

REFINING FORM AND STABILITY: A DECADE OF SELECTIVE BREEDING IN *NEPENThes VEITCHII*

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Abstract: In 2015, a long-term selective breeding program of *Nepenthes veitchii* was initiated in Vietnam to refine and stabilize the classical Bario form while preserving strong striping and achieving a peristome that remains fully flared even as pitchers mature.

In 2015, a long-term selective breeding program of *Nepenthes veitchii* was initiated in Vietnam with a clear objective: to refine and stabilize the classical Bario form while preserving strong striping and achieving a peristome that remains fully flared even as pitchers mature.

Although *N. veitchii* is widely admired for its diverse morphology, variability within seed-grown populations often leads to instability in coloration and peristome structure. In particular, some individuals develop peristomes that contract or lose vibrancy with age. The breeding effort described here sought to address these tendencies through careful parent selection and rigorous multi-year evaluation.



Selected parent clones included Bario, Bario Candy Red, Bario Stripe Orange, and Hose Mountains forms. Each was chosen for distinct qualities: egg-shaped symmetry, intense red pigmentation, and pronounced, evenly distributed striping. Controlled crosses were performed, and seedlings were cultivated to maturity under consistent conditions.

Evaluation extended beyond early pitcher development. Only plants that demonstrated sustained structural integrity and color stability across multiple pitcher cycles were retained. The vast majority of seedlings were eliminated during this process.



After years of observation and selection, two individuals emerged as consistently superior and morphologically stable. These have been designated as *Nepenthes veitchii* ‘Truong Sa’ and *Nepenthes veitchii* ‘Hoang Sa’ (see pages 88-89).

While both derive from related breeding lines, they represent two distinct expressions of selected traits: one emphasizing classical Barrio symmetry and chromatic stability, the other integrating elongated pitcher structure with a prominently flared and evenly striped peristome.

Both cultivars are maintained exclusively through vegetative propagation to ensure preservation of their defining characteristics.

