

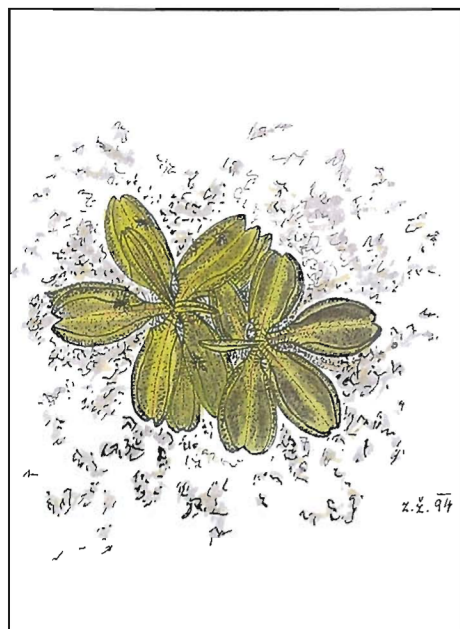


Fig. 1 — Two plants of *Pinguicula lusitanica* with tiny gnats on the leaves. Drawings by Zdenek Zacek.



Fig. 2 — *P. lusitanica*. One of the pad of plants in Fig. 1 is developing a flower.

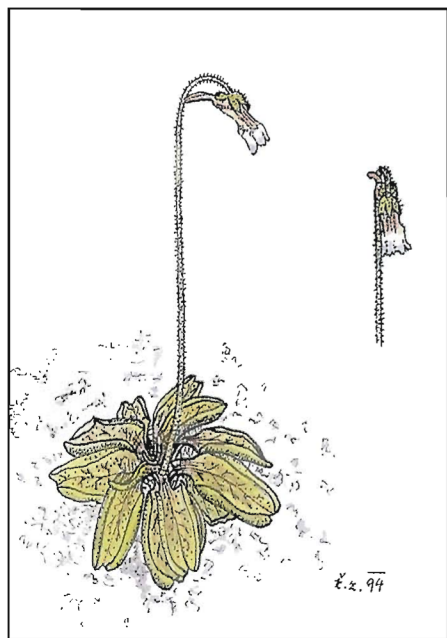


Fig. 3 — *P. lusitanica*. In full flower.

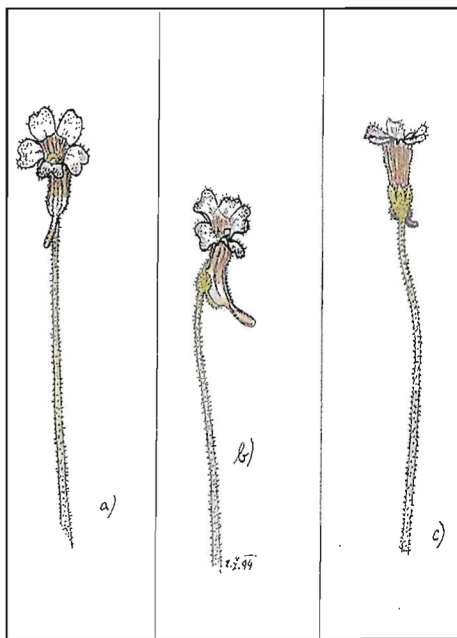


Fig. 4 — *P. lusitanica*. Three views of a mature flower. The plant self-pollinates.

LETTERS FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC

PART IV:

Zdenek Zacek, Ustavni 139, P 8, Bohnice, 18100, Czech Republic

I once received several tiny seeds of this butterwort, and after a short time they germinated. The plantlets had typical rosettes and seedlings were similar to adults. This is a small species, the adult rosette is only about 2.5 cm in diameter. The leaf margins are rolled up and there is a purple colored venation on the leaf surface. The leaves are able to trap tiny insects. I never observed any movement of the leaves. The leaves do have one curiosity—They are very narrow at their bases where there are long hairs growing. I know no other butterwort with such an arrangement. As far as I know, the function of these long basal hairs has never been ascertained. I have not seen prey caught in this basal area of the leaf. They are always trapped on the wider part of the leaf where the glandular hairs are shorter and barely visible with the naked eye. I will study this remarkable structure further with a stronger magnifying glass and my field microscope in order to try and learn something of its function.

When flowering, the corolla persists for a few days and then drops off. The rest of the flower lasts somewhat longer through seed maturation. *P. lusitanica* is also peculiar in that it is a self-pollinating pinguicula species. It readily reproduces in the pot by self-sowing seed and is generally an annul or biennial. After flowering, the entire plant dies. I grow it on pure peat with careful watering.

No other species of the genus *Pinguicula* grows in the African continent except for this intuestring and rather inconspicuous little butterwort where it is a pioneer plant in some areas of the north African coast.

News and Views

Joe Mazrimas reports:

Once again the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show took place Aug 25-27, 1995. In the CP section of the show, there were 30 entries from 6 people who were: Larry Logoteta, Raul Hernandez, John Rizzi, Greg Lum, Joe Mazrimas and Gary Dughi. The best of show award went to Gary Dughi for his *Pinguicula* planter in a large glass bowl. The best Australian award went to John Rizzi for his *Cephalotus* plant. The display was set up by Tony Rae and we thank him for taking the time and energy for a display that enhanced the plants. Tony announced that this was his last year as manager of the CP display after a great 20 years of giving us the opportunity to show our plants. We are looking for his replacement to continue the tradition.

Richard Davion (Tilbrooke), (GPO Box 248, Adelaide SA 5001) writes:

Here is the latest news on the Plant



Gary Dughi & Best of Show Awards at SF Flower & Garden Show.