

## ***Sarracenia* 'Richard's Red'**

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

[garden\\_of\\_eden@btinternet.com](mailto:garden_of_eden@btinternet.com)

### **Origins**

This *Sarracenia* originated from seed from a cross made by fellow enthusiast Adrian Fawcett. Several years ago, Adrian did a cross between *Sarracenia oreophila* var *ornata* "Sand Mountain" and *S. flava* var *atropurpurea* "Blackwater", and distributed the seed widely within the CP community in the UK. I germinated some of the seed, and grew it on and eventually selected several good clones from the batch of seedlings, distilling this down to what I consider to be the best plant, which happened to be clone #3 in my naming system.

### **Characteristics**

*Sarracenia* 'Richard's Red' inherits the early season pitcher production characteristic from its *S. oreophila* parent, and is often the first plant to pitcher in my greenhouse. Pitcher shape is intermediate between the two parents (Fig. 1).

Pitchers are smooth, stocky and self supporting, with a very wide mouth and the pitcher tubes flare rapidly up to the mouth. The pitchers are suffused with red before they open, initially being light red with a golden-green lip and lid when they first open, with a pronounced network of veins in the lid and throat (Fig. 2). The pitchers then quickly colour up further in full sun, eventually becoming very dark, purply-red, with an iridescent sheen, especially towards the throat area (Fig. 3). Cameras do not seem to capture the colour well, and usually show it as a mid-red.

Pitchers grown up to 70 cm tall for me, with a mouth up to 9 cm diameter

The hybrid thankfully does not inherit the early season dieback from the *S. oreophila* parent, and produces good growth throughout the season, and phyllodia in the autumn

## **Cultivation**

This hybrid is extremely vigorous, and quickly produces large rhizomes and multiple growth points, and propagates easily from division and cuttings.

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

## **Etymology**

The cultivar is proposed as *Sarracenia* 'Richard's Red', named after my beloved brother who died in 2016 after a heroic battle against an aggressive cancer. Anyone who has received a plant from me labelled "*Sarracenia oreophila* Sand Mountain x *S. flava* var. *atropurpurea* Blackwater clone 3" can relabel it 'Richard's Red'



Fig 1. *Sarracenia* 'Richard's Red' Whole plant, fully coloured.





Fig 2. *Sarracenia* 'Richard's Red' Early season pitchers with fingers for scale. Spring 2017.





Fig 3. *Sarracenia* 'Richard's Red' Fully coloured, late season pitcher.