



Epi News

San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.

July 2026
Volume 51 Number 7



Mother's Day 2026—People's Choice 2nd Place

'Juliana Obayashi'

Entrant: Dean DeLibertis

Hybridizer: Derek Obayashi

Photo: Gilbert Hatfield

San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc. (SDES)

P.O. Box 126127

San Diego, CA 92112-6127

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San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.

SDES Website: <https://sdepis.org/>

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EpiNews@sdepis.org

Design and layout: JK Hendershot

Membership

Single \$15.00 per year.

Dual \$20.00 per year.

<https://san-diego-epiphyllum-soc.square.site/>

Have You Moved?

If you have moved or recently changed your physical OR email address, please update your address so that you can continue to receive your newsletter without interruption.

Send your updates to:

San Diego Epiphyllum Society c/o Membership
P.O. Box 126127, San Diego, CA 92112-6127.

OR email Membership@sdepis.org

For faster response mail directly to Beth

Jackson, Membership Secretary—their address can be found on the membership roster.

General Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. We are doing our best to have a presence both in person and online. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and the pre-meeting workshop is at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom room will open at 7:00 p.m. Check your email for instructions and links. Board Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., and are online. All members are welcome to attend the board meeting. If you are interested in attending, please request the online Zoom link from the Membership Secretary, or the President.



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Calendar of Events

July	1	Board Meeting
	8	General Meeting
	17-18	Orange County C&SS Summer Sale
	18-19	San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Show
August	5	Board Meeting
	7-9	Inter-City C&S Show & Sale
	12	General Meeting
September	1	ESA Potluck and Silent Auction
	1-30	SDES Photo Contest entries accepted
	2	Board Meeting
	9	General Meeting
	12	SDES Member Appreciation @Dean's



On the Cover:

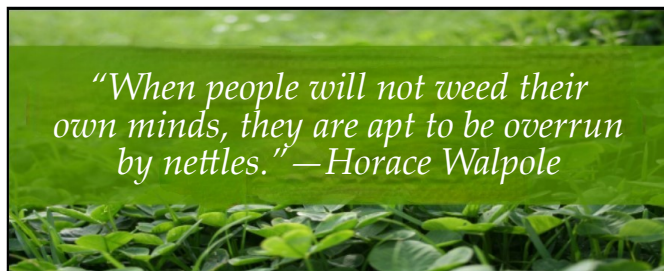
Photo:
Gilbert Hatfield

The Mother's Day 2026 **People's Choice 2nd Place Award** went to Dean DeLibertis for his entry of: 'Juliana Obayashi' - DTO 2005 Inner petals dark purple with light purple edges. Outer petals red. Double, bell form. Flat basket growth. {S} 'Heaven Sent' x 'Velma F.' Reg. #12876

We Are Keeping in Touch and New Members

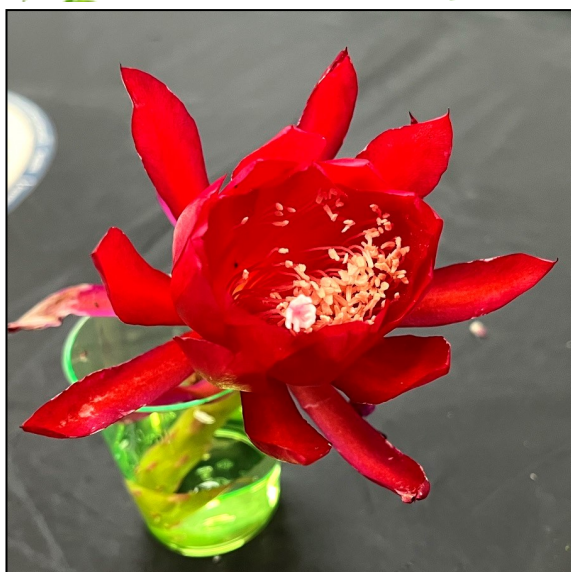
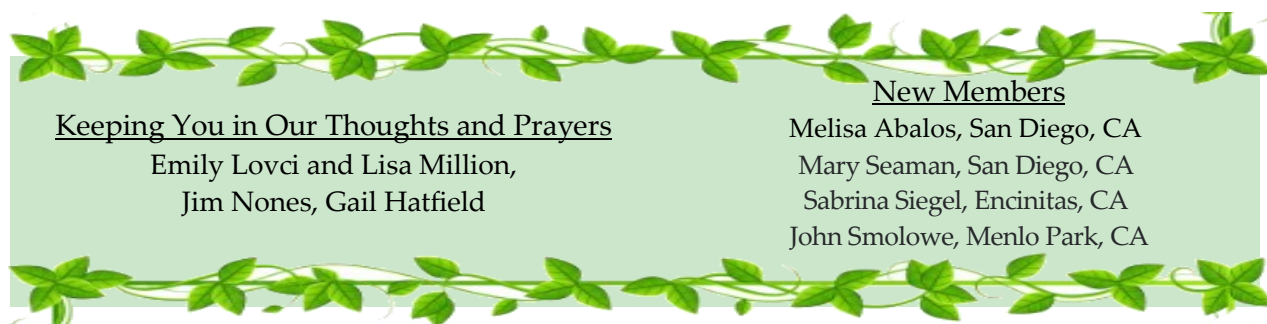
Our members are the most important part of our society. Together we create more beauty for all to enjoy.

As with any group, we are more effective and stronger when we are unified together—and our membership spans the globe! Although the epies are what bring us together at first, lifelong friendships are made in the society. Knowledge, plants, passions, and stories of those who came before us are shared between members—and everyone has fun!



Membership Secretary: Beth Jackson at 858-692-0314 or Membership@sdepis.org

Newsletter Editor: JK Hendershot at 619-301-3587 or EpiNews@sdepis.org



'Chili Pepper'

Photo: Patricia Neal



'Dreamsicle'

Photo: Patricia Neal

We Need Your Help with Raffle Table Items

If you have epiphyllums (cuttings or plants), succulents, species, interesting garden items, or other plants you would like to donate to stock and increase the variety of items on our raffle table, we need your help. To make a donation or to obtain more information on how you can help, please contact our raffle table coordinator, Paula Reynolds via email at paularey@aol.com with your ideas and questions. We are always looking for fun and exciting new items.

President's Corner — *From President Dean DeLibertis*



Dear SDES Members:

Thank you to everyone who helped with all the sales...so far. Looking forward, we still have the San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Show on the 18th and 19th of July, right there in Casa Del Prado Room 101, and I'm looking for a couple of volunteers. During that weekend, there are several events hosted in and around Balboa Park and we get a lot of walk-ins and a lot of opportunity for outreach and education. Mother's Day is the main event for sales, but our eight satellite sale are for outreach, education and most prominently to replenish our ranks.

If you're shy about volunteering, know that you have backup. We man our booth from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. selling and educating on a subject that you have some experience in. It's always fun to get together and talk about how someone else is growing. You find very quickly that we all have our own way of doing things. And a lot of that focuses on how we behave in the garden.

Parking—as I have done in the past and will continue in the future will be covered by the club. At any of the sales events, save/present your receipt or ticket and the club will reimburse your parking expense.

We look forward to seeing you at the July meeting and other upcoming events.

Dean

Meeting Program & Workshop

Pre-Meeting Workshop: The pre-meeting workshop will be led by Jerry Moreau who will be discussing "*Rewarding Your Epies with the Right Fertilizer After Bloom Season*". The workshop will be held in Casa Del Prado Room 104 at 7:00 p.m.

July Program: Our July meeting will be held on July 8, 2026 in Casa Del Prado Room 101 at 7:30 p.m. Cynthia Pardoe, President of the San Diego Geranium Society will be discussing "*The Geranium Family & Pelargonium Family*." You won't want to miss this informative presentation. Zoom begins at 7:00 p.m. for socializing, and the online meeting will join the live meeting at 7:30 p.m.

June Program: Our June meeting was held on June 10, 2026 in Casa Del Prado Room 101. A panel discussion was held featuring members Tim Paule, Ken Maculan, and Ron Crain. The trio discussed their experiences growing and caring for epies—including tips and tricks they've learned. Also, Jerry Moreau presented Mother's Day Show awards and certificates to those winners in attendance.



Pictured (left) are the winners of the various Mother's Day Show award categories who were in attendance at the June General Meeting.

Pictured (right) David Cheever hosted the June program with panelists Tim Paule, Ken Maculan, and Ron Crain.

Photos: JK Hendershot



Now Is the Time—Seasonal Checklist

- ✓ Mist plants. With the hot summer weather, occasional misting or spraying is beneficial. Do not allow soil to completely dry out. Smaller pots need watering more often than larger ones. Also, clay pots will need watering more often than plastic ones. The best time to water is in the early morning or evening; do not water during the hottest part of the day.
- ✓ Fertilize those plants that have completed their blooming cycle. Use slow release nitrogen fertilizer such as 5-10-10. Be sure that you do not overfeed them. Note too much fertilizer can burn the roots.
- ✓ Remove spent blooms and unwanted apples. Cut off the old blooms about ¼ inch above areola to prevent damage to areola.
- ✓ Transplant those plants that are outgrowing their pots to larger containers. For example, transplant four-inch potted plants into one-gallon containers, and the one-gallon pots into two-gallon containers. Mature plants that have been in large containers for a few years can benefit from ‘potting on’, when the plant is removed from the container, and fresh potting mix and the plant are put back into the same container. Be sure you do not water for a week after repotting the plant.
- ✓ Plant new cuttings. Typically, the smaller the pot—the better. If you are using pots that have been previously used, you may want to make sure they have been cleaned and washed—and are free from any contaminant or debris prior to reusing.
- ✓ Protect epies from summer sun with shade cloth, lath houses or under the shade of trees. We all wear sunscreen in the summer—your epies need protection too. Don’t let them get overexposed to the sun’s harmful rays.
- ✓ Ensure air circulation around epies. Do not crowd them too closely together. Also, be aware that strong, dry Santa Ana winds can be harmful and plants will need wind protection, as well as more humidity.
- ✓ If you want to try grafting, now is a good time. Use established and viable newer cuttings and be sure the cambium layers are matched for optimum growth. Also, make sure your cactus pad is well rooted.



‘Marmalade Punch’

Photo: Patricia Neal



‘Norwood’

Photo: Patricia Neal

Pictures, People, Events, and Flowers, Oh My!

By Jerry Moreau

Every society has a story—and ours is written in blossoms, friendships, and shared memories. Preserving the history of San Diego Epiphyllum Society helps us celebrate our roots, honors those who came before us, and creates a legacy to inspire future generations of epi enthusiasts. Whether it's a photo from a garden tour, a clipping from a local paper, or a snapshot of a stunning bloom, every piece contributes to the living story of our society. It also helps us create programs and articles for our newsletter *Epi News*.

Photographs of flowers are especially valuable. Over the years, many hybrids have been lost, making it exciting when an old slide or image of a forgotten hybrid resurfaces. Every now and then, a plant thought to be gone—like 'Royal Dust'—reappears through a donation or sale, sometimes without any known photographic record. Building a broad visual archive not only preserves these fleeting histories, but also allows us to track how flowers may have changed over time and helps identify flowers that may have been misnamed.

We're currently gathering materials to expand our historical archives—over 55 years strong. We're looking for:

- Digital images of flowers and plants (hybrids, species, or showpieces—please label them if possible).
- Photos, slides, or negatives of SDES events such as Mother's Day Shows, SDZWA Safari Park (formerly the Wild Animal Park), displays, people and flowers, EpiCons, garden tours, educational presentations, and parties or social events.
- Newspaper or magazine articles about epies, SDES, or our members' contributions.
- Catalogs or listings of epiphyllum hybrids.

If your collection includes any of these treasures, we'd love to make digital copies for our archives. You don't have to part with your originals—we will happily scan and return them to you.

Historic records like these do more than preserve facts; they help document our identity, foster belonging, and reflect the continuing legacy of our community of gardeners and friends that have made the Society what it is today.

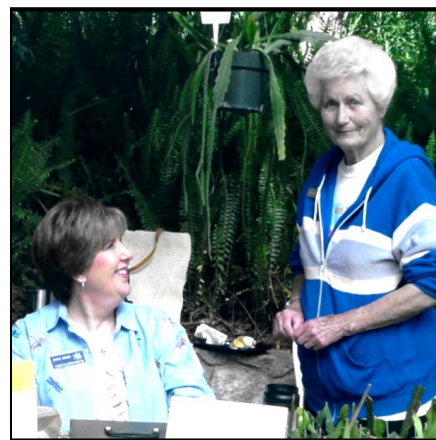
To share materials or arrange a pickup, please contact Pat Neal, Jerry Moreau, Dean DeLibertis or any board member. Together, let's keep our history blooming. Enjoy some of the historical photos below.



EpiCon X Wedding
Photo: SDES Archives



Galen Pittman at EpiCon VIII
Photo: SDES Archives



Sandra Chapin and Pat Barrett
Photo: SDES Archives

Summer Events Around San Diego County

Balboa Park Architectural Heritage Guided Walking Tour

When: The first Friday of each month.

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Tours begin at the House of Hospitality Visitor's Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA.

What: The Committee of One Hundred invites you to learn about the many wonderful structures built for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition that was held in Balboa Park.

Fee: No fee. [Download self-guided tour pdf](#)

For more info, call 619-239-0512, ext. 8.



Photo: www.c100.org

Forever Balboa Park Public Tours Every Tuesday and Friday

Get to know Balboa Park with a guided tour that reveals hidden stories, vibrant gardens, and rich history. Led by knowledgeable volunteers, these tours offer a deeper connection to this beloved Park.

When: Every Tuesday at 11 a.m. and Fridays at 2 p.m.

Where: Tours meet outside of the Balboa Park Visitors Center & Gift Shop.

What: This guided tour of Balboa Park's Central Mesa is a great introduction for visitors looking to learn more about the history, architecture, horticulture, and culture in the Park

Fee: A suggested donation of \$5 helps support the work enhancing and sustaining Balboa Park. For more information, please visit www.foreverbaloapark.org

The San Diego Museum of Art Free Admission Third Tuesday

The original inspiration for a permanent public art gallery in San Diego can be traced to the Panama-California International Exposition, held in Balboa Park. Come and see what treasures await you today!

When: July 21, 2026 or the third Tuesday of each month.

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Where: The San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA.

What: Free admission for San Diego County residents (with valid ID)

Fee: No fee

For more information, please visit www.sdmart.org



Photo: sdmart.org

San Diego Botanic Garden Tour

"To inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature." We'd like to welcome you to our 37-acre urban oasis—with 4 miles of meandering trails and ocean views, 5,300 plant species and varieties, and 29 uniquely themed gardens that represent 15 different regions.

When: Every Saturday (Sundays 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.)

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Where: 300 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA.

What: A docent guided general tour is offered every Saturday, meet across from the entrance to Hamilton Children's Garden. Free with paid admission.

Fee: Adult - \$20, Military, Senior & Student - \$18, Youth (3-17) - \$12, Child (under 3) - Free. Reservations are strongly recommended. Go to www.sdbg.org

Know Before You Go: For updates on Balboa Park Parking, go to www.sandiego.gov/parking/balboapark

Annual Photo Contest Announced for September

The 2025 Annual Photo Contest was a tremendous success; more photographers were involved than in previous years.

The San Diego Epiphyllum Society Annual Photo Contest dates have been set. Photographs will be accepted between September 1, 2026, and October 1, 2026.

The photography contest will again be held online, allowing the SDES and members of other epiphyllum societies associated with the Epiphyllum Society of America (ESA) to easily submit entries.

The contest categories are Single Bloom, Multi-Bloom, and Epi Art. All entries that meet the contest requirements will be assessed and evaluated by a team of judges.

Don't forget to participate in the People's Choice category! You can view the online entries and vote for your favorite photo. The rules for voting in the People's Choice category can be found on the website.

The SDES November 11, 2026 general meeting presentation will be a slide show of all submitted photographs highlighting the contest winners. The results will be posted on our website shortly thereafter.

For additional information on the SDES Photography contest please feel free to contact the SDES webmaster at: webmaster@sdepis.org.



2025 Annual Photo Contest—*And the Winners Were...*

Single Bloom Category



1st Place Arlene Hillman
'Kiwi Razzle Dazzle'



3rd Place Gilbert Hatfield
'Sakurahime'



2nd Place Anna Lee
'Exotic Dancer'



Honorable Mention Gilbert Hatfield
'Sarah Courant'

Member Wish List, Photos & Local Events

If there is an epi that you are looking for it's possible someone in the society might have it and is willing to share a cutting with you.

As a service and benefit to our members this list is being included in the newsletter. Send your wish list along with your contact information to the editor to have it included here. If you do receive your request, kindly let the editor know so we may remove your entry.

Sal Castellitto: aclarasd@aol.com

'Buttercup', 'Christmas Elf', 'Spanish Gold', 'Christmas Kiss', 'Kiwi Honey Gold'

Forrest Ehbrecht:

forrestkehbrecht@yahoo.com

'Forrest Fyre', 'London Delight'

Casey Gerdes: casey@yogawithcasey.com

'Crystal Flash', 'Gladys Jones', 'Glow Bug', 'Kiwi Contradiction', 'Monastery Gardens', 'Ron Crain'

Carmela Griswold:

calcolors@gmail.com 'Massimo', 'Crystal Flash', 'Tassel', 'Lilac Time'

Oliver Lapuebla: OliverRyanLP@gmail.com

'Hedgehog'

Michal McKee: folklorist@gmail.com

'Elegans Lei', 'Mojave Gold'

Priscilla Merriam: pafmerriam@gmail.com

'Frida Kahlo', 'Gold Coin', 'Oberon', 'Ron Crain'

Dr. Diane McClure Lott: jefflott01@cox.net

'Tiger's Eye', 'Juliana Obayashi', 'Alakazam' and any small epies.

Jim Nones: jan46@gmail.com

'Mother Juana', 'Mila Antonio Nones'

Leonora Rodriguez: 'Lenore Overture',

'Kinneloa', 'Spanish Flare'

Paula Reynolds: paularey@aol.com

'Sunset Cliffs', 'Voltaire'

John Smolowe: johnsmolowe@gmail.com

'Ulana Mauve Delight', 'Jennie Martinez'

Janice Wakefield:

jwakefield.home@gmail.com

'Bobby Brynildsen', 'Jasa', 'White Cloud'



40th Annual
**Inter-City
 Cactus & Succulent**
 Show and Sale

Hosted by the
 Long Beach,
 Los Angeles, and
 San Gabriel Valley
 Cactus & Succulent
 Societies



The largest cactus
 and succulent show
 in the USA,
 with over 2,000
 plants on display

Agave titanota
 Oaxaca, Mexico

Vendors selling thousands of plants, ceramics, books, tools and more!

August 7th, 2026 - Sale 9AM-5PM
 August 8th & 9th, 2026 - Show & Sale 9AM-5PM
 Los Angeles County Arboretum
www.intercityshow.com

Instagram: @intercityshow Facebook Group: intercityshow

Right:
 'Reward' (plant
 from Mildred
 Mikas).
 Photo:
 JK Hendershot



Blooms, Social Media + Refreshments



Left: *'Deutsche Kaiserin'* formerly *'German Empress'* attributed to Bornemann (Backberg). Delicate rose-pink small.
Photo: Dr. Diane McClure Lott



Right: *'Princess de Monaco'* Beautiful pink by WATTS (PITT) registered in 1999.
Photo: Ken Maculan



Monthly Refreshment Schedule

January	C—G	July	Society
February	H—L	August	H—L
March	M—Q	September	M—Q
April	R—U	October	R—U
May	V—B	November	V—B
June	C—G	December	Banquet



San Diego Epiphyllum Society Grows With Instagram Social

The San Diego Epiphyllum Society recently launched a new Instagram account [@SDepisociety](#). At the time of this publication, we have over 70 followers and the numbers are growing every day.

For those that are new to Instagram, the platform is designed for visual content—encouraging users to express themselves and share stories through images and videos.

As we tell our story, Instagram gives us a great opportunity to connect with those social media users who have similar interests, and it provides SDES an ideal platform to share our mission as it relates to epiphyllum.

Using Instagram social media as a tool, we're able to post photos and videos from events such as our Mother's Day Show and Sale, and our Garden Caravan—as well as additional sales events and activities to attract new members to our group. And, Instagram also provides a forum to showcase the beautiful bloom photos taken by our members. Be sure to check for frequent updates and follow us today!

Epi News Submissions

News of interest to our SDES membership, and brief articles about our members, or our community are also welcome.

- Send any articles, photos, and questions.
- Send submissions as a Word or Google document. Items can also be sent as text pasted into an email body. No PDFs.
- Please limit formatting. Avoid excessive bolding or tabs. Avoid words in all CAPS. Please proofread and spellcheck, esp. names.
- Send photos as JPEGs attached in an email to submit to the editor.
- All photos need caption and photographer's name. Photos need photographer's permission.
- Use of photos is at the editor's discretion.
- Send videos as MP4 or as a YouTube link. Videos must have videographer's permission.
- Materials and submissions need contributor's name.
- All submissions are at the editor's discretion.
- Submissions are due by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's *Epi News*.
- If you are not sure—send it anyway. Email the editor at: EpiNews@sdepis.org

Mission Statement

SDES is a community of epi growers who encourage the study of epies and the interchange of ideas on growing, displaying, and collecting epies and its related species.

SDES Officers for 2026¹

<u>President</u>	Dean DeLibertis
<u>1st Vice President</u>	David Cheever
<u>2nd Vice President</u>	Jerry Moreau
<u>Treasurer</u>	Gerry Mikas
<u>Recording Secretary</u>	Open
<u>Membership Secretary</u>	Beth Jackson
<u>Immediate Past President</u>	Carmela Griswold
<u>Director 2025-26</u>	Ken Maculan
<u>Director 2026-27</u>	Gilbert Hatfield
<u>Director 2026-27</u>	Linda Kruger
<u>Director 2026-27</u>	Mildred Mikas

¹ Click 'Title' hyperlink to email an officer.

Resources

As a benefit to our members we have compiled a list of epi resources available to you. If you are aware of any additional resources that you feel would benefit our members and you would like to have them included, please contact the editor.

Epi Nurseries:

Epi Haven - <https://epihaven.com/>

Epiphyllum World - Don Cravalho
<http://stores.ebay.com/epiphyllum-world>

Epic Foundation - Frank Süplie
www.epiphyllum.online

Garden Jewels Nursery - Katie Lutz
<http://gardenjewelsnursery.com/>

Heny's Epiphyllums - Heny Brandenburg
<https://www.facebook.com/emeraldmoonepiphyllums/>

Kakteen Haage - Ulrich Haage
<http://www.kakteen-haage.de/>

Pacific Epiphyllum - Chris Welcher
<http://www.pacificepiphyllum.com/>

Plant and Other Societies:

Cactus & Succulent Society of America

<https://cactusandsucculentsociety.org/>

SDES is an affiliate member and our members are welcome at their meetings and webinars. See their website for more information.

Epiphyllum Society of America

1st Tuesday of every month except in December or January at 7:30 p.m. <http://epiphyllums.org/>

Master Gardener Assoc. of San Diego County

<https://www.mastergardensd.org/>

Website includes: live meetings, programs, a blog, and items of interest for gardeners.

San Diego Botanical Garden Society

<http://www.sdbgf.org/>

San Diego Bromeliad Society

2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

<http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org/>

San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Society

Meets on Zoom every 2nd Friday

<https://www.sdturtle.org/>

South Bay Epiphyllum Society

Meets quarterly. Check Facebook for dates

www.facebook.com/groups/511560205668403

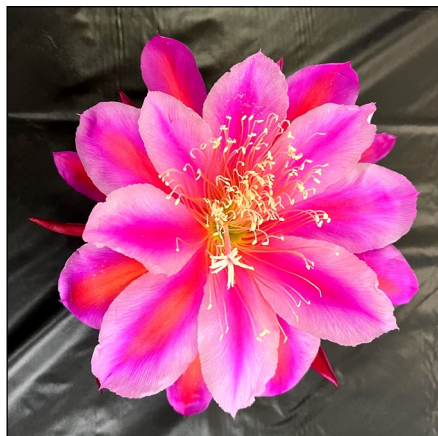


Society Officers, Directors and Coordinators for 2026¹

President	Dean DeLibertis President@sdepis.org	Internet/Webmaster Deputy Webmaster	Gilbert Hatfield David Cheever Webmaster@sdepis.org
1st Vice President Programs	David Cheever Programs@sdepis.org	Workshops	Jerry Moreau Workshops@sdepis.org
2nd Vice President Mother's Day Show	Jerry Moreau MothersDay@sdepis.org	CSSA Affiliate Rep	Jerry Moreau CSSA@sdepis.org
Treasurer	Gerry Mikas Treasurer@sdepis.org	EpiNews Editor	JK Hendershot EpiNews@sdepis.org
Recording Secretary	OPEN Recording@sdepis.org	Research & Education	Linda Sinkovic Research@sdepis.org
Membership Secretary	Beth Jackson Membership@sdepis.org	SDBGF Rep	Patricia Neal SDBGF@sdepis.org
Director 2025-26	Ken Maculan Directors@sdepis.org	Librarian	Marie Dempewolf Librarian@sdepis.org
Director 2026-27	Gilbert Hatfield Directors@sdepis.org	Historian	Patricia Neal Historian@sdepis.org
Director 2026-27	Linda Kruger Directors@sdepis.org	Raffle Table	Paula Reynolds Raffles@sdepis.org
Director 2026-27	Mildred Mikas Directors@sdepis.org	Hospitality	OPEN Hospitality@sdepis.org
Immediate Past President	Carmela Griswold PastPresident@sdepis.org	Name Tags/ Internet P.O.S.	Gerry Mikas Store@sdepis.org
Sales Table & Events	Cindy Decker & Dean Delibertis Salestable@sdepis.org SalesEvents@sdepis.org	Refreshments	David Cheever Refreshments@sdepis.org
Garden Caravan	Jerry Moreau GardenCaravan@sdepis.org	Social Media	OPEN
Holiday Banquet	Mildred Mikas Banquet@sdepis.org	Publicity	OPEN Publicity@sdepis.org

¹ Complete listing appears in January and July issues.

More 2026 Mother's Day Show Bloom Entries



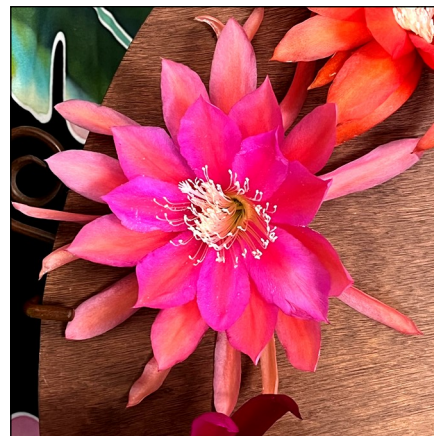
'Tycoon'

Photo: Patricia Neal



'Undine'

Photo: Patricia Neal



'Spring Morn'

Photo: Patricia Neal

What's in a Name? A Beautiful Flower of Course!

Fascinating Forms: The Ric Rac Species and Their Hybrids by Jerry Moreau

Our epiphytic cacti are endlessly captivating, not only for their spectacular flowers but also for their unique growth forms. What we often call *branches* or *pads* are actually thickened, flattened green segments called *cladodes*. These cladodes function as both photosynthetic organs and water-storage tissues, allowing the plants to thrive in bright but moisture-variable treetop environments.

Spines, when present, are modified leaves. The cladodes themselves vary greatly in both thickness and shape across species and hybrids. Among the most distinctive forms are those with deeply lobed or wavy pads, frequently known as the “Ric Rac,” “Fishbone,” or “Zig Zag” cacti. Four species share this characteristic look, but the best known are *Disocactus anguliger* and *Selenicereus anthonyanus*. *Epiphyllum chrysocardium* is also beloved among collectors, while *Weberocereus imitans* remains rare in cultivation.

Why the Zig Zag Shape?

The origin of these unusual forms has intrigued botanists for decades. Rudolf Heßing Herick once asked Dr. Ralph Mangeldorff of Goethe Universi-

ty, Frankfurt, about the reason for such deeply lobed stems. Dr. Mangeldorff proposed that the lobes increase photosynthetic surface area—similar to the divided fronds of ferns or the serrated leaves of some palms, which capture more light efficiently.

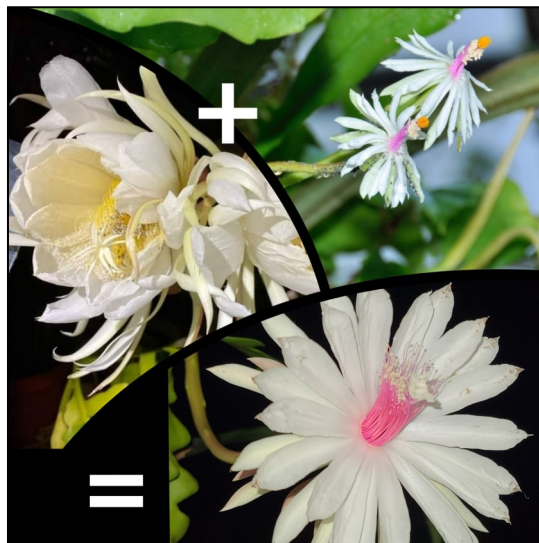
In addition, these divided stems help the plants withstand strong winds in their native habitats. By reducing wind resistance, the lobes help prevent breakage, an elegant adaptation for life high among tree branches.

The Species

Disocactus anguliger – The most widely grown of the group, *D. anguliger* was discovered in the 1850s in Mexico, where it occurs in the states of Guerrero, Jalisco, Nayarit, and Oaxaca. Its deeply lobed stems have triangular lobes, and the fra-

grant nocturnal flowers feature white inner petals surrounded by lemon- to golden-yellow outer ones. Blossoms often remain open well into the following day. Synonyms include *Epiphyllum anguliger*, *E. beahmianum*, *E. darrahii*, and *E. gertrudeanum*.

Selenicereus anthonyanus (formerly *Cryptocereus anthonyanus*) – Discovered in southern



E. chrysocardium, and *E. baueri*

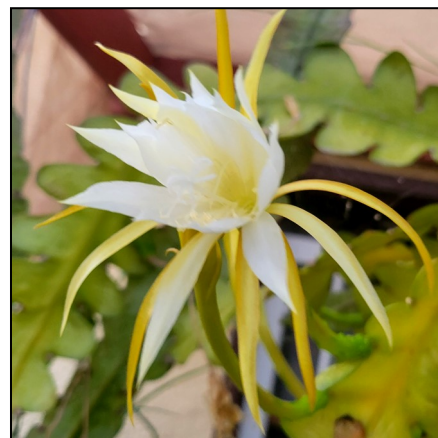
Photos: Rudi Dorsch, Ralph Mangeldorff



Weberocereus imitans
Photo: Andreas Kittelmann



Selenicereus anthonyanus
Photo: SDES Archives



D. anguliger ssp. *noller uruapan*
Photo: Jerry Moreau

What's in a Name? A Beautiful Flower of Course! *Continued*

Mexico in the mid-1900s, this climbing, strongly epiphytic species possesses deeply toothed lobes and fragrant flowers with purple outer petals and creamy yellow-white interiors. It was named for Harold E. Anthony, who first flowered it in June 1950.

Epiphyllum chrysocardium (syn. *Selenicereus chrysocardium*) – Found in Chiapas and Tabasco and described in the 1950s, its name comes from the Greek *chryso* (gold) and *cardium* (heart). Its deeply lobed stems can grow up to six feet long, and the enormous blooms, up to 15 inches long and 12 inches wide—feature golden yellow stamens within a very spiny floral tube. Sometimes called the “Fern Leaf Cactus” or “Golden Heart Epiphyllum,” it is an impressive, if occasionally shy, bloomer.

Weberocereus imitans (also known as *Werckleocereus imitans* or *Eccremocactus imitans*) – This Costa Rican species, described in the 1950s, is the least cultivated of the group. The name *imitans* means “imitating” in Latin, referencing its resemblance to *Epiphyllum*. As it was first thought to be *D. anguliger* (*Epiphyllum anguliger*). Its stems are cylindrical at the base but flatten into deeply lobed sections above. The smaller flowers have maroon outer petals and whitish-cream centers. According to the IUCN, *W. imitans* is listed as endangered (2009), known from only about five natural populations affected by habitat loss.

Other Interesting Relatives

Although not “zigzag cacti” by strict definition, a few other species show unusual growth.

***Disocactus crenatus* ssp. *crenatus* ‘Chichicastenango’** – This Guatemalan form has irregular, distorted stem lobes. The flowers resemble those of the typical subspecies, with pale yellow outer petals and white inner petals.

Epiphyllum grandilobum – Native to Costa Rica and Panama, this vigorous vine can extend over 30

feet. Its lobed stems reach up to 10 inches wide, and its large, creamy flowers with greenish-yellow outer petals are softly translucent and strikingly beautiful.

Hybrids and Modern Hybridizing

In 2014, Dr. Mangeldorff reported crossbreeding experiments involving *Epiphyllum* species and *Selenicereus chrysocardium*. While *S. chrysocardium* failed as a seed parent, several seedlings were successfully raised from *Epiphyllum*-produced fruits. One notable hybrid, *E. baueri* × *S. chrysocardium*, bloomed in 2015 and was named ×*Seleniphyllum bauericardium* ‘Vine Snake’ for the resemblance of its flower tube to the slender Central American tree snake *Oxybelis*. This intriguing hybrid displays traits from both parents and continues to spark taxonomic debate about the true placement of *S. chrysocardium*.

Today, *D. anguliger* and *S. anthonyanus* are widely used in hybridization, contributing their distinctive lobed cladodes and striking floral forms to a wealth of modern epiphyllum hybrids. Some lines also incorporate *E. chrysocardium* for added texture and form.

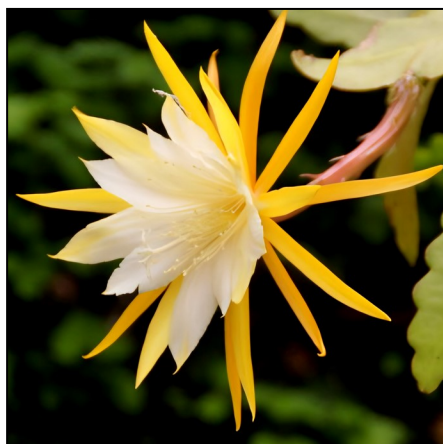
Notable hybridizers whom you might recognize, working with these species include Don Burnett, Wressey Cocke, Rudolf Heßing Herick, Eckhard Meier, Mitsuhashi Nursery, Helmut Paetzold, Dr. Werner Stauch, and Wolfgang Wilborn. As of this writing, there are approximately 43 registered hybrids derived from *D. anguliger*, nine from *S. anthonyanus*, and eight from *E. chrysocardium* being a parent.

Whether you grow the species or their hybrids, these unusual cacti bring beauty, movement, and sculptural interest to any collection. Their fascinating forms and luminous flowers are a vivid reminder of the creativity found in nature and in the hands of dedicated hybridizers. On the next pages please enjoy the photos of cultivars with parentage from some of the species we’ve discussed.

References

- 1 - Heßing Herick, R. (Oct 2021). My Hybrids with *Disocactus anguliger*. *Epi News* Volume 46, Number 10. p6 -10 & 20
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- 3 - ESA. Registry of Species and Hybrids, 2014
- 4 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selenicereus_anthonyanus
- 5 - <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/152179/606460>
- 6 - Hunt, D. (2006) *The New Cactus Lexicon*
- 7 - Varga, Z (March 2026) Fishbone or Zig-zag cacti. *Cactus & Succulent Review*. Issue 48. p27-27
- 8 - <https://www.cactusnames.org/weberocereus-imitans/>
- 9 - <https://earthpedia.earth.com/plant-encyclopedia/angiosperms/cactaceae/weberocereus-imitans/>

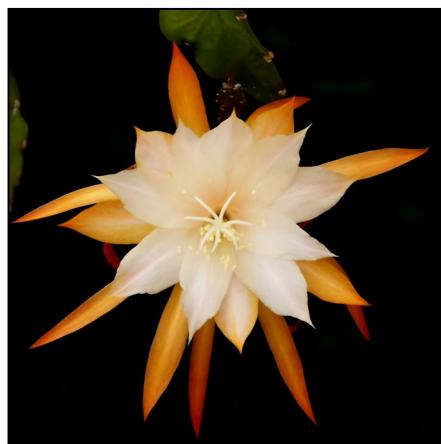
Hybrids Produced From *Disocactus anguliger* (unless noted)



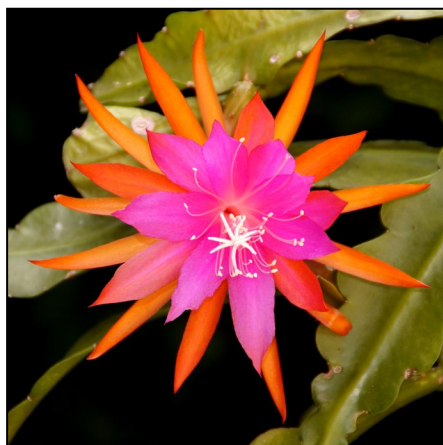
'Jalisco Ancoo'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



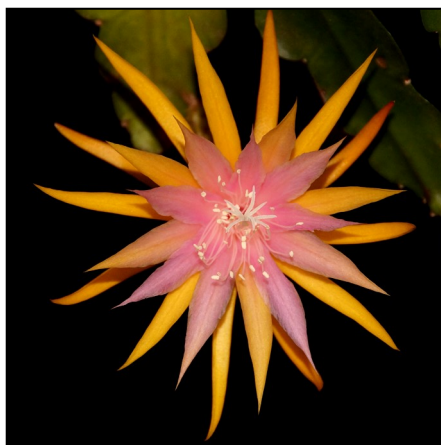
'Jalisco Beauty'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



'Jalisco Camilla'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



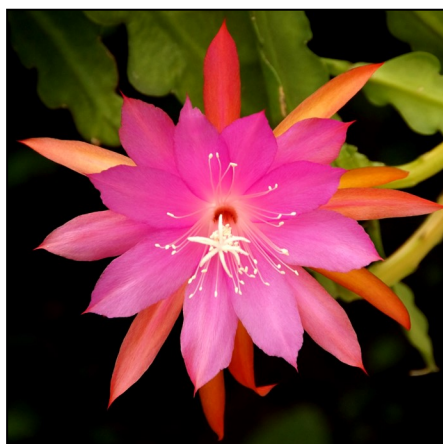
'Jalisco Charme' (Summer)
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



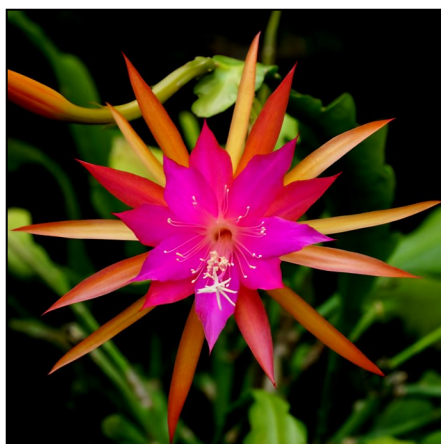
'Jalisco Charme' (Winter)
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



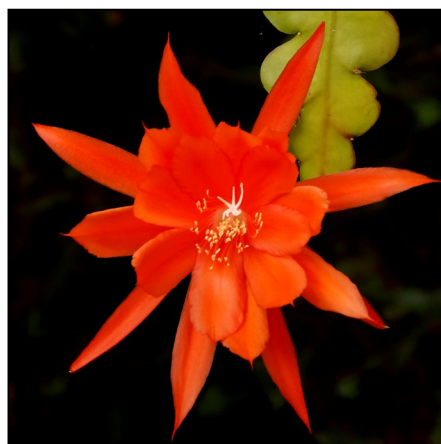
'Jalisco Cheer'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



'Jalisco Chris'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick

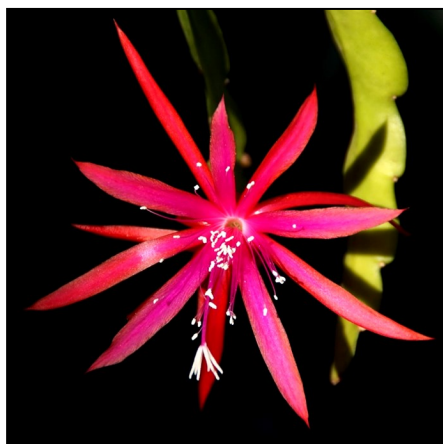


'Jalisco Cowi'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



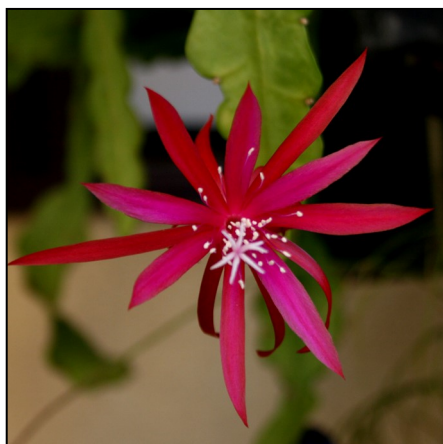
'Jalisco Curly'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick

Hybrids Produced From *Disocactus anguliger* (unless noted)



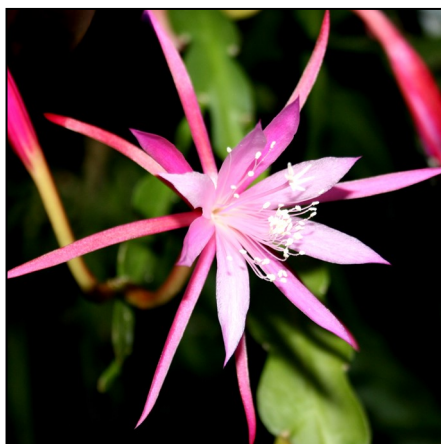
'Jalisco Disco'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



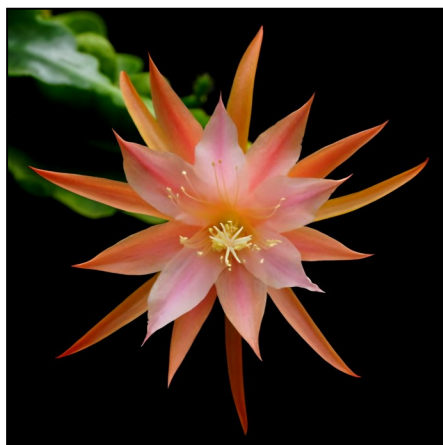
'Jalisco Flirt'

Photo: Jerry Moreau



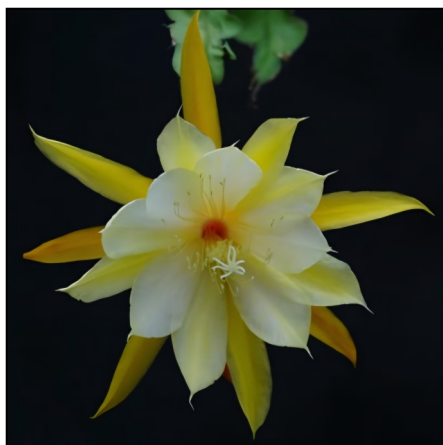
'Jalisco Grace'

Photo: Jerry Moreau



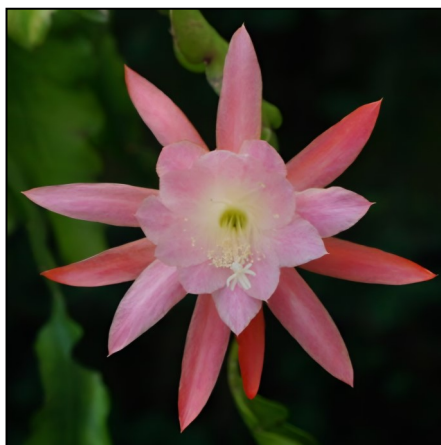
'Jalisco Heny'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



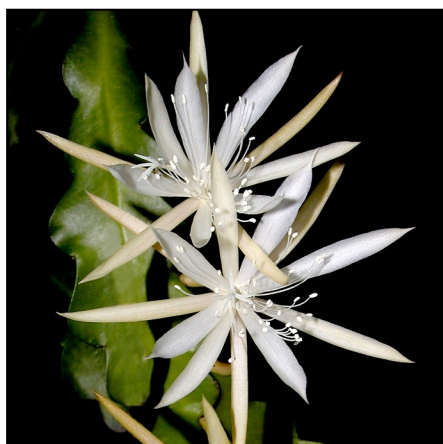
'Jalisco Circe'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



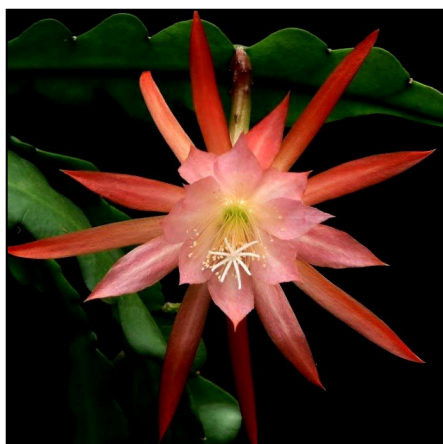
'Jalisco Empress'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



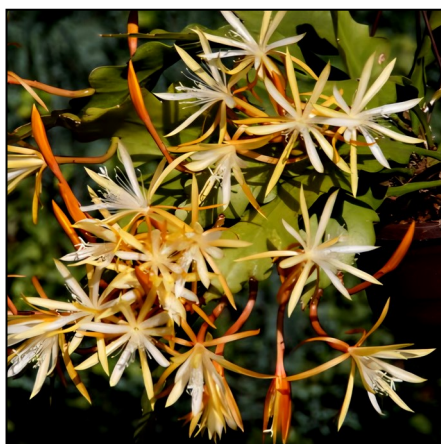
'Jalisco Passion'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



'Jalisco Queen'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



'Jalisco Starlight'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick

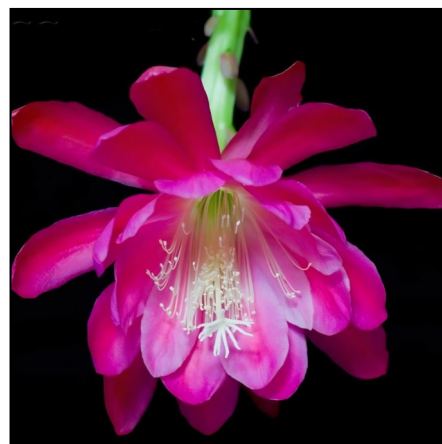
Hybrids Produced From *Disocactus anguliger* (unless noted)



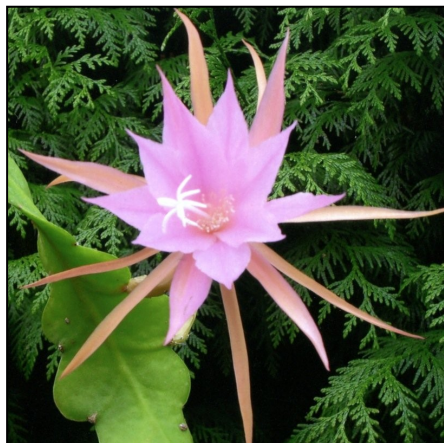
'Hunsrück Feuer'
Photo: SDES Archives
from *E. chrysocardium*



'Hunsrück Cup'
Photo: SDES Archives
from *E. chrysocardium*



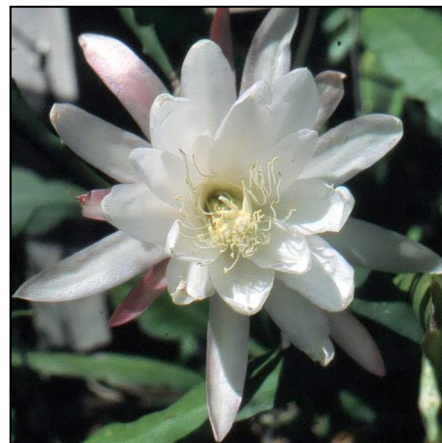
'Hunsrück Champion'
Photo: SDES Archives
from *E. chrysocardium*



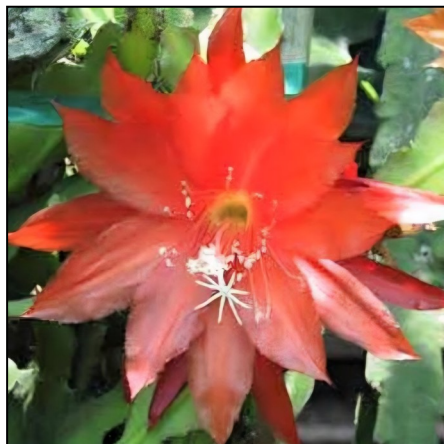
'Alice Paetz'
Photo: SDES Archives



'Lydia Paetz'
Photo: Helmut Paetzold
from *E. chrysocardium*



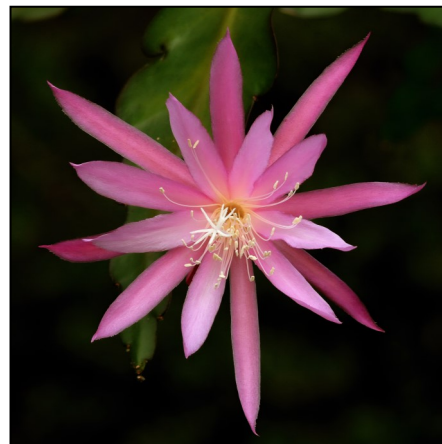
'Liberty Cara Belle'
Photo: Joyce Carr



'Epicon VIII'
Photo: Keith Ballard



'Wressey's Charme'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick

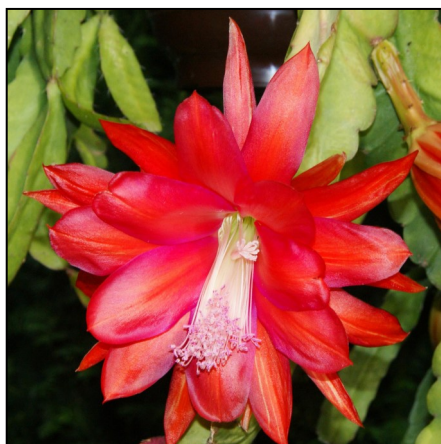


'Wressey's Luck'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick

Hybrids Produced From *Disocactus anguliger* (unless noted)



'Wowi's Weisshorn'
Photo: Wolfgang Wilborn



'Wowi's Wallberg'
Photo: Wolfgang Wilborn



'Wowi's Weißkogel'
Photo: Wolfgang Wilborn



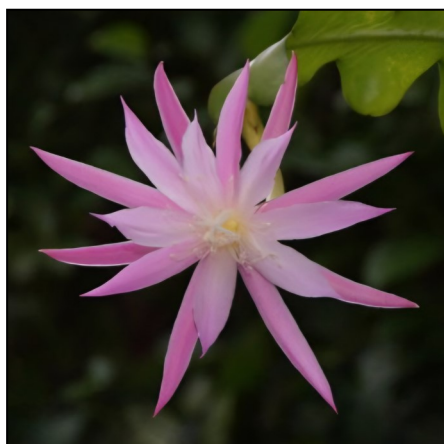
'Wowi's Dachstein'
Photo: Wolfgang Wilborn



'What Luck'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



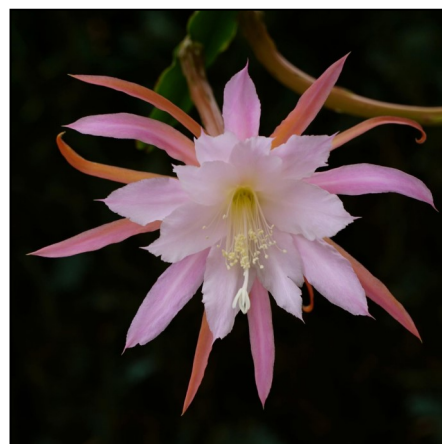
'El Tecolote'
Photo: Chuck Everson



'Kodi I'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



'Kodi II'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



'Kodi III'
Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick

We Leave You With This — A Beautiful Flower of Course!



'Müllers Mandarin'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick
from *Selenicereus anthonyanus*



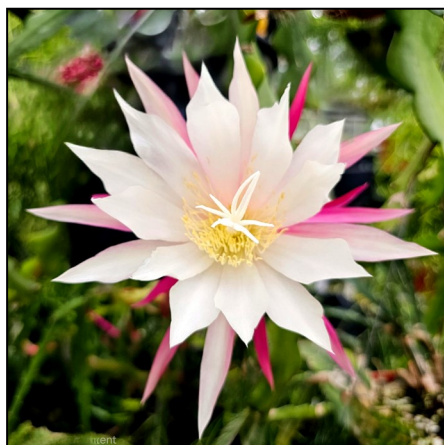
'Stauch's Mandarin'

Photo: SDES Archives
from *Selenicereus anthonyanus*



'Semenchkare'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



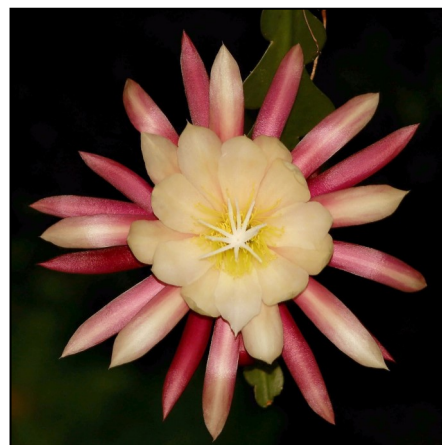
'Taskamore'

Photo: JK Hendeshot
from *Selenicereus anthonyanus*



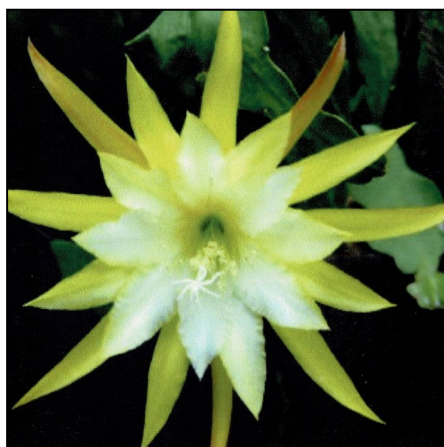
'The Lost Dutchman'

Photo: SDES Archives
from *Selenicereus anthonyanus*



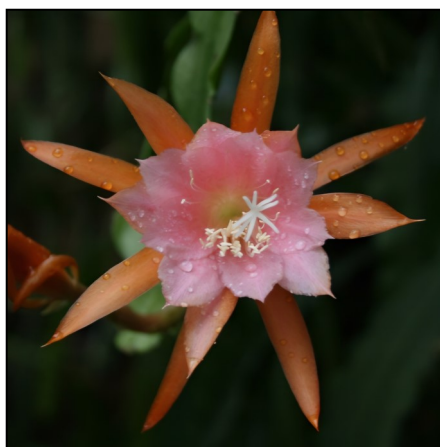
'Kimas'

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick
from *Selenicereus anthonyanus*



'Katsi'

Photo: SDES Achieves



'Kaguyahime'

Photo: Jerry Moreau



'Jetz'

Photo: SDES Achieves