

***Sarracenia* 'Troll'**

Stephen Morley, 5 Eden Cottages, Fangfoss, York, YO41 5QD

garden_of_eden@btinternet.com

Origins

This *Sarracenia* originated from a tray of seedlings brought to one of my open days several years ago by a visitor. The plants were labelled as *Sarracenia flava* var. *atropurpurea* self crosses, and I selected two young plants out of a tray at what I remember being an absolute bargain of a price!

Characteristics

The two plants I originally selected both appeared very similar in growth for a few years, and indeed resembled *Sarracenia flava* var. *atropurpurea* initially in shape and colour. One of the plants has remained a virtual dwarf, hardly increasing in size after the first couple of years, whilst the other has become gigantic in almost all proportions, and towers over almost all the *Sarracenia* in my lagoons; this is the plant selected as a cultivar.

The pitchers resemble *Sarracenia flava* var. *atropurpurea* superficially, however the pitchers are very large in growth with a wide, thick lip and a lid which is sometimes rather upright which makes the pitchers gape and accentuates the large mouth (Photos 1, 2, 3). Pitchers get to at least 80 cm high for me, with a mouth up to 8 cm across, opening green but quickly turning a dark purple red. The largest pitchers are often slightly distorted, slightly crinkled in the pitcher tube and sometimes with a rakish tilt to the lid. Pitchers are strong and robust, arising from a very large and vigorous rhizome.

Flowers are red, reminiscent of many a *moorei* I have grown, and so I suspect there is something else apart from *flava* in the make-up of this cultivar (Photo 4).

Cultivation

This cultivar grows as easily as any other *Sarracenia*, but is notably vigorous and quickly forms a large rhizome.

To preserve the unique characteristics of the plant, *Sarracenia* 'Troll' should only be propagated vegetatively.

Etymology

The cultivar is proposed as *Sarracenia* 'Troll', named for its gigantic and "monstrous" pitchers.

Photos



1 Mature plant



2 Mature plant



3 Mature plant



4 Flower