

ONCIDIUM longifolium.

Long-leaved Oncidium.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. ord. Orchidaceæ, § Vandeæ.

ONCIDIUM. Botanical Register, vol. 9, fol. 727.

O. longifolium; (Cebolletæ) foliis teretibus longissimis diffusis, scapo erecto densè paniculato, sepalis petalisque apiculatis obtusis concavis, labelli lobis lateralibus patentibus obliquè oblongis subquadratis intermedio obovato bifido basi angustato minoribus, tuberculo basi depresso anticè tricorni glabro, columnæ alis sublunatis brevibus rotundatis. Botanical Register, 1841. misc. 56.

Folia tripedalia, flagelliformia, prostrata. Scapus 3-4-pedalis paniculatus. Sepala et Petala lutea sanguineo maculata; labellum luteum sanguineo prope basin marginatum.

Under the name of Oncidium Cebolleta many very different species exist in our gardens, among which the finest is that now figured, which, although it has the foliage of that species, is really very different, forming dense panicles, three feet long, of very large and showy yellow and brown flowers. Its leaves are often three feet long, and hang down or spread upon the ground instead of standing stiff and erect. It has been imported abundantly by the Horticultural Society from Mexico, and has flowered both in their garden and with Messrs. Loddiges. It is very handsome, and well worth growing.

From all the allied species it differs in the great length of its whip-like leaves, and in the form of its labellum, whose lateral lobes are something like bird's wings in shape, while the intermediate lobe has an unusually long unguis gradually dilating into a two-lobed extremity.

In cultivation it requires a warm damp atmosphere, where such plants as Cattleyas, Lælias, and Stanhopeas flourish. A temperature ranging from 55° to 65° with artificial heat,

will be quite sufficient. It will grow very well amongst turfy peat in a pot; but we prefer suspending it in a forked block of wood, and allowing the long leaves to hang gracefully down, as they do in its native woods. If grown in this way, the cultivator must fix it firmly to the block, and pack the roots all round with turfy peat or sphagnum, and take care that it is freely watered, particularly when it is growing. Plants which are hung up in this manner are not likely to suffer from too much water.

It is propagated in the usual way, by division.

The other species of this section are the following; viz.

O. brachyphyllum; foliis crassissimis brevibus erectis acutis, paniculâ laxâ pauciflorâ, sepalis petalisque obovatis acuminatis longè unguiculatis, labelli lobis lateralibus patentibus ovalibus acutis intermedio reniformi emarginato longioribus, tuberculo tricorni subverrucoso, columnæ alis sublunatis brevibus rotundatis.

This is a Mexican species, with very short stiff leaves, and smaller panicles, not above eighteen inches high.

O ascendens; foliis erectis junceis, scapo stricto paniculato æqualibus, sepalis petalisque obovatis obtusis concavis, labelli lobis lateralibus nanis erectis intermedio reniformi emarginato, tuberculo ovato 7-dentato, columnæ alis linearibus integerrimis incurvis.

This is from Guatemala, and has much the habit of O. Cebolleta; but the linear wings of the column, the small erect lateral lobes of the lip, and the many-toothed tubercle distinguish it at once.

O. Cebolleta. Suprà fol. 1994.

Of this there are several varieties, one of which has the back of the lip covered with crimson spots, and another has no spots at all.

O. nudum. Supra fol. 1994.