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# The Herald

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**Bringing Hybridizers and Growers Together**

Brugmansia Growers International

[www.brugmansia.us](http://www.brugmansia.us)

## Brugmansia Growers International

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**On the cover: (Sanguinea x Amethyst) x Hurstwood Bryony.**

## Brugmansia Aurea

By Wayne Meyers (WayneM)

There are little moments in life when something or someone beautiful catches your eye and you have to look back again to capture it. Well, for me, seeing the flower trumpet of a Brugmansia Aurea was one of the those moments.

I've been an admirer and grower of Brugmansias for years, but I have been drawn particularly to the sub-species of Brugmansia Aurea. There is something about the way the Trumpet shaped flower holds itself out horizontally, or hangs down slightly nodding. The flowers are smaller than other species - around six to twelve inches long, firm with a waxy sheen, with long tendrils. They are long lasting, and bloom continuously rather than in flushes. The scent is very fragrant and intoxicating in the evening and early morning. It is always easy to spot an Aurea on account of its calyx covering a good part of the corolla. On pure species, you can note that the stamens are held apart from each other, not glued together as on other species.

They say that the growth of an Aurea is the strongest of all the Brugmansia sub-species, and makes a sturdy, large plant. The leaves are mostly large - certainly on the purer species. They can have a slight fuzzy feel to their oval shape which are either serrated or have strongly toothed edges. Because of the size of its



leaves, and its origins in the high valleys of the Andes, it would suggest that the plant itself is well suited to the cooler summer climates of perhaps Europe and Northern America, for example. It also equips itself very well to being battered by the wind and rain of an English summer.

Although Aurea means "Golden", they range from pure white, cream to yellow, to a rarely seen pink. However, more pinks have been introduced by means of hybridizing.



The challenge for us all is to grow a pure species of Aurea, such as the sometimes difficult Rothkirch, or the beautiful Goldenes Kornett. However, it is quite difficult to source a pure Aurea, and they are normally only found at botanical centres. So, it is no surprise that Aurea genes are becoming well known through hybrids more and more. The balance of hybridizing is not to dilute too far away from what makes it an Aurea, just as a rose with single petals is still a timeless classic.

There is no doubting the breeding efforts of our fellow hybridizers and members, here to re-create the essence of unmistakable Aurea gene. To name only a few wonderful hybrids like Rosalie, Shooting Star, Butterfly, Jenny Lind and

Archangel can only betray their strong Aurea origins, most notably as they first begin to flower.

I hope this article has highlighted the Aurea as a great Brugmansia to grow in your garden and the hope that we can help the pure species to be grown more widely - not just seen as exhibition plants in Botanical Parks.

# New Brugmansia Cultivar Names

Brugmansia Growers International would like to announce the following new cultivar names for new cultivars in the genus Brugmansia.

New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Ashoka'

Pod Parent: Color Point  
Pollen Parent: Double Dark Rosetta  
Hybridizer: Volker Sanders  
Seedling Parent: Elizabeth Fichtl  
Flower Form: Double or More  
Flower Color: Pink  
Flower Position: Nodding  
Flower Shape: Trumpet  
Foliage: Solid  
If Variegated, type of variegation: N/A  
Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis  
Comments: Fast growing tall tree. Flowers thick walled and fat. Corollas neat and close.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Belshazzar'  
Pod Parent: Ruffles and Flourishes  
Pollen Parent: New Orleans Lady  
Hybridizer: Elizabeth Fichtl  
Seedling Parent: Elizabeth Fichtl  
Flower Form: Double or More  
Flower Color: Orange  
Flower Position: Nodding  
Flower Shape: Trumpet  
Foliage: Solid  
If Variegated, type of variegation: N/A  
Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis  
Comments: Deep orange, medium sized flower. Multi-corollas with very long corolla teeth. Spicy/citrus scent. Although flowers are nodding, buds are held upright.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Joe's Girl'

Pod Parent: Miz Scarlett

Pollen Parent: Joli

Hybridizer: Brenda Bautista

Seedling Parent: Edna Murphree

Flower Form: Single

Flower Color: Very Dark Pink/Red/Burgundy

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If Variegated, type of variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: Has the appearance of a 'cold group' flower. Petite and has a perfectly formed calyx every time. Deep pink/red rich color. Blooms constantly and sets pods very easily.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Summer Daze'

Pod Parent: Jean Pasko

Pollen Parent: Vixen

Hybridizer: Elizabeth Fichtl

Seedling Parent:

Flower Form: Single

Flower Color: Orange

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If Variegated, type of variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: Cubensis

Comments: Small bloom, 8" from stem to corolla teeth. Because of small stature it is useful for breeding smaller blooms. Performs well in cooler temps and will bloom in semi-shade. Sets pods well, roots easily.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Samadhi'

Pod Parent: Dalai Lama

Pollen Parent: Angels Moonlight

Hybridizer: Elizabeth Fichtl

Seedling Parent:

Flower Form: Double or More

Flower Color: Orange

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If Variegated, type of variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: Waxy texture. Strong sweet fragrance.

Corolla tube yellow, mid-point becomes orange. Inner corolla deep orange. Very robust plant.



New Cultivar Name: *Brugmansia* 'Aries'

Pod Parent: Pink Perfektion

Pollen Parent: Dark Rosetta

Hybridizer: Volker Sanders

Seedling Parent: Edna Murphree

Flower Form: Double or More

Flower Color: Very Dark Pink/Red/Burgundy

Flower Position: Nodding

Flower Shape: Trumpet

Foliage: Solid

If Variegated, type of variegation: N/A

Species/Breeding History Set: cubensis

Comments: Red double with singles that have 10 tendrils. Very fragrant, blooms profusely and sets pods very easily.



## Fascinating Fasciation

By Dianne Wilson (Narambi)

On February 7th this year I noticed something different about a branch on my Brugmansia Pink Panther. It was about 5' tall, growing straight up and about 2' of it was fasciated. The branch had started growing from a horizontal branch lower down, and at about 3', started to flatten out in the typical fasciation growth. I could see the beginnings of a Y in amongst the tangled growth at the top, and the growth itself was starting to twist and turn, and in a couple more days had completely turned and started to grow downwards. My Daphnes often had fasciated branches with huge flower heads, so I thought that it would be interesting to see if it flowered.

February 19th, and what was a turn in the stem was now almost a full circle at the top. It was becoming difficult to photograph because all the time it was getting taller. I held the camera over the top and just clicked - it certainly was a tangle in there. I had to start pulling off the leaves so I could see. The left side of the stem had turned faster than the right - almost like the strength of the right side forced the left to turn.



On Feb 21st, if you looked carefully, you could see the first bud. A lot of the leaves were being squashed by the pressure. Don't forget the scarring was caused by me removing lots of small leaves. There were many Y's in amongst those leaves, but they had no hope of maturing. It was over 7' tall by then, and each morning it was taller. The speed of the growth was amazing. The top of the branch had divided with one part growing upward and the other part still going around in a circle.

March 6th, and the bud has grown significantly, a much wider than normal Pink Panther bud. I was trying not to get too excited by this, but it might have been the only opportunity to see what the fasciation did to the flower. There turned out to be three buds from the fasciated area.

On the March 14th the bud began to open, the corolla teeth were showing and amazingly there were ten of them, as compared to Pink Panther usually having five. Then four days later the flower opened... What a beauty! It was double the width of a normal corolla plus the ten corolla teeth. The average Pink Panther corolla was  $2\frac{3}{4}$ ". The fasciated corolla was  $5\frac{1}{4}$ ". As well as increase in size, the flower also had ten anthers instead of the usual five, two styles and stigmas, and two ovaries. The ovaries appeared to be joined at the base. The second flower wasn't as large. It had eight corolla teeth, eight anthers, plus 2 styles and stigmas, and again, two ovaries. The 3rd flower was, to me, the most interesting. It had ten corolla teeth and ten anthers, but the two styles were fused, and they were twisted like the fasciated branch. Quite amazing! The stigmas looked like two match heads on a strip of pasta. The two ovaries were fused together as well.

Naturally, I wanted to see if I could get a little pollen onto all of those stigmas, though I was doubtful that they would take because it was a very hot week around 30c. Fortunately, in a very short time the first two flowers produced two pods each that looked like twins. Sadly, just as the fused ovaries in the 3rd flower were beginning to



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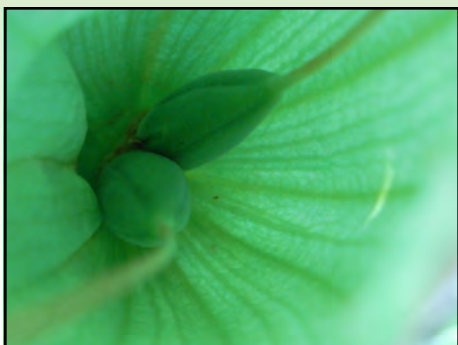
swell, we had a particularly violent storm, and a branch from a nearby Brugmansia broke off and landed on those interesting ovaries and snapped them and their corolla off.

Then, as quickly as it appeared, the fasciation stopped, and all of the growth from then on was normal, as were all of the flowers. So the fascinating fasciation only produced three flowers in total.

I live near the sea and the winds are very strong, so I've pruned all the top growth to stop it from snapping off and those two sets of twin pods are swinging away in the cold wind. I couldn't take the chance of losing it before the pods ripen.

A fellow Brugmansia fancier has used the pollen from the Pink Panther fasciated flowers, just to see if it carries any of the genes which altered the growth in those amazing flowers. He has been successfully pollinated two different cultivars. So while he waits for the pods to ripen, I do the same here. They

are about eleven weeks old now in the middle of June. Maybe growing out these seeds (if we are lucky enough to see them mature) isn't for the purists, but it has been so interesting watching Mother Nature's interference in the life of one plant, and just maybe, those seeds might produce something very interesting too.



## Blooms From Around The Globe



# Egg Rooting Method Results In!

By Nichole Diavonti (Nicci)

On December 21st, 2011, I started the egg experiment, from this thread:

<http://www.brugmansi...the-egg-method/>

This morning I found the time to repot and note the results. None were given any fertilizer of any kind during this test, and all were watered at the same time. Pots were placed alongside one another and had the same lighting.

The cuts were all taken from the same stem of 'Ecuador Pink.' All were dipped in 'Actinovate,' an organic anti-fungal.

1. 'Take Root' Hormone & Actinovate
2. Actinovate Dip only
3. Actinovate, Take Root rooting hormone & an Egg
4. Actinovate and Egg

The photos speak for themselves. Here's my take on using the eggs:

I had wondered what happened exactly to the eggs. They become hollow! As time goes by, they actually disappear from within. I guess the plant and/or the soil uses whatever nutrients are in them. Some have just a bit of something in them (but I didn't see any goo at all), because I used the egg method on almost all of my fall cuttings, and when I repotted them a week or so ago, some of the hollowed eggs broke. The smell was horrendous! But after quickly rinsing the shells in water (and throwing out the water), the smell dissipated.

I will be using this method again on the harder to root cultivars. The egg itself creates a hollow space (of course), that you will need to find when repotting. You'll need to repack that center spot with the new soil.

So, there are my results! I hope it helps some of you who've been wondering about doing this. If you can get past the smell at repotting time, and have a valuable or rare brug, this is the way to go!

