

Cattleya Michelle Fiene



Cattleya walkeriana 'Pendentive' var. alba
AM/AOS

Photo by Fred Clarke Sunset Valley Orchids

X



Cattleya jenmanii 'Dr. Mark' AM/AOS

Grown by Mark Sanborn

Photograph by Karl Seigler



Cattleya Michelle Fiene (*C. walkeriana*
'Pendentive' AM/AOS x *C. jenmanii* 'Dr. Mark'
AM/AOS)

Grown and photographed by Mark Sanborn

***Cattleya* Michelle Fiene** is one of Mark Sanborn's first attempts at hybridization. In hybridizing, *Cattleya* *walkeriana* dominates an offspring's growth habit, flower shape, size, color, texture, and fragrance. Flowers tend to be flat and the isthmus lip is also dominant. This species from Brazil produces 1-2 flowers per inflorescence and this low flower count is also inherited by its progeny (AOS, n.d.). *C. jenmanii* was discovered in Venezuela, described in 1906, then all but forgotten until its "rediscovery" in 1969 (Chadwick & Sons, 2001, Sept). Only a few registered crosses of *jenmanii* are listed by the Royal Horticulture Society (RHS) and little literature exists about *C. jenmanii*'s parental influence. However, it is known that *C. jenmanii* has a compact growth habit, is very floriferous—sometimes 5 or more flowers per stem, and is very fragrant.

As can be seen in the photo, *C. Michelle Fiene* inherited many characteristics of *C. walkeriana*. Plants tend to be small in stature, but produce 1-3 large (10-12 cm) flowers per stem that are very fragrant—blooms April through June. This hybrid is easy to grow and grows best on a cork mount while sitting in a clay pot. According to Baker (as cited in OrchidWiz, 2014) growing conditions should be warm to hot (65-85 nighttime); bright indirect light; and 50-60% humidity.

Submitted by **Karlene Sanborn**

American Orchid Society (AOS). (n.d.). Hereditary influences of the *Cattleya* alliance.

<http://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=407>

Chadwick & Sons, Orchids Inc. (2001, Sept). *Cattleya jenmanii*. <http://chadwickorchids.com/jenmanii>

OrchidWiz, ver. 11.0. (2014).