard Johnson





## MOOREA TEANIHEI

(Moorea Hot Charley x Moorea Bibop)  
Hybridized by Charles Atiu  
Photo by Linda Lee



## HEARTBREAK HOTEL

(Sunbeam x Wild Thing)  
Hybridized by Barry & Susan Schlueter  
Photo by Steffen Frankenbach





## **PURPLE PASHMINA**

(Unforgettable x Mountain Air)  
Hybridized by Barry &  
Susan Schlueter  
Photo by Ursula Lengdobler



## **BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY**

(Mountain Air x Wild Grape)  
Hybridized by Charles Black  
Photo by Shcherbak Anna  
with Adil Demiroga



Hibiscus flowers are safe tortoise food and are a much loved snack. These babies are showing their appreciation.



Image: reddit, LordoftheTorts

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Web Address - [www.internationalhibiscussociety.org](http://www.internationalhibiscussociety.org)

E-mail Address - [InternationalHibiscusSociety@yahoogroups.com](mailto:InternationalHibiscusSociety@yahoogroups.com)

I.H.S. PATRON - **DAVID FRANZMAN**