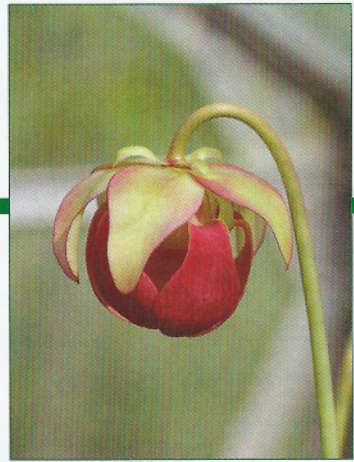




## *Sarracenia x excellens* "Vinaigrette"

Andy (Loakesy) Loakes



This new cultivar has tall robust pitchers emerging from a large rhizome which reach approximately 50cm (20inches). The curved, ruffled hood, which sometimes hangs over a wide mouth, is highly pink/red veined, and has white fenestrations which spread down the back of the hood, down the upper portion and sides of the pitcher. In full, bright sunlight (particularly as the leaves mature) this can become a bright red blush throughout the upper portion of the leaf, contrasted with pure white windows. In the spring, the plant produces a delicate-pink to deep-red flower with pink fringed, yellow sepals, on a tall stem.

The new pitcher is also blessed with a fragrance to a greater or lesser extent, which my wife thinks is similar to the scent of vinegar; but is not unpleasant, by any means – often strong enough to permeate throughout my greenhouse.

The leaves of this plant are very rigid, long-lasting and are invariably the last remaining hybrid pitchers in my collection, even late in the winter. The plant is also rather vigorous.

*Sarracenia x excellens* 'Vinaigrette' was originally grown by Doug Sizmur (from Farnborough in Kent), but it is not known where the plant originated prior to this. It came into the author's possession in 2006, and it quickly became obvious that this was a particularly spectacular plant. The plant is a cross between *Sarracenia leucophylla* and *Sarracenia minor*. It is not known which of these two is the seed parent, thus the parentage will be shown as *S. leucophylla x minor*.

In 2007 this plant won 1st prize at the Southlands Road Allotment and Gardens Association show for the best foliage plant, being awarded the Ron Parsons Memorial cup.

*Sarracenia x excellens* 'Vinaigrette' was originally known in the author's collection as *Sarracenia x excellens* "fragrant pitchers". 'Vinaigrette' was first coined in 2009 by the author because it reflects the vaguely vinegary smell emitted by the pitchers.

In order for this plant to retain its characteristics it must be propagated by division, not by seed/pollination.