Dendrobium Ethel Kamemoto ‘White Cascade’  

Dendrobium Ethel Kamemoto ‘Splendor’ (K1377-42), a hybrid between D. Theodore Takiguchi and D. D’Bush Pansy, was self-pollinated on September 7, 1991, to investigate the inheritance of the pansy lip character. The F2 population segregated into a 3:1 ratio of normal lip to pansy lip, indicating that pansy lip is a recessive character (Amore and Kamemoto, Lindleyana 12:12–15, 1997).

In addition to segregating for pansy lip and normal lip, the F2 progeny (K1449) segregated into lavender and white flowers, thus giving four groups of flowers: lavender with pansy lip, lavender with normal lip, white with pansy lip, and white with normal lip. An individual (K1449-30) with paper-white pansy lip flowers was selected, repotted into a 4-inch clay pot with tree fern fiber, and evaluated in a glasshouse at the UH-Manoa Magoon Research Facility.

The spray yields of K1449-30 from December 1996 through January 1998 were recorded (see table). Flowering was obtained from December 1996 to March 1997, and again from September 1997 to January 1998. The attractive, cascading sprays were long-lived. The plant was placed in a private home for two weeks from November 25 to December 8, 1997, and after return to the glasshouse, over half of the sprays were still in good condition through January 1998. Thus blooming plants are expected to remain attractive for two months or longer.

Because the progeny K1449 is the result of self-pollinating K1377-42, (Dendrobium Ethel Kamemoto), it must retain the registered name D. Ethel Kamemoto, based on the rules of orchid nomenclature and registration. However, to distinguish the unique, white pansy lip selection K1449-30 from other clones of D. Ethel Kamemoto, it was given the cultivar designation ‘White Cascade’. This new cultivar is being micropropagated and will be released to dendrobium growers’ associations in Hawaii.

A sibling (K1449-25) similar to ‘White Cascade’ has been designated ‘Manoa Moon’ and will also be released.