



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

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## ***Orchid Biology: Reviews and Perspectives***

**Volume IX of Scholarly Series Presents the Most Current Knowledge in Orchidology**

*Orchid Biology: Reviews and Perspectives, IX*, co-edited by Kenneth M. Cameron, Joseph Arditti, and Tiiu Kull and published by The New York Botanical Garden Press, presents the most current knowledge in orchidology in a broad range of scientific subjects. Volume IX is truly international in scope and diverse in subject.

The editors of this volume have continued the series' tradition of profiling an outstanding leader in the field by offering an autobiography of Calaway Dodson, whose research on the orchids of Ecuador continues to inspire generations of botanists. Through his many studies, Dr. Dodson has contributed significantly to our understanding of neotropical orchid pollination by bees, although some orchids have evolved unique strategies for attracting butterfly and moth pollinators. This is the subject of a chapter by the late Dutch orchidologist Nelis van der Cingel explaining that most orchids pollinated by Lepidoptera are native to temperate regions of the world. Temperate orchids are also the focus of a chapter by Russian orchidologist Irina Tatarenko, who presents a comprehensive survey of terrestrial orchid morphology, many studies of which were published originally in Russian or languages other than English.

Two chapters of the volume relate to France. For the first time in the series, an English translation is offered for a classic work of orchid scientific literature: the original writings on orchid seed germination by Noël Bernard. His fellow countryman Pierre Jacquet not only provides this outstanding translation, but also presents the historical contributions of French scientists to orchidology worldwide.

Botanical history is also the subject of a chapter on the origin of Singapore's national flower, the well-known hybrid orchid *Vanda* 'Miss Joaquim', which was first described in 1893. Finally, American Ken Cameron offers a thorough overview of the impact that DNA sequence data has made in orchid systematics by focusing on the first decade of contributions in molecular phylogenetic studies of Orchidaceae.

In keeping with tradition, the book concludes with a detailed appendix, the subject of which is species-by-species records from pollination to fruit ripening, seed maturation, and germination of orchids. This information will be particularly useful to horticulturists growing orchids from seed.

*Orchid Biology: Reviews and Perspectives* is a book series founded in 1977 by Joseph Arditti, the author of *Fundamentals of Orchid Biology* (1992) and *Micropropagation of Orchids* (1993). The series combines current scientific papers, popular writing, and an informative appendix with useful data from around the world for both scientists and hobbyists. Volume IX is the first in the series to be published by The New York Botanical Garden Press. The previous volume was published in 2002.

### **About The New York Botanical Garden Press**

The New York Botanical Garden Press ([www.nybgpress.org](http://www.nybgpress.org)) has one of the largest publishing programs of any independent botanical garden in the world and provides a means for communication of research carried out by scientists at The New York Botanical Garden and elsewhere. Begun in 1896, the program focuses on advances in knowledge about the classification, utilization, and conservation of plant life.

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