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# New *Spathoglottis* in Cuba, Terrestrial Orchid of Great Adaptability to the Tropics



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## Summary

*Spathoglottis* is a genus of orchid that has assigned 47 species, naturalized in Cuba, originally from Southeast Asia and is a plant considered easy to grow. After several years of work, new cultivars of *Spathoglottis* are proposed, all results of artificial crosses carried out in the National Institute of Agricultural Sciences (INCA). It is registered in the database of the Royal Horticultural Society of England, Sander's List.

## Abstract

*Spathoglottis plicata* is non-epiphytic orchids with 47 species, naturalized in Cuba, it is original from the southwest of Asia and it is considered as a plant of an easy growth. After several years of study to propose new *Spathoglottis* all result of cross pollination artificial for Institute National of Agricultural Sciences. They are registered in the database of the Royal Horticultural Society of England, Sander's List.

**Keywords:** Hybrids; Ornamental plant; Flower; New genotype

## Introduction

Since 2009, the records made by the National Institute of Agricultural Sciences (INCA) constitute an important contribution to the history of Cuban orchid hybridization, by publishing a group of hybrids for the first time in the Complete List of Hybrid Orchids of Sanders, Royal Horticultural Society of England and in the Descriptive Catalog of Varieties of the Ministry of Agriculture, highlighting the terrestrial hybrids of the genus *Spathoglottis*, among them: Bella Lorena, Memory Celia Sánchez Manduley, Sabrina & Abel and Echoes of Festival.

## Origin and Characteristics of the New Hybrids

### *Spathoglottis* 'Memoria Celia Sanchez Manduley'

After the flower of *Spathoglottis* 'Bella Lorena' 'surged' Memoria Celia Sánchez Manduley', it is the result of the manual cross-pollination carried out in December 2008 between *Spathoglottis* 'Bella Lorena' and *Spathoglottis kimbaliiana* (carrier of pollen). The hybrid seeds were cultivated in vitro and the first plants bloomed in June 2010. This new hybrid has a special feature, its flowers are large, and its color is almost completely yellow. It is registered in the database of the Royal Horticultural Society of England and published in Orchids Review Supplement 119 (1293), March 2011, 18p [1].

### Characteristic (Figure 1)

Terrestrial, robust grass of 0.50m or little more including the

floral escape. Leaves plicadas, of 3- 5 by pseudobulbos. Floral cylindrical scape, up to 3per bulb, 50-60cm long, erect, distally densely bracteate, bracts elliptical to oval, light green, with a single flower in the axilla. Waxy flowers of 7.0-7.5cm in diameter, petals and yellow sepals with slight nuances of light pink. Lip yellow trilobulate, yellow lateral lobes with red freckles, suborbicular, stipulated central lobe with two erect callosities at the base of yellow stipe. Fruits of light green color [2].



**Figure 1:** Front view of *Spathoglottis* 'Memory Celia Sánchez Manduley'.

### *Spathoglottis* 'Ecos de Festivalia'

'Ecos de Festivalia', is the result of manual cross-pollination carried out in April 2009 between *Spathoglottis plicata* var. dark and *Spathoglottis unguiculata* (carrier of pollen). The hybrid seeds were cultivated in vitro and the first plants bloomed in January

2011, after 18 months of cultivation. This new hybrid has a special feature, can be grown in any container without extreme care needs and has a rapid growth. It is registered in the database of the Royal Horticultural Society of England and published in Orchids Review Supplement 120 (1299), September 2012, 49p [3].

### Characteristics (Figure 2)



Figure 2: Vista frontal de Spathoglottis 'Ecos de Festivalia'.

Terrestrial, robust grass of 0.50m or little more including the floral scape. Leaves plicadas, of 3- 5 by pseudobulbos. Floral cylindrical scape, up to 3per bulb, 50-60 cm long, erect, distally densely bracteate, bracts elliptical to oval, of a strong pink color, with a single flower in the armpit. Waxy flowers of 4cm in diameter, petals and sepals of intense purple color. Liplous trilobulate purple coloration, lateral lobes suborbicular, stipulated central lobe with two erect callosities at the base of the yellow stipe. Fruits of purple coloration [4-6].

### Spathoglottis 'Sabrina & Abel'

'Sabrina & Abel', is the result of manual cross-pollination carried out in October 2009 between *Spathoglottis unguiculata* cv. Grapefruit and *Spathoglottis kimbballiana* (carrier of pollen). The hybrid seeds were cultivated in vitro in the Biotechnology Laboratory of the Plant Genetics and Improvement Department and the progenies were distributed in patios of producers of this botanical family in the town of San Miguel del Padrón, City of Havana. The first plants bloomed in July 2011, after 18 months of cultivation. This new hybrid has a high ornamental potential demonstrated in different national events and is registered in the database of the Royal Horticultural Society of England and published in Orchids Review Supplement 121 (1303), September 2013, 57p [7-8].

### Characteristics (Figure 3)

Terrestrial, robust grass of 0.50m or little more including the floral scape. Leaves plicadas, of 3- 5 by pseudobulbos. Floral

cylindrical scape, up to 3perbulb, 40-50 cm long, erect, distally densely bracteate, bracts elliptical to oval, pink, with a single flower in the armpit. Flowers 5-5.5cm in diameter; petals and yellow sepals with intense pink margins. Lip trilobulate, lateral lobes suborbicular yellow with reddish dots, yellow stippled central lobe with pink border and two erect callosities at the base of yellow stipe. Very short column of 1-1.5cm pink. Fruits of green-purple coloration.



Figure 3: Vista frontal de Spathoglottis 'Sabrina & Abel'.

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