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'Bringing Hybridizers and Growers Together'

Brugmansia Growers International

The International Cultivar Registration Authority for *Brugmansia* and *Datura*

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Front cover: *Brugmansia* 'Artus' X 'Lilac' (#S409) — photo Bernhard Saathoff.

Inside back cover: *Brugmansia* 'Meroo Melon' — photo A. Hay

This page: (l) *Cubanola domingensis* (Rubiaceae) — photo S. Wedgwood; (r) *Osa pulchra* (Rubiaceae) — photo C. Magdalena

As the **ICRA** for *Brugmansia* and *Datura*, working with other enthusiasts' groups around the world, we maintain an exhaustive register of cultivar names and other details about each cultivar in searchable databases and image galleries, and we issue the BGI Herald which provides for the formal publication of new cultivar names and other matters concerning the correct naming of cultivars.

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Making good *Brugmansia* Sect. *Sphaerocarpium* hybrids — Selection and scoring.

Sphaeros have in the past years often been reported as difficult to grow, virus-sensitive, short-lived, only briefly blooming, and as plants just for those special people who are willing to do the job of growing them. One reason is insufficient selection of seedlings and matured plants before naming them and selling them quickly, leading to weak cultivars.

My plants are 100% raised in garden-soil in full sun in Northern Germany without any protection against temperature or sunlight. They must be able to grow and bloom and must show their potential before they are allowed to be overwintered and tested again during the following year. Therefore I need at least two, usually three years to decide if there is a new cultivar worth to be named and propagated.

Here, I outline the criteria I have for selection of Sphaeros that I am using in breeding. They might seem a bit harsh, but I do not want to name any hybrids that can not live in average culture-conditions, grown by normal people. Every hobbyist can find his own way, but if breeding is done honestly, there is no other possibility.

Healthy foliage regarding virus, and vigorous growth.

Foliage-scoring means to give points from 1 to 6, where 1 means no virus signs at all, dark-green leaves, no dropping of leaves in heat, not too many leaves (there are some cultivars with very short internodes and a mass of leaves!). (The standard is always *Brugmansia arborea* or seedlings with *B.* 'Ida' genetics, as mature plant and among the seedlings there will always be some *B. arborea* seedlings to compare with). Plants scored above 4 must have other qualities to make them stay another year — if not they are composted. *Brugmansia arborea* and plants with 'Ida' genetics usually score 1. *Brugmansia* 'Mobisu', 'Schloss Charlottenburg', 'Pilonica' and 'Artus' score 2. A score of 6 means foliage with a lot of spots, and virus symptoms even on the blossoms, often accompanied by weak growth. The figures 1–6 clearly show what I mean.

It is important to select at least two times: First selection as seedling before blooming and once again after the seedling matures and has shown the first blossoms. The reason for this is that some hybrids decide to be virused as soon as they mature or they will abort the foliage below the blooming area and the upper leaves will be very tiny and growth will be retarded. Additionally, the growth habit must be strong and upright — hanging branches are not allowed.

Stängelbrand [Stem Blight] — if there are plants with dark spots on the trunks or retarded growth or wilting, destroy them at once. I dig them up and bring them to a part in the garden from where there is no return, regardless of how wonderful they may have been. However, not every dark spot is *Stängelbrand* and it has to be decided from one seedling to the other. Those which are allowed to stay will be tagged and observed very carefully. Retarded growth also does not necessarily mean disease, and it is not necessary to compost those plants that are healthy but merely slow growing: if there is space enough, these can be grown till maturity.

Fig.1. Leaves scoring 1: free of visible virus symptoms.

Fig.2. Leaves scoring 2: faintly visible viral mottling.

Fig. 3. Leaves scoring 3: faint mottling and leaves turning a little pale between the veins.

Fig. 4. Leaves scoring 4: mottling on younger leaves, later becoming distinctly pale between the veins.

Fig. 5. Leaves scoring 5: more severe mottling on younger eaves, and more conspicuous pale tissue between the darker veins.

Fig. 6. Leaves scoring 6: still more severe symptoms with some leaf shape deformity coming in.

Retarded growth means that the seedlings do not mature in the first summer. Seed is sown here between the end of Nov. and middle of February, the resulting seedlings should be blooming in the same summer. If not, they will only be overwintered, if they are healthy and good growing.

Blossoms

There should be no problems in opening the calyx (figure 7). If there are more than 30% of the flowers with problems during the flowering-period, the plant is not good for further use in breeding. I would not name such a plant, and it will be composted. A few seedlings have more than 75% of the buds that do not open at all!

Fig. 7. A crumpled corolla caused by being trapped inside the calyx.

Regarding colour everyone has different goals in breeding. Personally, I like clear and intense colours and not those pale and washy ones. Colours should be saturated and clear and intense. I also prefer totally coloured blossoms, but there are also blossoms with a deep colour only at the edge of the corolla, they can be beautiful, too. I also like blossoms which darken in the last days of flowering, but that again is a matter of personal taste.

Fig. 8. A corolla with excessive recurve and poor colour distribution.

The plant should be heat-tolerant, that is to say it does not abort all the buds in hot weather. If it does and there is no other reason to keep it, it will be destroyed. I seldom experience real heat for prolonged periods, but there are some Sphaeros that abort 100% of their buds in hot weather, often those with *B. sanguinea* genetics dominant in their pedigree. This is important to know and if these cultivars are named, this has to be noticed.

Early, many, always! The plants must show the blossoms early (till the end of July), they must show many blossoms and there should always be some opened blossoms. If a seedling does not meet this criterion, it must be special in some other respect to be allowed to stay.

Shape is important, the petal tips should not recurve too much, and the blossoms should be open for some days. Blossoms should open 100%. There are some that do not.

Perfume

Scented Sphaeros can be made by using

Brugmansia arborea and close hybrids such as 'Engelsglöckchen' in breeding. It is a trait that is important for some people.

Three-year-rule

Plants have to show their quality for at least three years. Naming a hybrid will take this time and it is very important that the named cultivars remain healthy growing during this time. And last but sometimes not least some other traits: Is the plant ready to be pod-parent? Are the cuttings rooting quickly? Are they attractive for spider-mites (as some *arborea*-influenced ones are) and other pests or fungal infections?

— Bernhard Saathoff

New cultivar names sent in to BGI for establishment, registered between April and September 2019.

Brugmansia 'B.F. Bellini'

Hybridizer: Dianne Wilson (Australia)
Seedling Parent: J. Boonen & E. Steensels (Belgium)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Peach Fantasy'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Brilliant Orange'
Flower Color: peach
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: pendant
Foliage: solid
Comments: creamy peach coloured big flowers; fast grower and many flowers good rooted; nice scent.

Brugmansia 'B.F. Hortensia'

Hybridizer: Sommer Gardens (USA)
Seedling Parent: J. Boonen & E. Steensels (Belgium)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Bergkönigin'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Orange Sensation'
Flower Color: dark pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: very good and a very fast grower; cuttings root very quickly; nice sweet scent.

Previous page: Two examples of Bernhard Saathoff's successful breeding programme. Above: *Brugmansia* 'Artus' x ('Artus' x 'Aslan') (#S526). Below: *Brugmansia* 'Artus' x 'Lilac' (#S409) — All photos in the article by B. Saathoff.

Brugmansia 'B.F. Lieke'

Hybridizer: Trees Van Gestel (Netherlands)
Seedling Parent: J. Boonen & E. Steensels (Belgium)
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: Angels Swingtime
Pollen Parent: name unknown
Species Group warm
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: very big double pink flowers; good and fast grower; cuttings root well; nice scent.

Brugmansia 'B.F. Siësta'

Hybridizer: Andy Nuytten (Belgium)
Seedling Parent: J. Boonen & E. Steensels (Belgium)
Breeding History Set: Candida
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Yellow Duck'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Bergkönigin'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: pendant
Foliage: solid
Comments: fast grower and many nice flowers; good rooted; nice scent.

Brugmansia 'B.F. The Clock'

Hybridizer: Edna Murphree (USA)
Seedling Parent: J. Boonen & E. Steensels (Belgium)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Cozy Lebeau'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Fruit Salad'
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: fast grower and little double flowers; bloom has lots of pink orange; cuttings root well and fast.

Brugmansia 'Bella Gina'

Hybridizer: Patricia Watson (USA)
Seedling Parent: Patricia Watson (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Lexy Girl'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Sam'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: a smaller growing plant with blooms that open pink and then age to salmon color; lightly fragrant with medium green smooth edged leaves; roots easily and provides nice pollen.

Brugmansia 'Caroline Rose'

Hybridizer: Patricia Watson (USA)
Seedling Parent: Norma Delp (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2018
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Dolas Rosenresli'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Angels Sunexplosion'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: easy to propagate; flower is double to triple.

Brugmansia 'Dorset's Double'

Hybridizer: Brenda Bautista (USA)
Seedling Parent: Shaun Douglas (Australia)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2015
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Angels Above'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Ludger's Summer Dream'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: strong grower; corolla starts yellow and pink speckles, then a stunning medium pink; single or usually double; petal tips about 1.5″ long; pleasant scent; plant slightly mite resistant.

Brugmansia 'Geteflower'

Hybridizer: Edna Murphree (USA)
Seedling Parent: Gonda Grammet (Belgium)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Evelyn'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Ima Ten'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: an elegant brugmansia with two skirts; strong scent; little/no bud-drop; very good wind resistance; so far unaffected by Broad-Mite; always a colour difference between the lighter outer and darker inner skirts.

Brugmansia 'Intensely Forged'

Hybridizer: Edna Murphree (USA)
Seedling Parent: Gonda Grammet (Belgium)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Evelyn'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Ima Ten'
Flower Color: apricot/melon/peach
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: three skirts; strong scent; little/no bud-drop; a very good wind resistance; so far unaffected by Broad-Mite.

Brugmansia 'Inez'

Hybridizer: Bernhard Saathoff (Germany)
Seedling Parent: Björn Petersson (Sweden)
Breeding History Set: Arbovulsa
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Artus'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Lilac'
Flower Color: dark red
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: tubular/trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: nicely shaped dark red blooms with contrasting yellow lines on the outside of the corolla; long tendrils and a soft re-curl; last for weeks and darkens gracefully as bloom ages; blooms freely all

Brugmansia 'Invicta'

Hybridizer: Dirk Wenzel (Germany)
Seedling Parent: Dirk Wenzel (Germany)
Breeding History Set: Arbovulsa
Year Released: 2018
Pod Parent: un-named *B.* x *rubella*
Pollen Parent: un-named *B. arborea* x *B. vulcanicola*
Flower Color: very dark red/purple
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: tubular/trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: small serrated foliage; retains flower colour even in summer heat; takes full sun.

Brugmansia 'Johnny's Ampasu'

Hybridizer: Andy Nuytten (Belgium)
Seedling Parent: Philips Johnny (Belgium)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Amarillo Paya'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Südwind'
Flower Color: yellow
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: an elegant brugmansia with two skirts; soft but penetrating perfume; very well tolerated the heat; easy to root; resistance to pests such as broad mite.

Brugmansia 'Karin S'

Hybridizer: JT Sessions (USA)
Seedling Parent: JT Sessions (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Sarah S'
Pollen Parent: *B.* ('Dorthea' x 'El Dorado') x 'Margaret'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: horizontal
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: vigorous growth and generous with blossoms; great fragrance and long lasting flowers.

Brugmansia 'Lola'

Hybridizer: JT Sessions (USA)
Seedling Parent: Jim Nicholson (Canada)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis?
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'New Orleans Lady'
Pollen Parent: unknown
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: vigorous grower and very heavy bloomer; very little winter die back over two seasons; very strong scent.

Brugmansia 'Menorcan Magic'

Hybridizer: unknown
Seedling Parent: Mike Usina (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Vermilion Sky'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Shameless'
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: intermediate funnel/trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: nice dark full single pink; heavy bloomer; very fragrant; nice bushy plant with large leaves.

Brugmansia 'Miss Brenda'

Hybridizer: unknown
Seedling Parent: Mike Usina (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Shameless'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Shirley Temple'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: nice dark double pink; medium size leaves; nice sturdy plant; fragrant.

Brugmansia 'Snow Drift'

Hybridizer: unknown
Seedling Parent: Mike Usina (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Xena'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Samadhi'
Flower Color: white/cream
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: big bushy plant with large dark leaves; bloom opens fully, with nice distinct skirt; medium size flower.

Brugmansia 'Sweet Suzie'

Hybridizer: unknown
Seedling Parent: Mike Usina (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Maitreya'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Alicia'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: a nice sturdy plant with dark green leaves, the bloom opens white then goes to a soft light pink, it ends up a peachy pink, this is a single bloom.

Brugmansia 'TC Top Cat'

Hybridizer: unknown
Seedling Parent: Mike Usina (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Inez Chapman'
Pollen Parent: *B.* 'Native Habitat Double Peach'
Flower Color: white/cream
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: a nice big full plant with a lot of foliage, medium size leaves; the blooms hang straight down.

Brugmansia 'The Tinkers Belle'

Hybridizer: Patricia Watson (USA)
Seedling Parent: Patricia Watson (USA)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Lexy Girl'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Sam'
Flower Color: pink
Flower Form: double or more
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: a very strong grower, fragrant and easy to root; it has a mild fragrance and produces lots of pollen.

Brugmansia 'Thunder Kiss'

Hybridizer: Eric Donovan Lester (USA)
Seedling Parent: Eric Donovan Lester (USA)
Breeding History Set: suarea
Year Released: 2008
Pod Parent: *Brugmansia* 'Frosty Pink'
Pollen Parent: *Brugmansia aurea* (dwarf, white)
Flower Color: white/cream
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: nodding
Flower Shape: intermediate funnel/trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: very vigorous grower; very large, toothy lime green leaves; large blooms, very long,

Brugmansia 'Yellow Colibrí'

Hybridizer: Alistair Hay (Australia)
Seedling Parent: Alistair Hay (Australia)
Breeding History Set: Cubensis
Year Released: 2019
Pod Parent: Brugmansia 'Rosada Mordida'
Pollen Parent: *B.* ('Taita's Gift' x 'Evelyn') x *B.* ('Monika's Meroo Tagtraum' x 'Meroo Cascade')
Flower Color: yellow
Flower Form: single
Flower Position: pendant
Flower Shape: trumpet
Foliage: solid
Comments: very dark green highly modified leaves, like both its parents; pendent yellow flowers.