



NOMENCLATURE



The written language of
Horticulture

Queensland
Orchid
Society



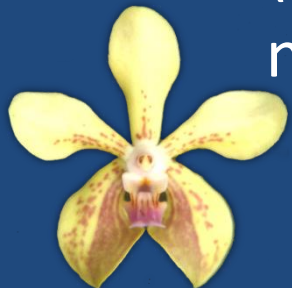
The Written Language of Horticulture

To write the names of orchids correctly we must understand the differences between species and hybrids, know the abbreviations for the various species and hybrids and follow a few simple rules



The Written Language of Horticulture

1. A species orchid occurs naturally in nature. Plants of the same species sometime vary in shape and colour. These are called varieties and given a special varietal name.
2. A hybrid is a cross between species or hybrids or a species and a hybrid.
(A Primary hybrid is a cross between two species.)
(A Natural hybrid is a cross that occurs naturally in nature.)



The Written Language of Horticulture

As an example we will look at the cattleya family

species

Brassavola

Cattleya

Laelia

Sophronitis

Broughtonia

abbreviation

B.

C.

L.

Soph.

Bro.



The Written Language of Horticulture

When a Cattleya is crossed with a Brassavola it becomes a Brassocattleya, abbreviated **Bc.**

When a Cattleya and Laelia are crossed it becomes a Laeliocattleya, abbreviated **Lc.**

When a Brassocattleya is crossed with a Laelia it becomes a Brassolaeliocattleya, abbreviated **Blc.**

When a Brassolaeliocattleya is crossed with a Sophronitis it becomes a Potinara, abbreviated **Pot.**

When a Broughtonia is crossed with a Cattleya it becomes a Cattletonia, abbreviated **Ctna.**



The Written Language of Horticulture

Why make these crosses

1. The Brassavola imparts large frilly labellums to the cross.
2. The Sophronitis imparts yellow, red, orange to the flowers.
3. The Broughtonia imparts dwarf structure, miniature clusters, good shape and flowers several times per year



LET US NOW LOOK AT HOW TO WRITE THE NAMES OF ORCHIDS

The following are a few rules that will assist in writing orchid names.

1. **Abbreviations:** The first letter is a capital – the rest is written in lower case, and always in italics or underlined, e.g. *Blc.* or Blc.
2. **All Abbreviations:** must be followed by a full stop, e.g. Slc.
3. **Species:** are written in **lower case only** and always in italics or underlined, e.g. *C. walkeriana* or C. walkeriana



LET US NOW LOOK AT HOW TO WRITE THE NAMES OF ORCHIDS

The following are a few rules that will assist in writing orchid names.

4. Only species orchids have varieties. The abbreviation for variety, **var.**, is written in roman letters but the varietal name **alba** is written in italics, or underlined – *C. walkeriana* var. *alba* or C. walkeriana var. alba
5. The clonal name (e.g. Pendentive) given to an orchid has a capital, is not in italics, is not underlined and has single quotes, e.g. *C. walkeriana* var. *alba* 'Pendentive' or C. walkeriana var. alba 'Pendentive'
6. A registered name of an orchid may not have more than three parts – e.g. Mary Ann Barnett



Names are broken up into parts called Terms

Using this method it makes orchid names easier to write
and understand.

<u>1st Term</u>	<u>2nd Term</u>	<u>SPECIES</u> <u>3rd Term</u>	<u>4th Term</u>
<u>Genus</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Variety within the species</u>	<u>Individual clone</u>
<i>C.</i>	<i>walkeriana</i>	<i>var. alba</i>	'Pendentive'
		OR	
<u><i>C.</i></u>	<u><i>walkeriana</i></u>	<i>var. <u>alba</u></i>	'Pendentive'

The label tells us that this orchid is a Cattleya species called **walkeriana** and that it is a white variety and is a special clone called Pendentive



Names are broken up into parts called Terms

Using this method it makes orchid names easier to write and understand.

<u>1st Term</u>	<u>HYBRIDS</u>	<u>3rd Term</u>
<u>Genus</u>	<u>2nd Term</u>	<u>Clonal name</u>
<u>C.</u>	Bactia	'Grapewax'

The label tells us that this orchid is a member of the Cattleya genus and is a hybrid registered as Bactia and that is a clone with a special name of Grapewax



UNREGISTERED HYBRIDS

<u>1st Term</u>	<u>HYBRIDS</u>	<u>3rd Term</u>
<u>Genus</u>	<u>2nd Term</u>	<u>Clonal name</u>
	<u>Registered name or grex</u>	
<u>C.</u>	Bactia	'Grapewax'
X		
<u>Rlc.</u>	Burdekin Storm	'Glow'

The label tells us that this orchid is a member of the Cattleya genus and is a hybrid between C. Bactia and Rlc. Burdekin Storm.

The first named orchid is the Pod parent and the latter the Pollen parent.



Front of Tag

When writing out tag start with the top of tag to the left and when tag is inserted into the pot plant name can still be seen.

C. Bactia 'Grapewax'

X

Rlc. Burdekin Storm 'Glow'



Rear of Tag

Ken Smart
1200
23/4/10
1/9/12

Its good to indicate where plant was purchased,
the Price,
the date purchased,
the date of the last time it was repotted,



AWARDS

Some times you will see on a label some odd groups of letters like:

AM/AOC FCC/QOS ACC/NSW

FCC	= First Class Certificate	85% or more
AM	= Award of Merit	80% or more
HCC	= Highly Commended Certificate	75% or more

These are the most common awards but there are many others

The AOC or QOS after the Award is the authority that issued the Award e.g.:

AOC = Australian Orchid Council

QOS = Queensland Orchid Society

NSW = Orchid Society Of New South Wales

VIC = Victorian Orchid Club

