

ALSTERWORTHIA INTERNATIONAL

Cultivars & selected species
of the genus *Aloe*

Volume 3



Aloe 'Fiesta' Bleck ISI 2011-18.

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Aloe 'Brown Betty'. Karen Zimmerman. ISI 2013-11.

Parentage. *Aloe* 'Brown Betty' is a selection from the cross of Kelly Griffin's (KG) # 5 hybrid with Nathan Wong's 'Aumakua Mano', making it a sibling of *Aloe* 'Gargoyle'. The parentage of the two parents is elaborate and not fully recorded.

Description. *Cactus and Succulent Journal* No 2 2013.

Comments. 'Brown Betty', in winter, is reddish-brown splashed with cream, like some delicious desert. Some of the elongated, white spots surround pinkish-tipped teeth. In summer the brownish parts go green. The leaves, recurve, the margins are prominently lined with reddish, molar-like teeth. ISI plants were sold at \$15.

Propagation. Offsets. ISI plants are rooted from tissue culture of HBG 109996.

Aloe 'Chameleon'.

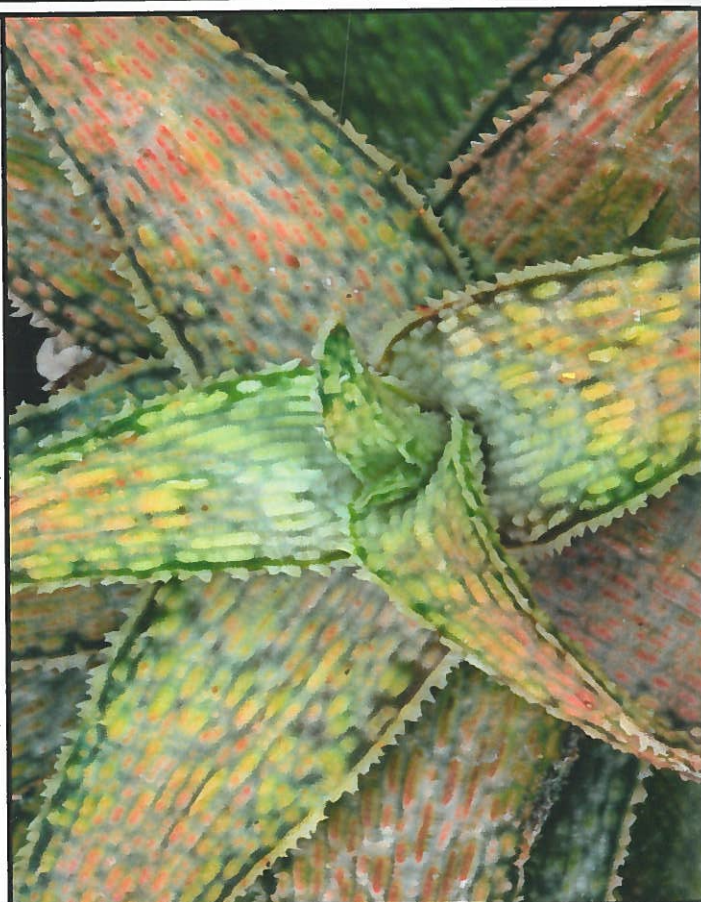
Karen Zimmerman. ISI 2013-12.

Parentage. *Aloe* 'Brown Betty' is from seed of KG # 5, but with pollen from *Aloe* 'Paul Hutchison', a dwarf clumper with toothy leaves selected by Dick Wright.

Description. *Cactus and Succulent Journal* No, 2 2013.

Comments. This hybrid is named for its chameleon-like, seasonal colour shifts. In summer, its rough, tuberculate, toothy leaves display diffusely intergrading shades of green with patches of translucent white, as if glazed with sugar icing. The leaf edges are darker green, offsetting the white-toothed, irregularly-serrate margins like those on the keeled heads of some chameleons. In late winter, the plants take on shades of pink and white, the serrate margins standing out even more next to the then darker brownish edges. The ISI plants sold for \$15.

Propagation Offsets. ISI plants were rooted from tissue-culture of HBG 109997.



Aloe 'Evil Twin'. ISI 2013-13.

Parentage. *Aloe sinkatana* x *Aloe harlana* made by Shannon Lyons in 1975 produced yellow and orange flowered plants. Later, of the five remaining plants three had subcapitate racemes of dusky orange flowers (see, *Aloe* 'Kujo'. Gary Lyons. ISI 2013-14) while two had

yellow flowers. Of the yellow-flowered, one had subcapitate racemes while the other stood out for its capitate inflorescences of bright yellow flowers. This latter plant was named *Aloe* 'Sophie' by Garry Lyons, after his and Shannon's daughter and propagated by tissue culture.

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Description. Cactus and Succulent Journal No. 2,2013.

Comments. Flowers yellow, sub-capitate raceme, with a few stray flowers along the stem. Clumping. Leaves dark green, scattered whitish, irregular spot on both faces, margins small spaced teeth.

Propagation. Cuttings. ISI plants were rooted plants from tissue culture of HBG 78549. \$8.



Aloe 'Sophie' Garry Lyons. ISI 2016-10.

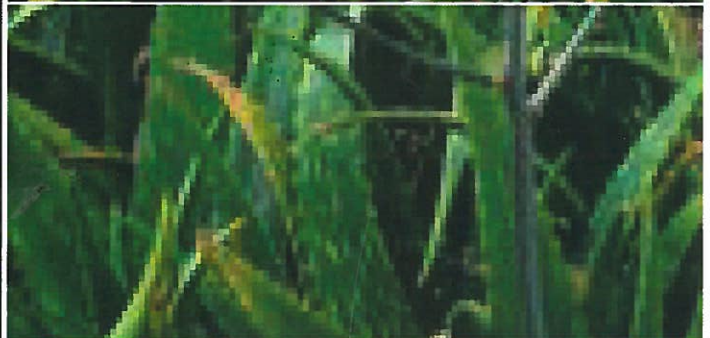
Parentage. A selected superior clone by Garry Lyons from the cross between *Aloe sinkatana* x *Aloe harlana* made by Shannon Lyons.

Description. Cactus and Succulent Journal No. 2. 2013.

Comments. The differences between *Aloe* 'Evil Twin' and *Aloe* 'Sophie' is in the flowers. *Aloe* 'Sophie' flowers are slightly shorter and the racemes are more distinctly capitate while those of 'Evil Twin' bear a few stray flowers along the peduncle below the capitate portion of the raceme. The flowers of 'Sophie' are a brilliant lemon-yellow and can be produced several times a year. Once a plant is established it will start to bloom and, as basal offsets form around the parent rosette, it seems that there



Aloe 'Sophie'



Aloe 'Sophie'

is almost always an inflorescence, coming or going, year-round.

Propagation. Cuttings. The ISI plants were rooted from tissue culture of HBG 77994. Their price was \$10.



Aloe 'Kujo'. Gary Lyons. ISI 2013-14.

Parentage. A Gary Lyons' selection of one orange flowered sibling of *Aloe* 'Sophie' which has yellow flowers.

Description. Cactus and Succulent Journal No. 2, 2013.

Comments. Kujo, a world-class break dancer of international acclaim, is the stage name of Jakob brother of Sophie, parents Garry and Shannon Lyons. *Kujo* is distinguished from *Sophie* by its orange flowers.

Propagation. Offsets. The ISI plants were rooted plants from tissue culture of HBG 78546. Price \$8.



Aloe 'Dragon' K. Zimmerman ISI 2010.

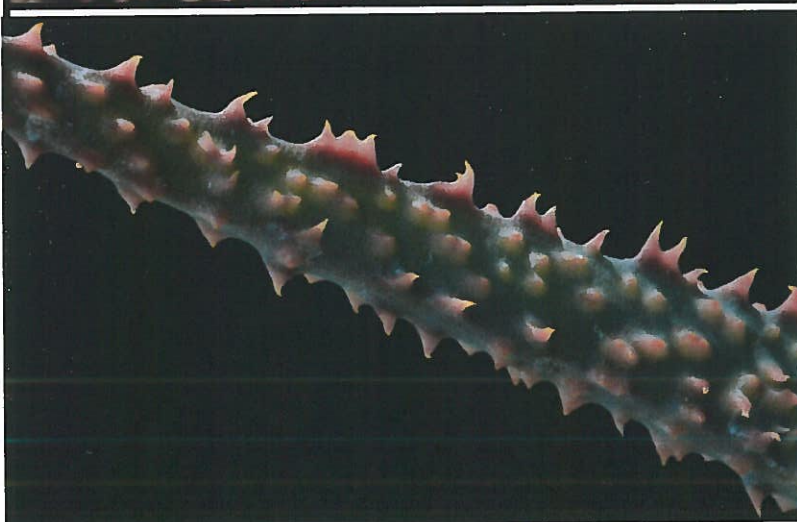
Parentage. *Aloe* 'Dragon' is an F2 hybrid, a cross of two clones (clones 1 and 2) of "kz#1" (a glasshouse plant number not a cultivar number the first interspecific hybrid Karen chose to hybridize further. kz#1 is a cross of *Aloe divaricata* × *Aloe parvula*).

Description. Cactus and Succulent Journal No. 2, 2010.

Comments. *Aloe* 'Dragon' has slender, arching, leaves. Pinkish teeth, more or less randomly disposed over a field of milky blue on all surfaces. The leaf edges are outlined with a row of more prominent teeth, some individual, others amalgamate to represent molar teeth.

The epithet was chosen in honour one of Karen's nephews, who is known by that nickname.

Propagation. Offsets. The ISI plants were tissue cultured. HBG 93165, \$15



Aloe 'Gargoyle' K. Zimmerman ISI 2010-13.

Parentage. Kelly Griffin's hybrid # 5 x Aloe 'Amakúa Manó', a hybrid by Nathan Wong of Honolulu, Hawaii.

Description. Cactus and Succulent Journal No. 2, 2013.

Comments. The recurved leaves are darkish green with straight edges, spaced, conjoined, red marginal teeth, gradually converging to a point at their tips. On both surfaces interrupted lines mainly of small, white teeth, occasionally with a raised, molar-like red tooth.

Propagation. Offsets. The ISI plants were tissue cultured. HBG



Aloe 'DZ' K. Zimmerman ISI 2010-12.

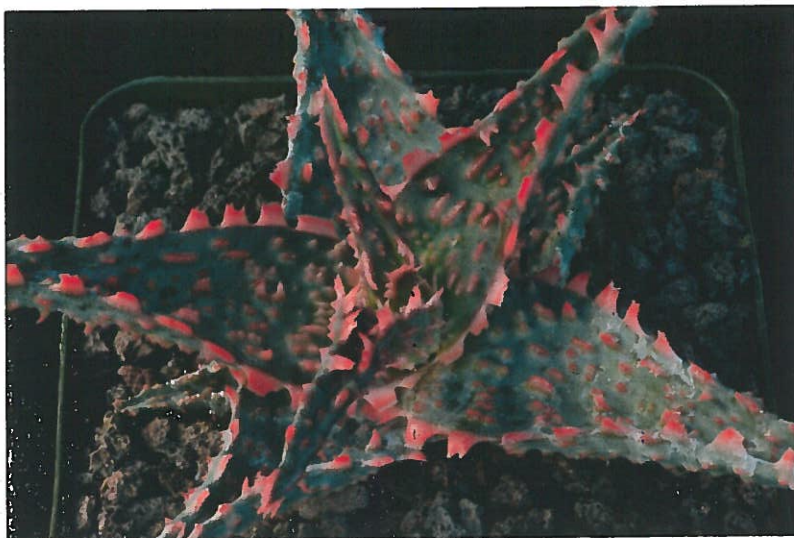
Parentage. Its parentage is complex: a cross of Karen's Aloe 'Confetti' which is a hybrid (Aloe 'Frank Reinelt' by Dick Wright x Aloe 'Dental Work' by Kelly Griffin) with kz#1 (Aloe divaricata x Aloe parvula Clone 1), one of the parents of Aloe 'Dragon'. It was named for Debra Zimmerman who has inspired some of Karen's best work.

Description. Cactus and Succulent Journal No. 2, 2012.

Comments. It has broader leaves than Aloe 'Dragon' but even more prominent reddish teeth against a glaucous though greener back-ground. Note also the difference in the marginal teeth shown in the Photographs.

Propagation. HBG 93166. ISI price \$15.





Aloe 'Oik'. Karen Zimmerman ISI 2013-15.

Parentage. *Aloe* 'Confetti' (an earlier unintroducted Zimmerman hybrid) x KZ # 1 (*Aloe divaricata* x *Aloe parvula*).

Description. Cactus and Succulent Journal No. 2, 2013.

Comments. Fairly short, triangular, bluish to greenish leaves, depending on the season, covered with irregular, broad, often multi-pointed and therefore ragged-looking, pinkish-red teeth on the margins, while the surface teeth are conical or merged to form raised dashes. Leaf apices are often bilaterally compressed with jagged teeth reminiscent of some medieval weapon. The "oik", in its mildest connotation, is British for a rambunctious child.

Propagation. Offsets. ISI plants were tissue cultures of HBG 109998. The price was \$15.



Clump of *Aloe* 'KU Flame'

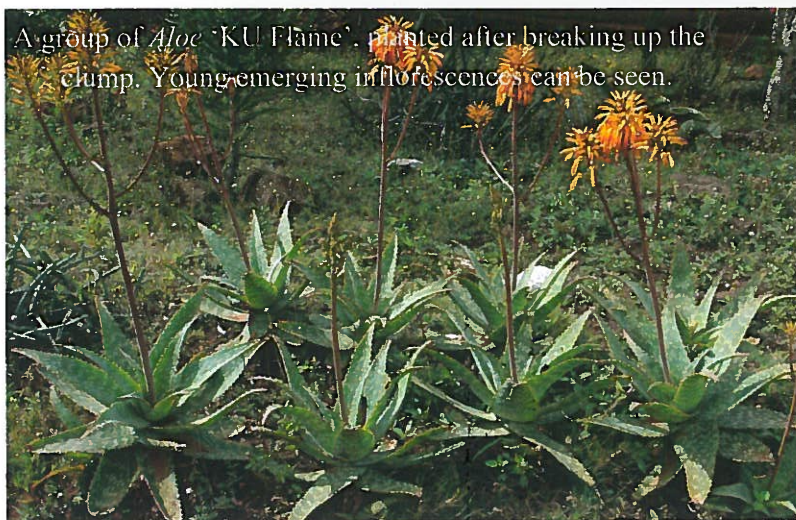
Aloe 'KU Flame' Leonard E. Newton.

Parentage. Uncertain = cross pollinated in Len Newton's garden in the grounds of Kenyatta University (KU), in all probability by humming birds.

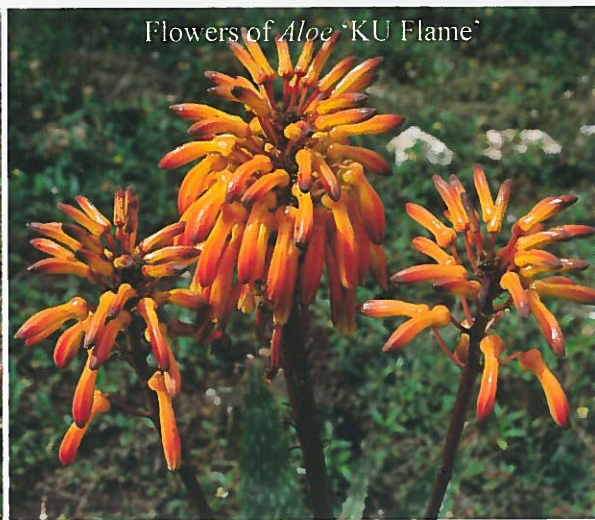
Description. *Alsterworthia* International. Volume 15. Issue 2. 9 July 2015

Comments. *Aloe* 'KU Flame' is similar to *Aloe lateritia* var. *graminifolia* in growth habit, but with yellowish-orange flowers produced almost continuously on a large clump. Perianth yellow-orange (23A) at base, becoming darker orange (24A) towards mouth, where the lobes have a narrow yellow (7A) margin. (Colours as in RHS Colour Chart 1966). It suckers to form dense clumps. Leaves are maculate. Flowers are yellowish orange.

Climate at KU. About 5500



A group of *Aloe* 'KU Flame', planted after breaking up the clump. Young emerging inflorescences can be seen.



Flowers of *Aloe* 'KU Flame'

feet above sea level, 80 km south of the Equator. Temperature ranges from about 11° in the cold months (July-August) to over 30°C in the hottest. Plants survive on rainfall. Two wet seasons: "Long rains" about late

March to early June, "Short rains" late October-early November. In temperate climates grow in a greenhouse.

Propagation. By division of clumps.

***Aloe mitriformis* Mill. forma *variegata*
MG 0378**

Parentage. A bicoloured selection of *Aloe mitriformis* (synonym *Aloe perfoliata*), a South African mountain and winter rainfall species growing at altitudes of 1200 to 1500 m. in the Western and Northern Cape from near Genadendal in the south to the Bokkeveld Mountains near Nieuwoudtville in the north

Description. Not traced. If one does not exist this publication will establish the name.

Comments. As for the species except that the short, broad, fleshy, bluish-green, erect to incurved leaves have variable broad to narrow, prominent to less prominent, yellow markings on the edges and both faces a leaf. These features are the common to each leaf, rosette and clone but the nature of them is variable from leaf to leaf, rosette to rosette and clone



to clone as can be seen from the two photographs.

The species name, *mitriformis*, is derived from the shape of the rosette which resembles a mitre or a bishop's cap, especially during times of drought. The cultivar, as with the species, will at first grow upright then as it ages will lean over and creep along the ground with only the tip curved upwards. The flowers are bright orange-red but may not appear readily.

Propagation. Offset and stem cuttings - select those which have good variegation.

Aloe 'Rooikappie' Giddy ISI 2004-13.

Parentage. An open pollinated *Aloe sinkatana*, male unknown. 'Rooikappie', pronounced 'roy-copy' is Afrikaans for Little Red Riding Hood. *Aloe rudikoppe* & *Aloe* 'Little Gem' are recorded synonyms.

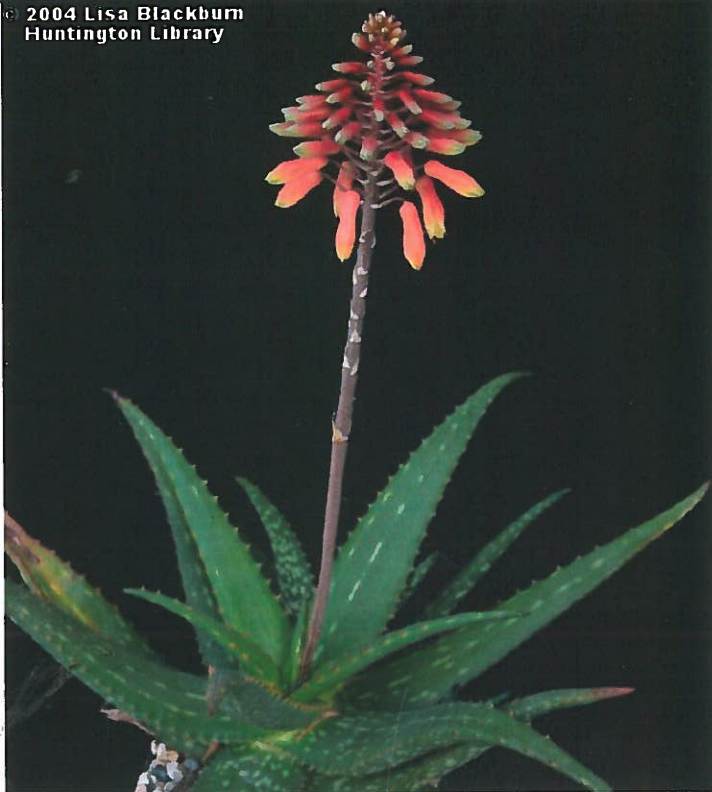
Description. C. & S J. 2004 No. 2. This cultivar was listed in Umlaas Aloe Nursery catalogue 1974.

Comments. It has characteristics of an ideal landscape aloe: its 30 cm rosettes are large enough to make an impact in a small landscape (or can be massed for larger-scale displays) yet are small enough to be easily handled and transplanted as needed; its foliage is attractively spotted and is not prone to the tip die-back or other blemishes that seem to plague many other

medium-sized aloes; it is a repeat bloomer, deriving its floriferousness from *Aloe sinkatana*. It clumps readily.

Propagation. Cuttings. ISI plants, HBG 32501, were tissue-cultured by Rancho Soledad Nursery plus some offsets from the Huntington Bot. Gdns. own stock. The price of the I.S.I. plant was \$7.50.

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Aloe 'Wunderkind' Kemble ISI 2004-16.

Parentage. It is derived from a choice form of *A. deltoideodonta* (distributed as var. nov. by Abbey Garden). An attempted cross with pollen of *A. somaliensis* var. *marmorata* was unsuccessful, but the plant apparently selfed.

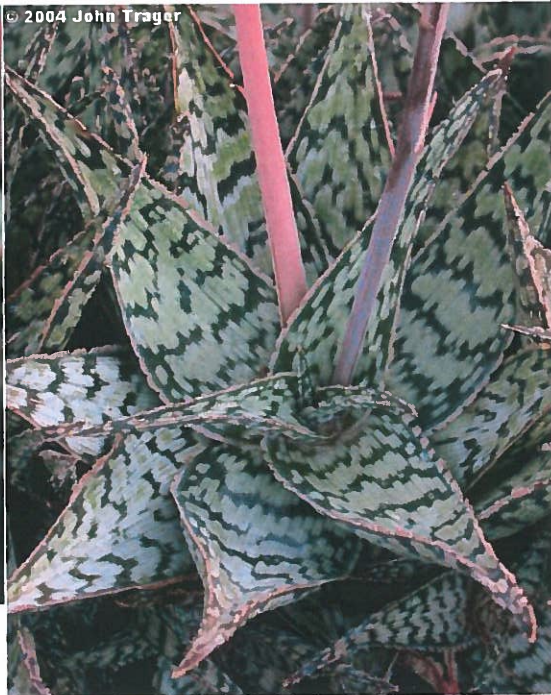
Description. Brian Kemble, curator at the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek, CA and noted aloe and agave expert, selected this vigorous cultivar for publication in the C. & S. J. 2004 No. 2.

Comments. 'Wunderkind' is characterized by beautiful, white-spotted, tuberculate leaves with marginal teeth joined into elongate, molar-like groupings as in the parent, but it offsets prolifically while the parent is largely solitary. In addition, its showy upright inflorescences of pinkish flowers make it a worthy addition to the range of dwarf container specimens or rockery subjects.

Propagation. Rooted offsets of HBG 90214. I.S.I. price was \$8.50.



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Parentage. Red-flowered form of *Aloe pearsonii* x *Aloe distans*.

Description. C. & S. J.2007 N0 2.

Comments. In the summer of 1991, Brian Kemble, noted student of the genus *Aloe*, created this uncommon hybrid of two species from South Africa's Mediterranean climate. The seed parent was the red-flowered form of *A. pearsonii*, a species many find difficult to grow and flower. It forms spectacular colonies of erect, columnar branches covered with red-blushed leaves, in the Hellskloof, a montane region of the Richtersveld in the N. Cape. The pollen parent was the related *Aloe distans*, an easier species from the coast with more freely produced, larger heads of flowers. "I suggested the cultivar name 'Hellskloof Bells', a play on the term "hell's bells". Webster's defines the term as "an interjection to indicate vexation or surprise". The surprise was mine as this was the first hybrid of *Aloe pearsonii* I had seen. Another allusion suggested by the cultivar name is to the beautiful romantic tune from *The Music Man* that Paul McCartney re-recorded for a younger generation: "There were bells in the hills, but I never heard them ringing" (until Brian made the cross). These are two species that would never have come together except by the hand of a creative hybridizer. A final allusion is to the pendent (bell-like) flowers.



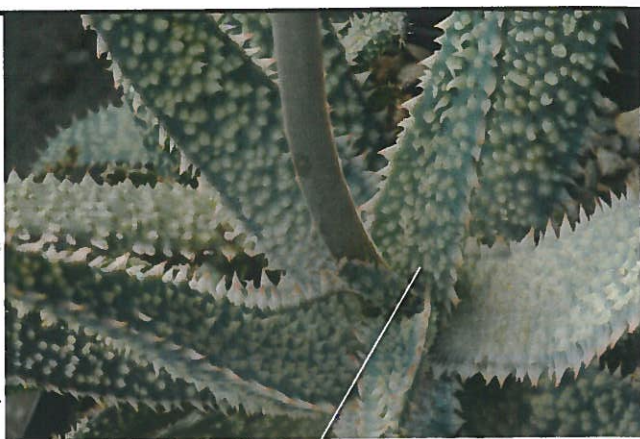
Propagation. "The five seedlings resulting from this cross are vegetatively quite uniform. Of the two clones illustrated here one is red flowered, the other paler. We have been too busy propagating the third clone, offered here, to have flowered it. Time will tell where its flowers will fall on the colour spectrum." Rooted cuts of HBG 95206. \$10.

Aloe 'Princess Jack' K. Zimmerman ISI 2011-20.

Parentage. *Aloe* 'Princess Jack' is a sibling of *Aloe* 'Dragon', ISI 2010-12, which is an F2 hybrid, a cross of two clones (clones 1 and 2) of "kz#1". kz#1 is a cross of *Aloe divaricata* × *Aloe parvula*.

Description. C. & S. J. 2011-20 No. 2.

Comments. *Aloe* 'Dragon' has slender, arching, leaves with pinkish teeth against a field of milky blue. In 'Aloe 'Princess Jack'' the leaves are wider and bear a denser covering of larger, whiter teeth. Like its sibling, its name is derived from a combination of nicknames, this time for Karen



Zimmerman's niece.

Propagation. Offsets as rooted plants. The ISI plants were rooted offsets from tissue culture of Huntington's 104725.



Aloe 'Fiesta' Bleck ISI 2011-18.

Parentage. (*A. bakeri* × *A. parvula*) × *A. parvula*.

Description. C. & S. J. 2011 No 2.

Comments. This is one of John Bleck's collector series selected from his 1980s hybridization program. Most of

his named selections have been offered through the ISI. This one has been only sparingly available because it is slow to propagate.

Tissue culture has sped up this process so that we can now officially publish the name and distribute the plant more widely. It forms dense, eventually somewhat columnar rosettes of recurved leaves. Its toothiness and mottled coloration resemble those of a brittle sea-star, characters contributed by its parents. The leaf and flower colours are clear in the photos

Propagation. Offsets and leaf cuttings. ISI plants are rooted offsets of HBG 52125, a plant received from John Bleck (# 1488) in 1984. \$8.



Aloe 'Vulcan's Fire' G. Lyons. ISI 2011-21.

Parentage. The plant came to the Huntington in 1937 from a Ms. G. E. Clarkson, a collector in South Africa at the time. It was received as *A. aculeata* but appears to be an open-pollinated hybrid of that species, perhaps with *A. cryptopoda*.

Description. C. & S. J. 2001 No 2.

Comments. This newly-named cultivar has "lived long and prospered" in the Huntington's Desert Garden for more than 70 years. However, the cultivar name is not a reference to Star Trek but rather harkens back to Greek mythology. Vulcan is the Roman version of the Greek mythological god of fire and smithery, Hephaestus. The cultivar name, then, alludes to both the flame-like floral display and the cool, steely grey colour of the foliage. *A. cryptopoda* would contribute to the bicolored inflorescences which consist of few-branched panicles bearing two to five attenuate racemes. These bear tightly-packed, blood-red buds (of a deeper-hue than most aloes) that open yellow. The rosettes are 50 to 60 cm across, composed of glaucous, grey leaves with a few prickles in a line on the backs of the leaves, reminiscent of *A. aculeata*, but that species has more prominent, scattered prickles. The buds become showy with colour by mid to late December and flower through January in a spectacular mass planting in the upper Desert Garden.

Propagation. The plants are very slow to offset, so this offering was made possible with the advent of a tissue-culture lab at the Huntington. ISI plant are from tissue culture of HBG 7361. Their price was \$7.



Aloe 'Firebird' Trager ISI 2008-7.

Parentage. *A. descoingsii* x *A. thompsoniae*

Description. C. S. J 2008 No. 2.

Comments. A few rosettes of this plant have made their way into cultivation in the three decades since its creation, but the cultivar name 'Firebird' has not been officially published until now. Shannon Lyons hybridized *A. descoingsii* with *A. thompsoniae* to yield this floriferous plant with spotted recurved leaves.

'Firebird' looks like a slender-leaved version of the Bleck hybrid, *A. 'Cha Cha'* but bests it in producing conical racemes of narrow, urceolate, bright red-orange flowers almost unceasingly.

Propagation. Rooted offsets of HBG 89468. ISI price \$8.



Aloe zebrina 'Chapple's Yellow' Trager ISI 2008-12.

Parentage. Selection of wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. 2008 No. 4.

Comments. This rare yellow-flowered variant stands out in the field of maculate aloes, a reference to their typically white-spotted leaves, that are difficult to distinguish from one another. In *A. zebrina* the leaves are arranged in compact rosettes that offset to form colonies, and the leaf-spots are grouped into bands. The leaves dry naturally at the tips, even under lush growing conditions, so this should not be a cause for concern in cultivation. The flowers are normally a dull



pinkish colour. The selection offered here has been maintained in cultivation for more than 30 years by Anthon Ellert, first in the former Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and then in Tucson, Arizona, since 2001. He acquired a start of the plant from the late Roy Chapple, a medical officer for Rhodesia Railways. Chapple collected some of this distinctive form during his journeys on the railways through the territory of Botswana, at the small village of Hildavale. Among its virtues, according to Ellert, are that this form grows equally well in full sun or part shade and will tolerate light frost.

Propagation. Rooted offsets. ISI plants were rooted offsets of HBG 97464. Price \$7.

Aloe 'Macho Pink' Bleck ISI 2008-9.

Parentage. A selection made and named by Bleck number 1372A, from (*A. descoingsii* x *A. parvula*) x (*A. albiflora* x *A. bellatula*).

Description. C. & S. J. 2008. No. 2.

Comments. This somewhat conflicted hybrid is another developed by John Bleck in the early 1980s, but still not as widely distributed as it deserves. It is one of Bleck's "first four introductions" series developed for their desirable flowers which



are produced nearly non-stop throughout the year. Its floriferousness is derived from its Madagascan parents, in particular *A. descoingsii* and *A. parvula*, while the narrow, campanulate flowers on slender, erect inflorescences and pinkish, white-tipped petals combine features of *A. albiflora* and *A. bellatula*. The rosettes have more or less slightly curved leaves, dark green covered in randomly spaced white spines.



Propagation. Rooted cuttings. ISI plants were rooted offsets of HBG 52127. Price was \$8.

***Aloe erythrophylla* Bosser ISI 2002-10.**

Parentage. Wild plants.

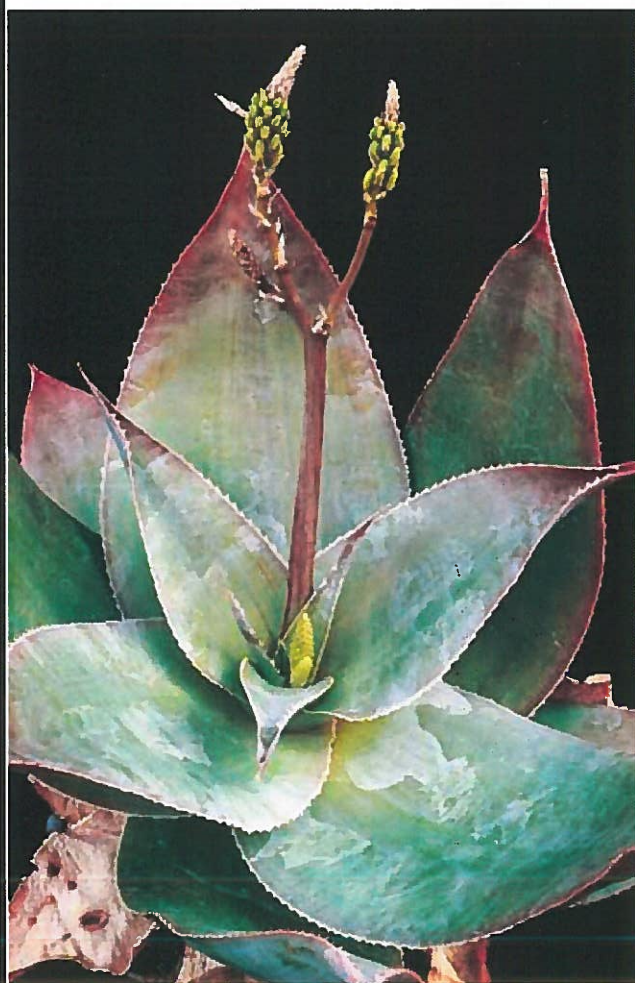
Description. C & S. J. 2002 No. 2.

Comments. Named for the tendency of the leaves to blush red in bright light, especially when stressed from cold or drought, this is perhaps the most strikingly-coloured Madagascan aloe.

Propagation. HBG 85172 (I.S.I. 2002) are plants grown from seed collected by controlled pollination from plants collected by Rösli & Hoffmann, number 4495, Dec. 4, 1995, growing on quartz rocks south of Col d'Iremo, Madagascar. The ISI price was \$8.50.



***Aloe imalotensis* Reynolds ISI 2002-11**



Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. Vol. No. ?

Comments. Allied to *Aloe laeta*, *Aloe imalotensis* (synonym: *Aloe contigua*) has similar foot-wide rosettes and broad, ovate, finely lineate leaves, the pinkish margins lined with fine teeth.

Reynolds compares the species to the South African *Aloe striata*, of which it resembles a smaller version except for its less fleshy leaves and marginal teeth.

The inflorescences are two-branched (or solitary or, rarely, three-branched), bearing short conical racemes of flowers with a lovely Cate Blanchett-like pallor.

Propagation. The ISI plants were from controlled pollination of HBG 76400, from seed collected by M. Kimnach (3418) near the border of the Isalo Reserve, W of Ranohira, Madagascar. They were priced at \$7.50

Aloe krapohlana Marloth ISI 2002-12.

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J, 2002 N2.

Comments. This miniature is native to the arid winter-rainfall regions of South Africa. Its rosettes are generally under 6" across and are composed of relatively few plump leaves, convex on both surfaces and often beautifully marked with whitish bands resulting from varying deposition of cuticular wax. The flowers, too, are quite showy, large for the size of the plant, bright orange and arranged in dense racemes.

The photograph shows all the above features plus the habitat. If you look carefully at the leaves you will see the transverse white bands of cuticular wax.



Propagation. Offsets and seed. ISI plants were from controlled pollination of HBG 81002, plants grown from seed collected by R. & R. Saunders at Grootvlei Pass, N. Cape, S. Africa. The price was \$7.50.

Aloe striata Haw ISI 2002-13.

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. 2002 No 2.

Comments. This species is not nearly as common in cultivation as nursery catalogues might indicate, since most listings actually refer to look-alike hybrids. Though the *A. striata* genes dominate, these hybrids are recognizable by their toothy leaf margins and offsetting tendencies, which lends to their vegetative propagation, explaining the predominance of the imposters. Also, the entire margins are unusual among aloes. Only upon close inspection are the most minute denticles evident. The margins are especially prominent when grown in bright light, which gives them a lovely coral-pink hue that contrasts with the light-green, lineate leaf-surface. The flat-topped panicles bear bright orange flowers in winter and may be sufficiently long-lasting to coincide with the rapidly developing fruits that resemble plump green grapes.

Propagation. The true species is almost always solitary and therefore must be propagated by seed, only exceptionally by offsets. The ISI plants were second generation seedlings of HBG 81005, from seed originally collected by E. Aslander in the Oukloofberge, just S of the town of Prince Albert, W. Cape, S. Africa. \$5.



***Aloe (Lomatophyllum) prostratum* Perrier ISI 2002-31.**

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. 2002 No 2.

Comments. With its dark reddish, contorted leaves, plants of this species are like vegetable octopi prowling the terrestrial limestone reefs of southern Madagascar. They bear few-flowered racemes of pastel orange flowers in early summer followed by long-lasting, yellowish, berry-like fruits. The name *Lomatophyllum* means "fringed leaf", but it was the fleshy fruits that were characteristic of the genus *Lomatophyllum*. As a result of DNA studies *Lomatophyllum* is now included in the genus *Aloe*.

Propagation. HBG 87324, from controlled pollination of Rösli



and Hoffmann s.n., collected Nov. 1991 in the Zombitsy forest near Sakaraha, Madagascar. \$7.50.

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***Aloe delphinensis* Rauh ISI 2004-10.**

Parentage.. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. 2004 No. 2

Comments. This species displays a crane-like combination of leggy awkwardness and grace. In the original description, Rauh related it to *A. bakeri*, but it differs from that dwarf Madagascan species in its lax rosettes of unspotted, strappy leaves. The flowers are similar, however, though more slender and colourful. These are borne in few-flowered racemes that are often subcapitate by virtue of abortion of the apex. The name is a Latinization of Ft. Dauphin, the French name for Tolanaro.

Propagation. Rooted cuts of HBG 90210, the type clone, a plant from Razafindratsira collected near Tolanaro, Madagascar where it grows with *Pachypodium cactipes* and *Aloe schomeri* on rocks. The ISI price was \$8.

Lomatophyllum aff. prostratum Perrier ISI 2002-32.

Parentage. Wild plants

Description. C. & S. J. 2002 No 2.

Comments. Perhaps less exotic-looking than the more typical form of *L. prostratum* (left), this is still beautiful, with white-spotted, flexible, green leaves and bright red flowers in autumn. If pollinated, the berry-like fruits that follow are green at maturity.



Propagation HBG 84535, from controlled pollination of plants collected by Rösli and Hoffmann (3495), Nov. 25, 1995, on quartzite in a forest at Analalava, Madagascar. I.S.I. was \$7.50.



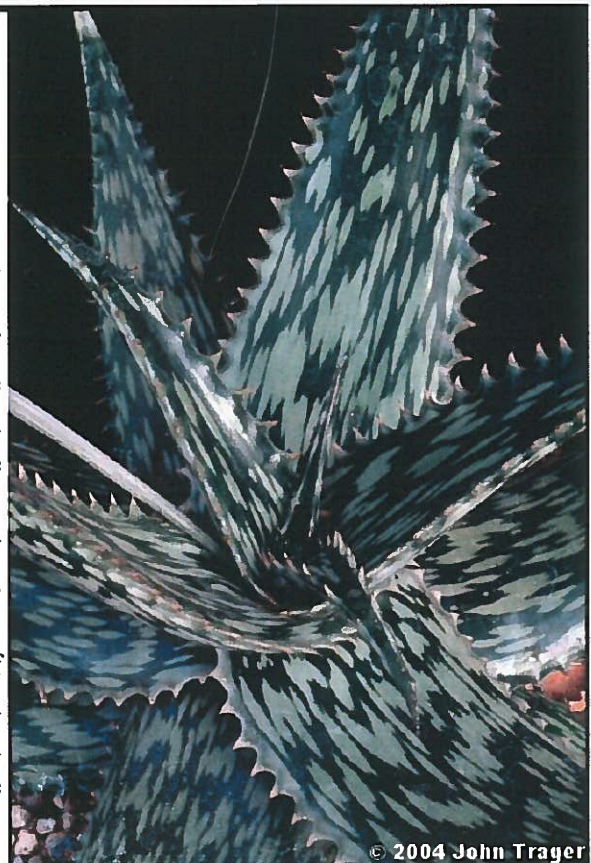
Aloe hemmingii Reyn. & Bally ISI 2004-11.

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. 2004 No 2.

Comments. 2003 The I.S.I. offered *A. harlana*, one of the most beautiful aloes because of its attractively white-spotted, glossy, dark-green leaves. *A. hemmingii* is equally desirable. It is native to Somalia rather than Ethiopia so is not quite as hardy, and the flowers are a more subdued, dusky pinkish rather than glossy red to yellow. Reynolds relates it to the similar but smaller *A. jucunda*. After many years of cultivation, we finally managed to catch our two parent plants in simultaneous flower to produce the seed for this offering.

John Trager



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Propagation. Seedlings from controlled pollination of HBG 22803 and HBG 50742. The former is ISI 793 (distributed in 1973), Lavranos 6816, collected in the Daloldo Hills, N of Hargeisa, Somalia. The latter (illustrated here) is a propagation of the type collection made by P. R. O. Bally (B7146), June 1, 1949, near Sheikh Pass, some 300 km. W. \$9.50.

***Aloe krapohliana* var. *dumoulinii* Lavr ISI 2004-12.**

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. 2004 No. 2.

Comments. One of the choicest dwarf South African aloes, this superficially resembles a small, plump *A. brevifolia*. The flowers are much showier, a richer orange and large for the size of the plant. They are arranged in dense racemes, several of which may be produced from a single mature rosette, though these tend to clump compared with the typical variety. These features recommend it as a parent for hybridization to produce small landscape or rockery subjects. Work is under way toward this end, but in the meantime we have produced true seedlings,



Propagation.

HBG 90211, through controlled pollination of plants from several sources. The variety is known from only a couple of populations in the N Cape Prov. of S Africa on white quartzite hills SE of Alexander Bay. The I.S.I. was 8.50.

***Aloe vaotsanda* Decary ISI 2004-14.**

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C & S. J. 2004 No. 2.

Comments. This imposing Madagascan aloe not only sounds like *A. vaombe* but also shares several features with it as well. Both form large solitary rosettes up to 1.5 m across of recurved leaves atop a trunk reaching 4 m or more. In fact, the two are so similar as to be indistinguishable when not in flower. In flower they are quite distinctive, the racemes of *A. vaombe* being erect, those of *A. vaotsanda* with an unusual drooping aspect in bud, then oblique at anthesis (an excellent photo may be found on page 239 of the Nov—Dec 2003 issue of the Cactus and Succulent Journal). The ranges of the two species overlap, further complicating identification of non-flowering plants in the field.

Propagation. The I.S.I. plants, HBG 90212, were grown from seeds collected Nov 20, 2001, by Rösli & Hoffmann (2401), at Lac Anony, Amboasary, Madagascar. Price was \$7.50.



Aloe vogtsii* Reynolds ISI 2004-15.*Parentage.** Wild plants.**Description.** C.& S.J. Vol. No. 2.

Comments. This species belongs to the saponaria group of aloes, and its leaves bear prominent H-shaped spots elongated along and connected by lineations. The inflorescences are open panicles with spreading, bicolored buds that open into pendent, bright red-orange flowers usually with paler tips of white or yellow.

Propagation. From controlled pollination of HBG 81822, plants from seed collected May 30, 1995, by C. Craib s.n. at the summit of the Soutpansberg, ca. 20 km W of Mountain Inn, N Prov., S. Africa. ISI price was \$7.50.

***Aloe pseudoparvula* J. Castillon ISI 2007-14.****Parentage.** Wild plants.

Description. Described in 2004 (KuaS 55(8): 218 - 221)

Comments. This is an *Aloe parvula* ally which was named for its resemblance to that familiar species. It differs in its flatter rosettes of broader leaves with fewer tubercles and in its larger flowers and fruits, features that may recommend it as a hybrid parent as much as the frequently hybridized *A. parvula*.

Propagation. Offsets with roots and seed. The ISI plants (HBG 95207) were grown from seed collected Dec. 3, 2002, by Rösli & Hoffmann (# 2502) in the Antioetra mountains, North of Ambatofinandrahana, Fianarantsoa Prov., Madagascar. The price of the ISI plants was \$10.



Photos of flowers in dark conditions appear darker than those taken in bright light as suggested in the photos.



Aloe saronarae Lavranos & McCoy ISI 2007-15.

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. KuaS 57(4):93-96, 2006).

Comments. Rising from the grassy highlands of south central Madagascar is an imposing massif of quartzite known as the Saronara mountains. Here the Swiss explorers W. Rösli & R. Hoffmann found the *Aloe saronarae*. *Aloe saronarae* forms solitary, urn-shaped rosettes of erect leaves with gracefully recurved tips. The strap-shaped leaves are uniform green or red-blushed and are lined with evenly spaced 2 mm teeth. The racemes are simple with slender, bell-shaped, red flowers.



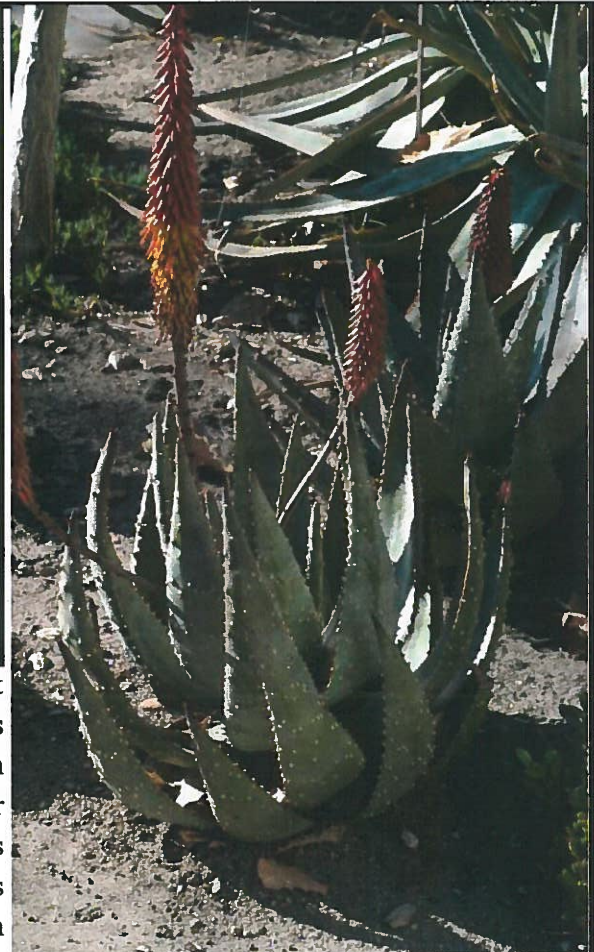
Propagation. HBG 95221, from seed (R&H 2202) collected Dec. 1, 2002, at the type locality: ca. 12 km N of Ambatofinandrahana at 1650m altitude in the Saronara mountains of Fianarantsoa Prov., Madagascar. ISI plants cost \$12.

Aloe aculeata Pole-Evans ISI 2008-6.

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. 2008. N0. 2.

Comments. A choice landscape aloe. It forms solitary rosettes up to 1 m across but can flower at a third that size. Its broad leaves incurve slightly, giving the rosette a rounded



appearance. Perhaps the most desirable feature of this aloe is one especially well-developed in the population from which our offering originates: the margins and surface of the thick leaves bear prominent red-brown prickles arising from white tuberculate bases. The solitary racemes in this form are also typically bicolored with orange buds opening yellow.

Propagation. Seeds. ISI plants were second generation seedlings from HBG 82528, seed collected by Dave Richards in 1996, 12 km NE of Ngundu Halt, Zimbabwe. \$8.

Aloe lutescens Groenewald ISI 2008-8.

Parentage. Wild plants.

Description. C. & S. J. 2008 No. 2.

Comments. Similar in general appearance to a green-leaved *A. cryptopoda*, *A. lutescens* differs in forming colonies and in producing inflorescences with three, rather than one or two, racemes. These slender racemes may be more than twice as long and bear larger papery bracts that obscure the small buds in the upper portion of the raceme. Its bicolored racemes resemble the similarly-coloured form of *A. cryptopoda* known as *A. wickensii*. The epithet *lutescens* "becoming yellow" aptly describes the transition of red buds to open yellow flowers. *A. lutescens* also has a more restricted distribution in the Northern Province of S. Africa

Propagation. Rooted cuts of HBG 24597, a plant collected Sept. 1969, by John Lavranos at Mariepskop in the northern foothills of the Drakensberg, N. Prov, S. Africa. ISI price \$8.



Aloe rupestris Baker ISI 2008-10.

Parentage Wild plants.

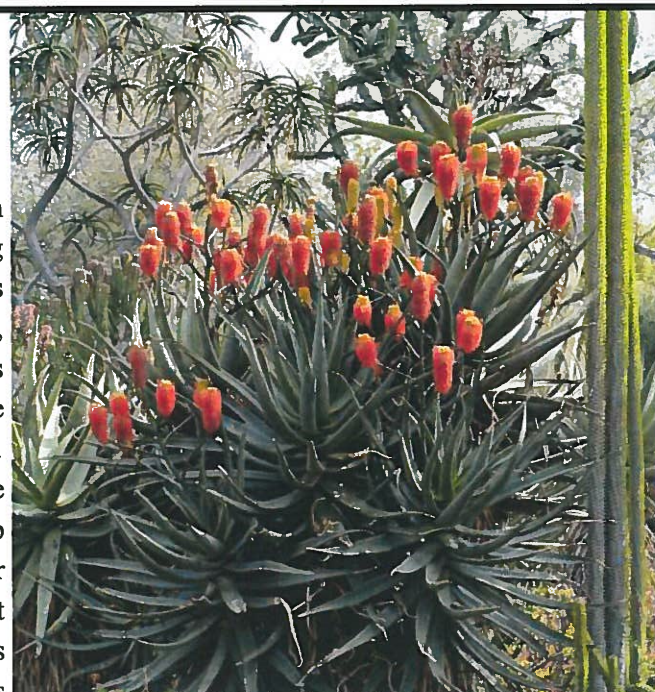
Description. C. & S. J. 2008 No. 2.

Comments. This species ranges from Natal, S. Africa, north to Swaziland and southern Mozambique and grows among coastal forest or rocky slopes, as the epithet *rupestris* "growing in rocky places" implies. It forms mostly solitary, arborescent specimens to 8 m tall, though offsetting forms have been favoured in cultivation. In habit it resembles the related *A. thraskii* and *A. excelsa*, which also produce rather top-heavy rosettes atop stems clothed in their upper part with a skirt of persistent dried leaves. What is remarkable about this species



is its candelabraform inflorescences that bear up to 15 or more erect, cylindrical racemes. These are densely packed with yellowish buds that open to become completely overshadowed by the brilliant orange, exerted stamens. The effect is very much like the Australian Proteaceae in the genus *Banksia*.

Propagation. HBG 91572, plants grown from seed collected in Swaziland. ISI price was \$8.



Aloe suzannae Decary ISI 2008-

11.

Parentage. Seedlings from HBG 53704, a plant whose precise origin is unknown.

Description. This rare Madagascan aloe is distinctive in a number of respects. Firstly the spelling of the epithet with a “z” is different than the South African succulents, *Crassula susannae* and *Euphorbia susannae*, and reflects the French influence in Madagascan botany. The species is slow-growing but eventually forms a tree to 4 m.

The succulent, grey, lanceolate-linear leaves are nearly straight to a meter long, have rounded tips and are packed 60 to 100 per rosette.

The flowers are also unusual in their creamy-white colour, and broadly campanulate shape with spreading petals. These are closely set on a simple spike-like raceme to 3 m tall.

We have had the good fortune of witnessing this dramatic inflorescence a couple of seasons now in the Huntington’s Desert Garden. Even more fortunate is that this individual has proven self-fertile, yielding the seed that has made this offering possible.



Flowers in various stages.

Aloe 'Caramba' Bleck ISI 2009-13.

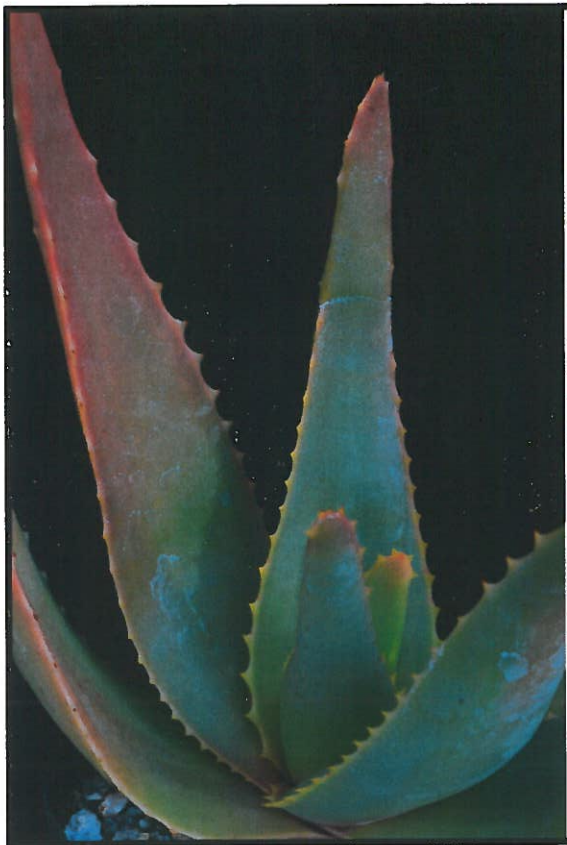
A number of John Bleck's choice hybrid selections with catchy cultivar names are in wide circulation (think 'Lizard Lips'). This and others have been published and introduced through ISI. *A. 'Caramba'* is another we've finally gotten around to propagating. One of his "first four introductions", it is a complex hybrid: $[(A. \text{descoingsii} \times A. \text{calcairophila}) \times A. \text{bellatula}] \times (A. \text{descoingsii} \times A. \text{boiteau})$. It has dark brownish foliage against which the compact, conical racemes of orange flowers are shown to advantage. Divisions of HBG 52124, Bleck 1395.



Aloe ericetorum Bosser ISI 2009-14.

Aloe ericetorum Bosser was described as similar to *A. capitata* but with shorter leaves that are more grey. Under our conditions they are rather like a blonde version, with a clear complexion of milky green ornamented with golden yellow marginal teeth. The flowers are similar, in dense or lax capitate racemes, pure yellow with reddish pedicels. The species grows in sandy heath and moorland dominated by *Philippia* sp (Ericaceae) in central Madagascar north of Andilamena on the road to Mandritsara. HBG 98579, second generation plants from seed originally collected by Jean Bernard Castillon. \$10.





Aloe ericetorum.

Leaves young and Old.

Aloe 'Vulcanica' ISI 2009-15.

In the March–April, 2000 issue of this Journal, Lavranos and Collenette published the provisional name *A. vulcanica* on the basis of a single plant growing in the Taif Wildlife Research Center, Saudi Arabia. It was reported to have been collected from the black lava field near Barzah. It was suggested that a population noted from the air in a lava field some 200 km to the NW might consist of plants of the same species. Field work did not bear this out, as the species was not located at the Barzah lava field. The plant forms very attractive solitary rosettes of broad, glaucous green leaves attractively spotted with white. It is treated here as a cultivar. The original plant set seed, apparently self-pollinated, that was sent to the Huntington via Seymour Linden. The flowers were not seen but were reported to be yellow. The plants we grew proved to be quite uniform, and when they reached maturity, most produced yellow flowers with a small percentage producing red flowers. We offer HBG 98580, second generation seedlings from controlled pollination of the original batch, which were grown from seed (S. Collenette 7847) of the original plant. \$10.



According to Tom McCoy, *Aloe* 'Vulcanica' (page 23 this publication)) appears to be merely a garden hybrid of *A. armatissima*. In addition, the original publication of *A. vulcanica* Lavranos & Collenette lacked a Latin diagnosis and citation of a type specimen and is therefore invalid. *A. 'Vulcanica'*, therefore, is also invalid as a Latinized cultivar name. In view of this, plants distributed as ISI 2009-15 should be referred to as "*A. armatissima* hybrid."

Aloe bargalensis Lavranos ISI 2011-16.

Described in the Cactus and Succulent Journal in 1973 (Vol. 45: 116), this species has remained exceedingly rare in cultivation. In 1986 Lavranos returned to the remote habitat in the extreme NW of Somalia. The species is characterized by its lineate leaves with raised ridges on the undersides. This represents the coastal form which exhibits more prominently striate leaves. Rooted offsets of HBG



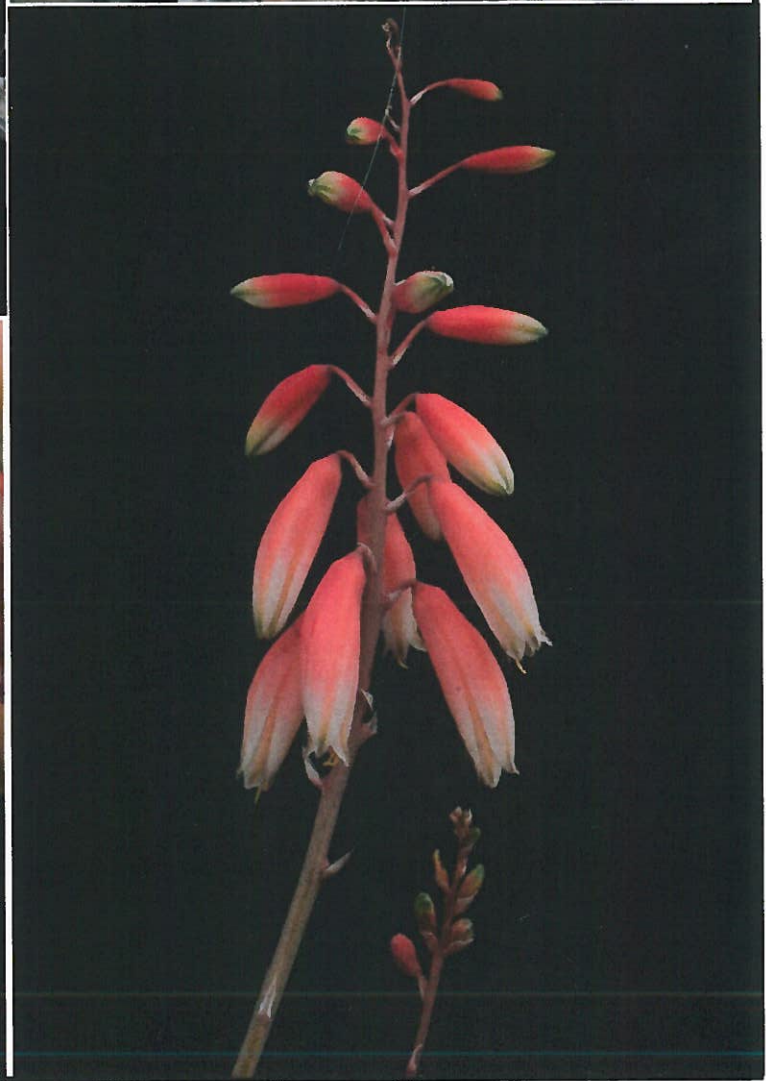
57874 from tissue culture of a plant collected Nov 17, 1986, by Lavranos (24728), Barad, Carter, Kimmach & Linden, 8 km W of Bargal, NW Somalia, where it grew on steep, rocky slopes overlooking the Indian Ocean in denuded, overgrazed Commiphora scrub. \$17.



The above three photographs show variation in the leaf markings of this species.

Aloe 'Fiesta' Bleck ISI 2011-18.

This is one of John Bleck's collector series selected from his 1980s hybridization program. Most of his named selections have been offered through the ISI. This one has been only sparingly available because it is slower to propagate. Tissue culture has sped up this process so that we can now officially publish the name and distribute the plant more widely. It forms dense, eventually somewhat columnar rosettes of recurved leaves. Its toothiness and mottled coloration resemble those of a brittle sea-star, characters contributed by its parents and best summarized by its hybrid formula name, (*A. bakeri* × *A. parvula*) × *A. parvula*. Rooted offsets of HBG 52125, a plant received from John Bleck (# 1488) in 1984. \$8.



Aloe inamara L. C. Leach ISI 2011-19.

This is a member of the Saponariae group with its characteristic maculate leaves and inflated flower bases. Leach suggested its closest ally to be *A. swynnertonii*, with which it shares subcapitate racemes of vivid-red flowers. Morphologically, however, *A. inamara* resembles other cliff-dwelling aloes in its rather lax rosettes of drooping leaves; its name reflects its seeming lack of the bitter sap of other aloes. This chemical protection against grazing is apparently rendered unnecessary by its inaccessible habitat. Rooted offsets of HBG 104412, from tissue-culture of a plant of the type collection, Leach & Cannell 14608, from vertical cliffs at the mouth of the Quicombo River, about 10 km south of Novo Redondo, Cuanza Sul, Angola. \$10



To some extent plants growing on cliffs can be grown attached to canes in the greenhouse to prevent them growing over neighbouring plants.

Aloe 'Princess Jack' K. Zimmerman ISI 2011-20.

Aloe 'Princess Jack' is a sibling of *Aloe* 'Dragon', ISI 2010-12, with slender, arching, leaves with pinkish teeth against a field of milky blue. In 'Princess Jack' the leaves are wider and bear a denser covering of larger, whiter teeth. Like its sibling, its name is derived from a combination of nicknames, this time for Karen Zimmerman's niece. Rooted offsets from tissue culture of HBG 104725, \$15.



The black spots
are assumed to
be foreign
bodies. Not
integral parts
of the plant.



Aloe - index of species and cultivars.

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A note from the Editor.

I was born on the 19 July 1926 when the world was vastly different from what it is today. Free education ceased at age 14 when most children went into manual work. Fortunately my parents were able to send me to a grammar school for further education which finished at 17. Then I was directed into wartime employment (apprentice optical engineering) until I became 18., then I was "called up" for either the army, navy, air force or the coal mines. A lottery determined who went into the coal mines but I was rejected after it was determined that coal dust was affecting my lungs. I was then called up into the Royal Army Medical Core and trained for secretarial work which I did until discharged. During this period it was clear to the Government that the war was coming to end so they took steps to make provisions for an expanding Civil Service, by inviting serving members to take an entrance examination for the Civil Service, which I passed. Thus, when I was discharged from the Medical Core I had a Civil Service job to go to. In the Civil Service I immediately took steps to get a degree of use to the Civil Service (economics etc) and one of

use to my interest in plants and animals. Both were successful and useful helping me to obtain advancement in the Civil Service and promote my interest in plants and animals. I made field trips to many countries, built up a large collection of plants, books etc and finish up with a largish glasshouse, a 30 feet frame and a field of advantage to wild life.

Fortunately I had always been determined to live to an old age, preferably at least 100 years. I did not smoke or drinking and got exercise by the nature of my work and interests. I am glad to say I have reached the age of 93 but regret that the medical problems associated with old age have considerably reduced my capacity for activity. My wife has regrettably suffered more than I have. She can only shuffle with a walking frame. Nevertheless we have both been told that we could reach 100 but with not a great deal of activity. I must therefore resign from editing *Alsterworthia International* and producing other publications. From the end of this year your editor will be Lawrence Loucka <lmLoucka@comcast.net> U.S.A. Further details will be given in the next journal

Harry Mays, Editor, <hmays@freenetname.co.uk>