

### **Featured Orchid**

***Cattleya purpurata***, also known ***Laelia purpurata*** and ***Sophranitis purpurata***, is native to [Brazil](#) where it is very popular among orchid growers. It is an [epiphyte](#) that is found in the canopy of tall trees near coastal areas, in the Brazilian states of [Rio Grande do Sul](#), [Santa Catarina](#) and [São Paulo](#). This orchid favors bright light and cool to warm conditions and is relative easy to cultivate. *C. purpurata* has been used extensively as a parent in hybridizing with [Cattleyas](#). *Cattleya purpurata* blooms from late spring to fall with three to seven showy flowers on a spike. The flowers are long-lasting and fragrant (anise). Flower color is variable. From [Wikipedia](#); [ISOPE](#)



*Cattleya (Laelia) purpurata (rubra x rubra)*  
Grown by Mark & Karlene Sanborn  
Photograph by Karlene Sanborn

Note the color range of the three line-bred plants on the right.

Karlene Sanborn

