

Darlingtonia californica

A botanical drawing by Alex Mrkvicka

ALEX MRKVICKA of Vienna has sent in the botanical drawing of *Darlingtonia* on the back cover. His purpose was to show development of juvenile leaves and runners, along with a few other details around the border.

Beginning in the left upper corner and proceeding clockwise, he shows a flower without petals (stigma view), a flower without petals (lateral view), an intact flower, a maturing seedpod, an entire plant with developing runners extending toward the center of the drawing, three juvenile leaves developing, tip of underground runner developing plantlet, juvenile plant or seedling, and a seed.

This style of botanical illustration was very popular before the days of photography, and in some ways often shows more detail and interesting relationships than a photo.

