



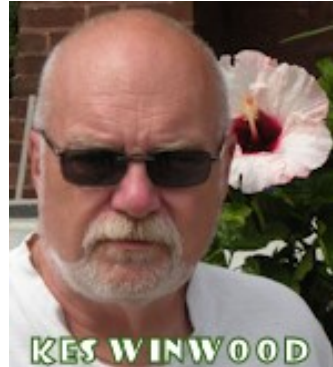
Hibiscus International

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Grand Slam
2006 HOTY



Tah. Princess
2003 HOTY

PRESIDENTS REPORT

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As many of you may now know, as of mid July, the IHS was appointed the ICRA for Hibiscus rosa-sinensis. At the same time, our nomenclature officer and Vice President was requested to assume the duties of ICRAR. Essentially, we have been asked to be the "official" ICRA and continue to do what we have been doing for many years but now in an official capacity.

This is the culmination of discussions that we instituted with members of the ISHS and the RHS. When they realized the scope of the problem with nomenclature, they admitted that as an organization, they had failed in their obligations. We were assured that the situation would be resolved but it would not happen before the middle of 2013.

Over the intervening months we were in contact with ISHS representatives and in particular Dr. Alan Leslie who is a member of the Executive Committee, ISHS Commission for Nomenclature and Registration. Dr. Leslie made many inquiries of us and even asked how we would deal with various nomenclature issues should we be in a position to do so. These questions were answered by Ian in a clear concise manner which presented the issues in a fair, balanced and unbiased fashion for which he should be commended.

That resolution came when the ISHS held their Symposium in Beijing, China in July. At this symposium, the ISHS Nomenclature and Registration Commission Executive Committee met to make decisions regarding ICRA issues affecting nomenclature programs involving other societies as well as Hibiscus rosa-sinensis.

Being the ICRA for Hibiscus rosa-sinensis might, at first glance, seem like a great achievement but in reality it represents an immense responsibility and entails enormous amounts of time and effort, and some financial outlay to do the job properly. We are now tasked with processing new registrations ensuring that there are no name conflicts or ambiguities.

Part of this process involves our *maintaining a list of all known cultivars even those that have not been registered in order to prevent duplicate names.* This alone is a monumental task that is time consuming and seems almost impossible to achieve. Eventually these names will be added to our database and will be part of the validation process.

These changes to the database program will happen as time, man power and finances permit over the upcoming months but eventually it is our hope that in the future we will have a newer, fresher "feel" to our forms that will simplify them without losing the incredible functionality that Joseph Dimino originally included in them.

In addition, as cultivars are approved, we are required to publish a listing with pictures of all newly approved cultivars in a limited number of “hard copies”. These are to be distributed to various libraries as reference material which provides published documentation that the cultivar has indeed been “established” or recognized as a new, distinct cultivar.

This requirement to publish a limited number of hard copies on paper means that we will require extra funds to print these publications. At the moment we hope that we will be able to do the job “in house” by employing a colour laser printer but there will be a significant cost involved in printing and mailing these publications. It is estimated that these printing costs will total some \$500/year but this is only “a best guess” which is yet to be proven. Of course, as registrations increase so will our costs to publish which hopefully we will be able to fund with your help and support (see page 14 for details). We will also provide these publications as PDF files in full colour and post them permanently on our website for anyone who is interested to view or download as a reference source.

There is much effort and resources, both human and financial, that will be required for us as an internet society to fulfill the obligations that we have taken on. However, we have members around the world with a vast pool of expertise and talent that has the potential to make these tasks achievable. All we need is **YOU** and a little of your time to succeed. It is your society and united we will achieve wonders. Please join us.

EDITORS REPORT

This edition of Hibiscus International features the second installment of our ongoing feature “How I Graft” which showcases how various members graft their hibiscus. Everyone’s technique is different and hopefully these pictorial articles will provide tips and tricks that new and old grafters alike can use. Whose next? Anyone like to show us how you do it?

In addition there is a fascinating synopsis of an article that highlights some scientific research that shows how plants use complicated mathematical processes to survive the night. Yes plants using mathematics!

We also focus the spotlight on two major activities of the IHS that involve seeds—our seed bank and EBay seed auctions. Find out what has changed in these programs and how you participate in them. Let’s keep us all growing.

And then there are new forms available for all to use. The first is our new simple registration form for registering new cultivars in the official ICRA database. Calling all hybridizers to test it out to see how simple (and fun) it is to use. Our second new form is for anyone who wishes to help the IHS in the form of a cash donation. There is now a way to donate any amount from \$1 to whatever you wish using your credit card or PayPal account through a secure PayPal transaction. You can even tell us how you want your money spent and request acknowledgements. Go here—www.internationalhibiscussociety.org/donateonline.htm and see how easy it is.

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Web Master : Ian Rabenda :

Web Address— www.internationalhibiscussociety.org

E-mail Address— InternationalHibiscusSociety@yahoo.com

I.H.S. PATRON— DAVID FRANZMAN

HOW I GRAFT HIBISCUS

by Françoise Levavasseur

2nd in a series

I live in the southeast of France, but although this area is very sunny (French Riviera) my tropical hibiscus are to be grafted and stay in a greenhouse.

The rootstocks that I use are Albo Lacinatus, a European red or a common single red like Brilliant, Camdenii, Dark Casino. All work well.

The trunk or branch of the rootstock which will hold the graft can be either wood or green. It is possible to graft wood on wood, green on green and green on the wood but not wood on the green. My preference is wood on wood that is less susceptible to rotting.

I have tried several grafting methods, but for some time I use this one which suits me well.

The tools :



Pruning shears, grafting knife, cutter, grafting tape, plastic bag.

If the scion has the same thickness that the rootstocks it is perfect, but if it is smaller it does not matter as long as one side touch the cambium.



Make the longest cut as possible across the wood to have most contact with the rootstock.



On the other side make a smaller cut





Cut the rootstock just above an eye with a leaf or branch. This will allow the sap to be "pulled" up to feed the graft. Make a slit the length of the cutting tip on the opposite side to the eye.



Begin by making a notch and move your tool gently back and forth.





You will see your blade going down by itself without pushing.

Bring the blade forward and repeat until you have the desired dimension.



Finalize your cut by opening the cut slightly for easier insertion of the scion wood later.



Cut a length of the short side of the graft.





Insert the graft and seal with grafting tape all across the cut so that there is no chance of moisture getting inside.



Cover grafting with a moistened plastic bag



Whenever possible I leave the branch and the soil of the rootstock in the open air.



Grafts will be installed in a warm place in the sun if possible, covered with a shade cloth, a sheet of newspaper can also do, so that grafts are not likely to "cook" inside the bag.

When you see small leaves growing on the scion, gradually open the bag, a little more each day if all goes well. The grafting tape will dry and break by itself or you can take it away when you are sure that the scion has taken.

Do not give up, after a little practice you will finally enjoy seeing the results of your efforts.

Good luck !

REFERENCES TO OTHER ARTICLES ON GRAFTING

A Pictorial Guide to Grafting by Beth Jordan—Vol. 11, #4—Issue 49

How I Graft by Ian Rabenda—Vol. 13, #2 - Issue 55

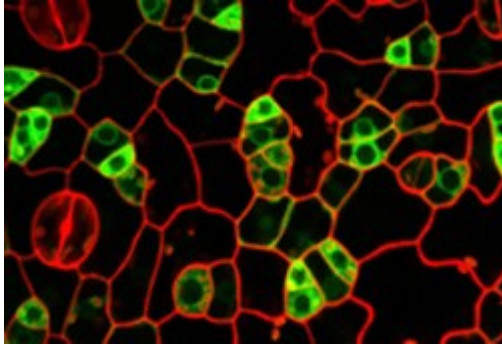


Plants perform complex mathematical equations throughout the night to prevent starvation

Post date:

Monday 24 June 2013

Author: ISHS Secretariat



Plants perform complex mathematical equations throughout the night to prevent starvation until they can feed at sunrise; scientists at the **John Innes Centre in Norfolk (UK)** have discovered plants 'count' their starch and divide it by the number of hours of darkness to ensure the right levels are used.

Plants are capable of performing arithmetic calculations to keep them alive, scientists have discovered. They use formulas to calculate how to ration their supplies of starch throughout the night to keep them going until sunrise, the researchers have found. Starch is essential to plants' survival and is produced through photosynthesis during the day. At night, the plants rely on the store of starch built up in daylight hours to keep them alive. If they ran out of starch they would stop growing and begin to starve - and would struggle to recover even several hours after the sun came up again. While using too little starch means energy would be wasted. Findings show the plants can even adjust the calculations as the night goes on.

Plants ration starch levels so they last until dawn - even if sunrise changes
Calculations which divide supplies by time done at 'fundamental level'

The arithmetic happens at a fundamental level, rather than in the brain cells like in animals, researchers said. Scientists already knew plants managed their starch levels but this breakthrough is the first time they have understood how they do it. Metabolic biologist **Professor Alison Smith** says: 'The capacity to perform arithmetic calculation is vital for plant growth and productivity - the calculations are precise so that plants prevent starvation but also make the most efficient use of their food.'

The breakthrough came when researchers were studying *Arabidopsis*, a member of the mustard family. They found that even when they changed the lighting to lengthen or shorten hours of darkness, the plant was able to speed up or slow down the rate at which it used starch to make it last until light. Scientists concluded they were two forms of molecules which controlled the process, which they dubbed 'S' for starch and 'T' for time. Professor Smith said: 'We propose there is a molecule called S which tracks the amount of starch in the plant, and a molecule called T which tracks the time until dawn. The closer to dawn you get, the less of T and S you have.'. Professor Smith and colleague **Professor Martin Howard** said the equation could be used to explain other phenomena in nature, for example, how birds manage energy levels in migration. They said little stints which fly 5,000km to their breeding sites in the Arctic arrive with only enough fat reserves to survive another 14 hours. While male emperor penguins who sit incubating their eggs for four months reach run out of fat supplies just at the time their partner returns.

THE OUTLINE ABOVE APPEARED ON THE ISHS WEBSITE AND IS A SYNOPSIS OF AN ARTICLE THAT WAS PUBLISHED BY THE JOHN INNES RESEARCH CENTRE, AN INDEPENDENT, INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN PLANT SCIENCE AND MICROBIOLOGY BASED IN THE UK.

SEEDS, SEEDS, SEEDS



The IHS has two programs in place to help new enthusiasts and avid collectors to obtain new and different crosses of hibiscus. For those just starting out, the IHS is pleased to offer seed as follows:

1. To any one who might wish same, regardless of their hibiscus memberships or affiliations if any.
2. You may request seed once per year for up to 3 years.
3. You will be provided approximately 10 seeds of *H. rosa sinensis* crosses.
4. The seed is provided free of charge, but we do ask that you send the Seed Bank Officer your mailing address along with either 5 Euros or \$6 US via PayPal to cover the packaging and postage to this email address - IHS.seedbank@gmail.com. If PayPal is unavailable in your country, please contact the seed bank officer to make other arrangements.

We are pleased to announce that the new Seed Procurement & Distribution Officer (Seed Bank) is Tanja Capito of Germany. She will be taking over the responsibilities of this important educational program from Peter Moll of Brazil. Peter has provided many years of exceptional service not only to the IHS but to the global hibiscus community.

The IHS owes Peter a deep debt of gratitude for all that he has done to promote the love of hibiscus around the world. Any requests that Peter had for seed have been passed to Tanja and they will be honoured as seed becomes available in the very near future.

Peter, in speaking about his years as seed bank officer, pointed out that he rarely ever heard from those that had received seeds. Only three people ever sent pictures to him to show him the results they had achieved.



We would certainly encourage those who are successful in germinating and growing their seedlings to first bloom to provide photos showing the results of their efforts. As well, these photos also provide the hybridizer some positive feedback on their hybridizing efforts.



In future we will feature these photos in this newsletter to highlight the successes that have been achieved by growers around the world.

The seed bank is always in need of seed and if any member has produced more seeds than they can comfortably grow themselves and wish to help keep this vital program alive and healthy, the society would be honoured to accept your help. Just contact the seed bank officer at the above e-mail address to make arrangements. Please remember, no donation is too small, every seed counts.

... AND EVEN MORE SEEDS



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he second major program run by the IHS involving seeds is our frequent EBay auctions of seeds that have been donated by our members. Normally they are offered in packages of 5 seeds and the crosses chosen are selected by the hybridizer as a cross with the potential to produce an above average bloom.



Auctions are normally run about 3 times a year depending on the generosity of our members and run for a full seven days to provide ample time for everyone one who is interested the opportunity to evaluate the offerings fully. We make every attempt to provide as wide a variety of seeds on offer in order to showcase the hard work and dedication of hybridizers from all parts of the world.

Seeds offered in the IHS online auctions are guaranteed to be as advertised. Purchasers of seeds from these auctions can be confident that they will receive seeds of Hibiscus rosasinensis as described in the auctions details.

The upcoming auction dates and times will be announced as soon as the donations from the various hybridizers arrive and the auction is set up. It is our goal to have at least 30 lots of 5 seeds each on auction from a variety of well known hybridizers. Be on the lookout for some great crosses on offer as well as a surprise or two.

FACT: The very beautiful and interesting cultivar 'Devil's Eye' was purchased in an IHS seed auction.

As most members are aware, the IHS charges no membership fees and the online auction is one of the only methods of raising money to pay for our website, awards and our other obligations. We are deeply appreciative of all the support our members have shown over the years. Look for an announcement soon in the group forum and on our Facebook page of the starting dates and the listing of the auction lots. Let's have some fun and help the IHS at the same time.



NEW SIMPLER REGISTRATION FORM

If you have a new seedling that you have been evaluating and have now decided to register it with the official ICRA, we are now testing a new registration form. This form has a cleaner look and is hopefully easier to complete than before. Although the look has changed, the information that is being collected is the same although more of it is now mandatory.

If you register a new cultivar we would appreciate any feedback (positive or negative) that you might care to share with us. This feedback will help us make decisions about the final look and feel of the form based on what our users tell us. Which do you prefer, drop down lists or choosing from a list – the choice is yours?

Although the form is not presently connected to our database, the final form will include this feature making it even more user friendly.

International Hibiscus Society

ICRA OFFICIAL CULTIVAR REGISTRATION FORM FOR HIBISCUS *rosa-sinensis*

All data fields on page 1 are **mandatory** if they have a red * and must be filled in. Fields asking for missing pod or pollen parent images are optional and can be skipped if they don't apply.

Registrations will appear on the "Registrations Pending" page within **72** hours under most circumstances.

Z. Registrant's Name:*

C. Registrant's E-mail Address:*

Please submit pictures of new cultivars of at least 300 x 300 pixels in size below. **DO NOT** take pictures too close, leave room to allow cropping of pictures into a square format. Pictures of blooms that cut off portions of the petals will not be accepted.

D. New Variety Name (This name is subject to approval or denial by the ICRA)*

Da. New variety image (jpg format) Image name **MUST** be the same as name above.*

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BLOOM TRAITS

M11. Size Range*

- Miniature less than 5 inches or 12.5cm
- Small 5-6 inches or 12.5-15cm
- Medium 6-7 inches or 15-18cm
- Large 7-8 inches or 18-20cm
- Very Large 8-9 inches or 20-23cm
- Huge over 9 inches or 23cm

O13. Color OF Spots and Splashes*

- None,
- Blue,
- Brown,
- Grey,
- Green,
- Lavender,
- Orange,
- Pink,
- Purple,
- Red,

O14. Eye Zone Color*

- Blue,
- Brown,
- Grey,
- Green,
- Lavender,
- Orange,
- Pink,
- Purple,
- Red,
- White,

O12. Color of Veining*

- Blue,
- Brown,
- Grey,
- Green,
- Lavender,
- Orange,
- Pink,
- Purple,
- Red,
- White,
- Yellow,

O15. Number of Colors*

- one,
- two,
- three,
- four,
- five,
- six,
- seven,
- eight,
- nine
- more than nine

As you can see in the image to the right, when you are asked for information on a particular feature of the cultivar, you are presented with a list.

To make a choice it is as simple as highlighting a selection and clicking which will hopefully make completing the form as quick and easy as possible.



WE DON'T HAVE BAGS OF MONEY.....



...AND MONEY DOESN'T GROW ON TREES



SO WE'VE HAD TO TIGHTEN OUR BELT.

BUT NOW, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP, YOU CAN. OUR NEW ONLINE DONATION FORM
ALLOWS YOU TO DONATE ANY AMOUNT TO THE IHS USING YOUR PAYPAL ACCOUNT.

IHS Donation Form



Donation Information

Pledge amount:

- \$0
- \$5
- \$10
- \$20
- \$25
- \$50
- \$100
- Other

TO DONATE USING PAYPAL

<http://www.internationalhibiscussociety.org/donateonline.htm>

OUR FUTURE GROWTH IS IN YOUR HANDS.
 IT IS YOUR SOCIETY, HELP MAKE IT GROW!
 1,700 FACEBOOK MEMBERS AT \$1 EACH
 THINK OF THE POSSIBILITIES!!!
 SMALL AMOUNTS INCUR NO FEES

