Cooperative Extension Service
C/T/A/H/R
College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources
University of Hawaii at Manoa

New Plants for Hawaii
Dendrobium Cultivar Release 2
Feb. 1998
NPH-D-2

Dendrobium Ethel Kamemoto 'Splendor'

Dendrobium D'Bush Pansy, a unique pansy-lip dendrobium, was crossed with *D.* Theodore Takiguchi on November 14, 1987, in an attempt to elucidate the genetics of the pansy-lip character. The lip of *D.* D'Bush Pansy is similar to the two petals, resulting in flowers with flat petals and sepals somewhat resembling those of the pansy. The cross, K1377, produced offspring with normal lips. An individual plant with light lavender flowers (K1377-42) was selected and self-pollinated on September 7, 1991, to produce an F_2 population that segregated into three pansy-lip and one normal-lip, indicating that the pansy-lip character was recessive to normal-lip (Amore and Kamemoto, *Lindleyana* 12:12–15, 1997).

The selection, K1377-42, was divided and potted with tree-fern fiber in 4-inch clay pots and grown in the glasshouse at the UH-Manoa Magoon Research Facility. It is a vigorous grower and very floriferous. The spray yields of two plants from November 1996 through December 1997 were recorded (see table). Most of the sprays were produced from September through February. The remarkable features of K1377-42 are the floriferousness and the long life of its sprays. A pseudobulb on one of the plants produced 13 sprays (see photo). Although the flowers are small, measuring slightly under 2 inches, the large number of long-lasting sprays produced makes this clone highly desirable. The plant shown was placed in the office of the Department of Horticulture for a week in late September 1997, then transferred to a private home for a week in early October, and returned to the glasshouse. Most of the flowers still remained on the plant in mid-December, thus retaining its attraction for about three months.

The cross *D.* Theodore Takiguchi x *D.* D'Bush Pansy was registered with the International Orchid Registrar as *D.* Ethel Kamemoto. Because of the excellent performance of the selection, K1377-42 was given the varietal designation 'Splendor', and a young vegetative growth was placed in aseptic culture for clonal propagation. This clone will be released to dendrobium growers' associations as a clonally propagated, flowering potted plant cultivar.

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Some characteristics of K1377-42 (measurements in inches)

Flower color (RHSCC)	Light purple (84C)
Flower width	1.9 ± 0.1
Flower length	1.8 ± 0.1
Pedicel length	1.3 ± 0.1
Scape length	5.4 ± 1.0
Spray length	13.6 ± 3.1
Flowers per spray (number)	11.7 ± 1.3
Bud drop (%)	0.8 ± 1.2
Pseudobulb height at first flower	7.1
Pseudobulb height, Jan. 1998	20.9

Monthly spray yield of two plants of *Dendrobium* Ethel Kamemoto K1377-42. (Plants were grown in tree-fern fiber in 4-inch clay pots.)

Month	Plant A	Plant B	Total
Nov 1996	2	-	2
Dec	4	-	4
Jan 1997	2	2	4
Feb	11	5	16
Mar	-	-	-
Apr	-	-	-
May	-	-	-
Jun	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-
Sep	-	14	14
Oct	-	3	3
Nov	17	-	17
Dec	2	3	5
Jan 1998	4	4	8
Total	42	31	73