

***Cephalotus follicularis* ‘Dudley Watts’**

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Origins.

I obtained this *Cephalotus* clone from Dudley Watts in the late 1980's. For those of you relatively new to the CPS, Dudley was an early and active member of the CPS committee, particularly in the mid-1980's, being librarian and secretary in turn, and along with his wife Margaret organised CPS meetings in north London. I was very new to carnivorous plants at the time, and was lucky enough to visit Dudley's fantastic collection, which was a great inspiration to me. Dudley very kindly gave me a large specimen plant of *Cephalotus* during this visit, which has stood the test of time and turned out to be one of the better clones around and deserving of cultivar status.

Characteristics.

The notable characteristics of this cultivar are the large, dark coloured pitchers and a chunky, thickened, "oversized" peristome; I measured the percentage of the total height of the pitcher occupied by the peristome on a 'Dudley Watts' pitcher, which is 17% of its height, whilst on a more typical plant it is 14%. The pitchers of large specimens of 'Dudley Watts' are slightly constricted towards the mouth and have a pronounced crinkled appearance at the front. See Figure 1. The pitcher I measured for reference for this description is 59mm high, which contrasts with a more typical-sized plant at only 35mm. See Figure 2. I have previously estimated the colour according to the RHS mini colour chart as corresponding to RHS 187A (dark purple brown), although colour will vary depending upon growing conditions.

Cultivation.

The plant is slightly easier to grow than most other *Cephalotus* due to its vigour. It takes well from leaf cuttings and matures quickly. This cultivar requires good light to produce optimum colouration and all my plants are grown in a cool greenhouse, receiving full sun all day with no shading, apart from bubble plastic, with temperatures in the range of 5-35°C. I grow my plants in a mixture of approximately 1:1 peat substitute: perlite in relatively deep rose pots for mature plants. To preserve the unique characteristics of the plant it should only be propagated vegetatively via leaf or rhizome cuttings, or by division.

Etymology.

This cultivar has been known informally as *Cephalotus* "Dudley Watts" for many years, both in my own collection and subsequently by other growers who now also

grow it. The cultivar is proposed as ***Cephalotus follicularis* 'Dudley Watts'**, to formalise this name and in fond recognition of my source of this plant.

Figure 1. Fully coloured pitcher of *Cephalotus* 'Dudley Watts'

Figure 2. *Cephalotus* 'Dudley Watts' compared to a typically sized *Cephalotus* (note both pitchers are senescing so colours are atypical)

