

New or Noteworthy Plants which have flowered in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, during 1934

Aristea capitata Ker in Bot. Mag. xvii (1803), t. 605. (Irideae.) A South African plant received from Mr. Hay, of Hyde Park, London. Flowers blue. May 1934. Centre House.

Dendrobium speciosum Sm. (Australia). Sent by Mr. Gray, Edinburgh, in 1933; flowered in February 1934. Figured Bot. Mag. t. 3074.

Gentiana corymbifera T. Kirk in Trans. N.Z. Inst. xxxii (1895), 336; Gard. Chron. ser. 3, xlvi (1909), 203. A New Zealand species, with white flowers over half an inch in diameter arranged in compact terminal umbels or cymes. The plant flowered in the Scree during July and August, and reached a height of about nine inches.

Gentiana depressa Don, Prodr. (1825), 125. Plants were raised from seed received from Nepal in 1932. This appears to be a late-flowering species, having flowered on the north face of the Rock Garden in October. Forming a mat of barren branches, it has solitary flowers which are stalkless. The corolla is about an inch in length and pale blue. It is doubtful if this species has been in cultivation before, though it has been known since the time of Wallich.

Gentiana gilvostriata Marquand in Kew Bull., 1931, p. 83; Gard. Chron. ser. 3, xcvi (1934), fig. 154. A new species collected by Captain Kingdon Ward in Upper Burma near the Tibetan Frontier. It is a tufted species with numerous rosettes of small lanceolate leaves. The flowers are borne singly on short stems and are held erect. The funnel-shaped corolla measures about an inch and a half in length and is a deep shade of sea blue: down the inside of the tube are clean-cut, cream-coloured stripes, flanked below with purplish-blue dots. It flowered in the Rock Garden on the north face during August and September.

Gentiana setigera Gray in Proc. Am. Acad. xi (1876), 84. A Californian species collected on Red Mountain. It is a tall-growing species, sending up a few straggling stems a foot or so in height and bearing

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at the top three or four large bell-shaped flowers. The corolla, which measures about an inch and a half in length, is purplish-blue on the tube and blue on the lobes. Flowered in the Rock Garden during August.

Meconopsis discigera Prain in Ann. Bot. xx (1906), 356 (a form). Plants raised from seed received from Nepal flowered in May on the north face of the Rock Garden and were identified by Dr. G. Taylor as *M. discigera*. In flower colour (red-mauve) and leaf form our plants do not entirely agree with material known from farther east in the Himalayas, illustrations of which appear as *M. sp.* in New Flora and Silva, i, fig. 72 (1929), and are reproduced (pl. 28) in "The Genus *Meconopsis*" as *M. discigera*. The mild, late autumn of 1934 caused the resting buds to open and they were damaged by subsequent hard weather, so that few of the plants have survived.

Milligania densiflora Hook. f. in Hook. Kew Journ. v (1853), 296, t. 9. Gard. Chron. ser. 3, xcvi (1934), figs. 41, 91. Seedlings of Comber's No. 2235 were raised, and in addition plants were received from Surrey. Planted out in a southern-facing, sheltered nook in the Rock Garden, and also in the Rootery, this species flowered in November. The flowers are glistening white with small cerise eye, the stems are woolly.

Nomocharis Souliei W. W. Sm. et W. E. Evans in Notes R.B.G. Edin. xiv (1925), 102 et xv (1925), 40, pl. ccx. The plant which flowered at Edinburgh is figured in the R.H.S. Lily Year Book, 1934 (fig. 1). It grows in the Rock Garden and flowered in June. This is the first authentic record of the flowering of this species in cultivation.

Paphiopedilum Delenatii Guillaumin (Tonkin). Purchased from Messrs. Sanders in 1934, and flowered in the Orchid House in March 1934. Figured Orchid Review, xli (1933), 67.

Plantago palmata Hook. f. in Journ. Linn. Soc. vi (1862), 19; vii (1864), 213. Raised from seed collected at 7,000 ft. by Dr. Humphrey during his 1932 Expedition on Mt. Kilimanjaro. The plant, which makes an attractive rosette, is not only remarkable for its leaf shape but also because of the irregular dark brown blotches on the leaf surface. These blotches seem to be more pronounced during the hot summer months and become imperceptible during the winter when the light is less brilliant. Grown in the Rock House.

Primula Clutterbuckii Ward in Ann. Bot. xlv (1930), 122 (K.W. 8235). This plant provides an interesting record of vitality in *Primula* seeds. Seed was collected by K. Ward in 1928, and a second sowing of this seed was not made until July 1932. From the second sowing

plants were raised which bore in May-June 1934 a truss of pale purple flowers each with an orange eye. The plant is new to cultivation and, like allied species in the Section, may prove difficult to keep through the winter out of doors.

Primula didyma W. W. Smith in Notes R.B.G. Edin. xvi (1931), 228. A recently introduced species raised from seed received from Nepal. It belongs to the Sikkimensis Section, is smaller in stature than the usual *P. sikkimensis* type, and bears wine-purple flowers in June. It is to be seen growing by the Pond.

Primula Schlagintweitiana Pax (*vide* Notes xviii, 65). With further material (both of herbarium specimens and plants raised from seed, received from Nepal) this species has now been established in the Farinosae Section, thus showing the occurrence of this group of the Section Farinosae in the Himalaya. Plants grown in the Plant Houses flowered in May.

Rhynchosia calycina Guill. et Pers. Fl. Seneg. 214. A woody, leguminous climber raised from seed sent from the Gold Coast and grown in the Palm House. It bears racemes of small, bright red flowers in April.