

Dendrochilums (Chain Orchid)

Dendrochilums are relatively easy to grow and have become common in collections. The flowers are often colorful and typically fragrant. Yet, few dendrochilums have received AOS awards.

- A) Dendrochilums are endemic to what country or countries?
- B) List the three species that stand out with awards of quality and or culture. Which of these species is bright red-orange?
- C) Are there more awards for flower quality or culture? Explain why this might be.
- D) Which of the awarded dendrochilum species has the largest flowers of the genus? What characteristics, including inflorescence and flower count, would you be looking for in an example of this species awardable for culture?
- E) What hybrids have been registered using dendrochilum parent(s)?
- F) Dendrochilum is within the subtribe Coelogyninae. What intergeneric crosses have been made using a dendrochilum parent? Include your observations on the outcome of your research.
- G) Provide a general overview of judging aspects of dendrochilum floral form, color and other characteristics related to quality award scoring including the appropriate scale to use.
- H) Provide a general overview of judging aspects of dendrochilum size and condition of plant, floriferousness, and condition of bloom related to culture award scoring including the appropriate scale to use.
- I) Create and describe a hypothetical dendrochilum hybrid explaining why you made the cross and how this represents an improvement over the parents.
- J) List 10 Dendrochilum species that we have not discussed in above content. Do any of these species have floral characteristics that represent a quality advantage compared to currently awarded species?
- K) Few dendrochilum species bear AOS awards. Give me your ideas on why this is.