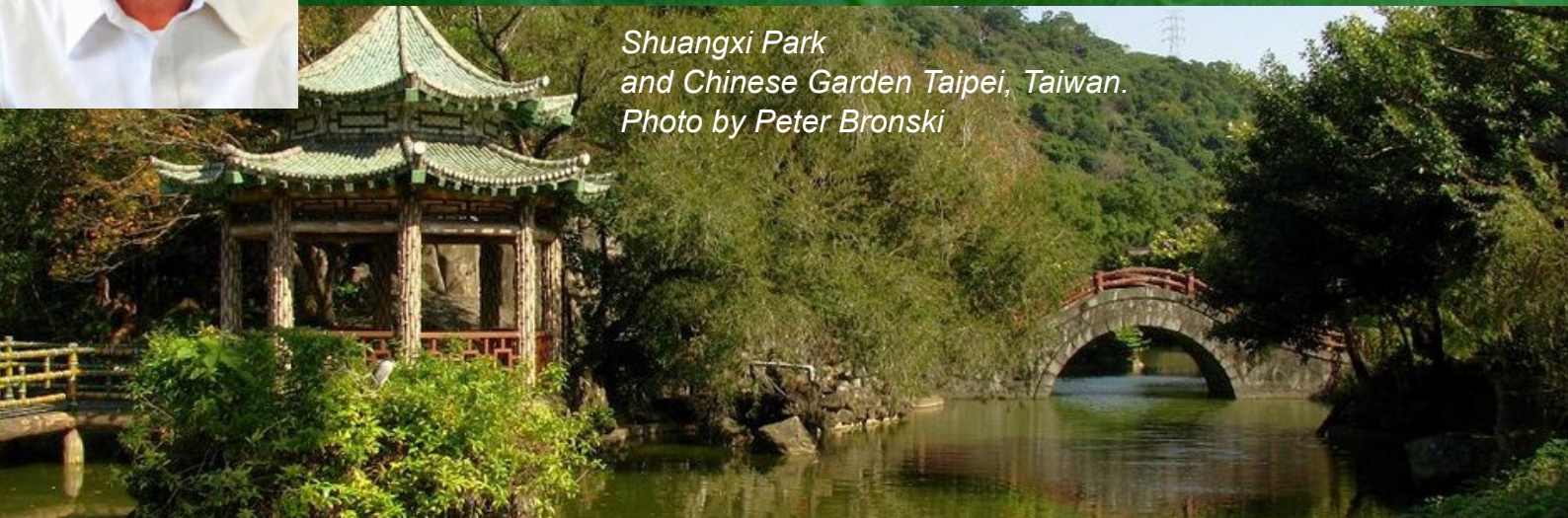




BLOOM CHARACTERISTICS

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**



Illustration

Tahitian Autumn
Starlight

Hybridizer: Richard
Johnson



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**

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.

