

NEW CULTIVARS

Keywords: cultivar, *Sarracenia* 'Max Rawlings', *Dionaea* 'Cleopatra', *Sarracenia* 'Inspiration'.

Sarracenia 'Max Rawlings'

Submitted: 16 August 2018

Sarracenia 'Max Rawlings' is a cross between *S. leucophylla* and *S. × catesbaei* that I germinated in Spring 1990. I have named it after my first grandchild.

Both of the parents were purchased from Adrian Slack's Nursery, Marston Exotics. The height of the pitchers can reach at least 70 cm. The tubes of young pitchers are green at the base, gradually becoming red veined on a cream background near the mouth. As the pitcher ages, the red color can extend all the way to the base (Fig. 1).

The hood, which has downward pointing hairs on the interior, undulates around the edge and has a very pronounced upturned spur at the apex. In young pitchers, the hood has a cream background and very heavy red venation. As the pitchers age, the background color is a suffused beautiful pink and eventually red with deeper color red veins.

The flowers are an orange color with green umbrella and red petals, and are borne on a stem which often has a waviness near the top.

The plant should only be reproduced by vegetative means to ensure that its unique characteristics are maintained.

—CHRIS RAWLINGS • Weston • Bath • UK • cjrawlings53@gmail.com



Figure 1: *Sarracenia* 'Max Rawlings' young, intermediate, and old pitchers (right to left).

Dionaea 'Cleopatra'

Submitted: 2 September 2018

In August 2017, I bought this marvelous specimen of *Dionaea muscipula* in the supermarket garden-shop area, near the city of Ravenna (Italy). I do not know the origin of the carnivorous plants on the sales table. Many plants were dehydrated, almost dead, with leaves crumpled due to lack of water. Among these was a small *Dionaea* with three to four dry leaves. I could see some fused and colorless teeth.

I was taken by tenderness and purchased this plant at an extremely low cost.

After a year of proper cultivation, the plant shows itself in all its dazzling and overflowing splendor! Cultivated in pure peat and in an 8 cm deep polystyrene pot, in a greenhouse, slightly shaded, constantly in water, and frequently humidified with a rain system, the small dehydrated *Dionaea* is now in wonderful shape! As in the fairy tale of "Il Brutto Anatroccolo", this unique specimen can now show its truly extraordinary shapes and colors.

Dionaea 'Cleopatra' is a variation of *Dionaea* 'Fused Tooth'. The petiole of the trap is green with the central rib shaded red, the trap is a very dark red, tending to burgundy (Fig. 2). The edge of the trap, in the area at the base of the teeth, is so dark as to be black, incredibly black!

The bearing of the plant is rosette, prostrate. The leaves are 8-10 cm long and the traps have a rounded shape and reach 3 cm. All the leaves have a long life on the plant. The combination of all of these characteristics gives this unique specimen great charm.

This beautiful *Dionaea* risked dying, dehydrated in a supermarket, but she was lucky after that summer day. But I was very lucky too, now that every day I can enjoy this beauty and this charm.

The name, "Cleopatra", in honor and in memory of the sublime queen of ancient Egypt that fascinated men with her shape and large, black-lined eyes, as are the finest traps of this *Dionaea*.

Propagation by leaf or floral stem is necessary to maintain the unique characteristics of this plant.

—ANDREA AMICI • via dei Ciclamini, 47 • 40043, Marzabotto • Bologna • Italia • cephalotus@libero.it • <http://www.phylla.com/ilpigliamosche>



Figure 2: *Dionaea* 'Cleopatra' plant and traps.

Sarracenia 'Inspiration'

Submitted: 5 September 2018

If anybody asked us 15 years ago to create a plant looking like *Sarracenia flava* with black tube interior and white lid, we would simply say "Mission impossible!". But a plant exactly like this was obtained as a selection from a first generation of *Sarracenia* 'Adrian Slack' hybrids that we crossed in 2006. Mother parent and selection was performed by Miroslav Srba, pollen plant was from Michael King. This summer, when the sad report about Mr. Adrian Slack passing arrived, the growers' community discussed his contribution on social networks. All of us agreed, Adrian Slack made our hobby possible as he gave us a large amount of know-how and also great inspiration. Miroslav Srba contributed to the discussion with some photos of crosses that were derivative from *Sarracenia* 'Adrian Slack' with a comment that we would not have believed such plants were possible before. But the plant *S.* 'Adrian Slack' made it possible. Paul Young (UK) suggested therefore to dedicate one of the hybrids to Mr. Adrian Slack with epithet *Sarracenia* 'Inspiration'. So, do we.

Sarracenia 'Inspiration' (Fig. 3) is a seedling selected from the cross *S.* (*leucophylla* × *flava* var. *ornata*) × 'Adrian Slack'. This clone is labeled as clone "A" in Miroslav Srba's collection and also spread under his collection code *S.* HA19A.

Shape of the pitcher highly resembles *Sarracenia flava* with a typically narrow column and cordate lid. A massive, perfectly rounded peristome was inherited from *Sarracenia* 'Adrian Slack'. Although the initial coloration resembles the original coloration of *S.* 'Adrian Slack' (Fig. 4), the final coloration of fully matured pitchers turns far darker (Fig. 3a). Veins and the inside of the pitchers turn almost black under optimal conditions. Dark red veins are much stronger compared to *S.* 'Adrian Slack' (Fig. 4). The lid stays creamy white and is interwoven by very strong black veins (Fig. 3a). This is the typical appearance of the spring and summer pitchers. Late fall pitchers, if they appear, have usually a more diffused and less attractive color pattern (Fig. 3b). Size of the pitchers is slightly smaller compared to *S.* 'Adrian Slack', typically 45-60 cm tall, lid is 5-7 cm broad. The plant usually forms 3-5 pitchers during the growth season. The flower is yellow and looks almost like a pure *Sarracenia flava*, just the petals are slightly broader (Fig. 3c).

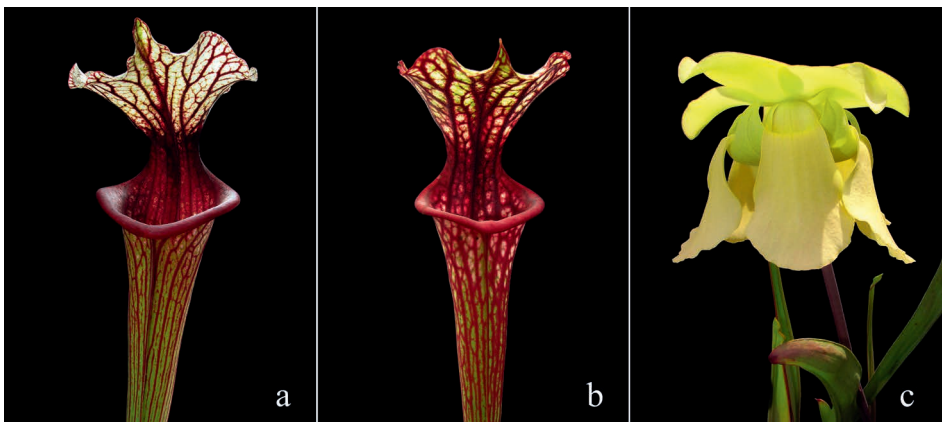


Figure 3: Typical features of *Sarracenia* 'Inspiration': a) typical coloration of spring and summer pitcher; b) rare late fall pitcher; c) flower.



Figure 4: Comparison of venation pattern and lid shape of a) *Sarracenia* 'Inspiration' and b) *Sarracenia* 'Adrian Slack'. Photo by Laurens Eggen.

Sarracenia 'Inspiration' does not require any specific growth conditions compared to other *Sarracenia*. Very sunny and hot conditions are required to obtain optimal coloration. To keep its original genotype, propagation must be by vegetative means only. *Sarracenia* 'Inspiration' is unfortunately not a very strong growing plant. Despite this, it is already well spread across European collections under its hybrid label or code mentioned above. A few specimens are also in circulation among U.S. growers.

—MIROSLAV SRBA • Horakov 156 • 664 04 Mokra • Czech Republic • srba@sarracenia.cz

—MICHAEL KING • Beaufort • Coppice Drive • Wrockwardine Wood • TF2 7BP Telford • Great Britain • mike@carnivorousplants.uk.com