

# Phaius

Phaius SUBFAMILY Epidendroideae, TRIBE Arethuseae, SUBTRIBE Bletinae.

This genus is composed of 40-50 species widespread through Africa to the Philippines and the Pacific Islands. It is a wide spread genus that for the most part has a pleasing vegetative appearance even out of bloom. They are mostly shade loving and terrestrial with a few epiphytes and generally like even watering [see individual species listing]. When in their growth phase weekly fertilizer is recommended year round. Phaius are sympodial and most often terrestrial, with highly variable plant size. The pseudobulbs are small with new growths arising from the base of the pseudobulb or from the rhizome. They have large plicate leaves that can be ruffled as well and generally have a pretty out of bloom appearance. The inflorescence arises from the base of the old pseudobulb or from the rhizome and has its flowers racemose at the end of the spike. Phaius in general has large showy flowers with a pleasant fragrance. New plants can be obtained from the old spikes, just lay the spike out in a plastic flat filled with sand and half cover them. Keep in a shady moist area and in 1-2 months the new plants will appear from the nodes of the spike. The Phaius from Madagascar are also listed in the genus *Gastorchis* and in the list below are noted with an \*.

## Phaius Species List

The species list below was composed with information from the following sources.

**The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Orchids** by *Alec Pridgeon*.

Published by the Timber Press

**The Manual Of Cultivated Orchid Species** by *Bechtel, Cribb and Launert*.

Published by The MIT Press

**Orchid Species Culture , Pescatorea, Phaius, phalaenopsis, Pholidota, Phragmipedium and Pleione** by *Charles and Margaret Baker*

Published by Timber press

Note: \* indicates species that may or were included in *Gastorchis*, depending on who you listen to.

Note: Species names that are synonyms of correct species are denoted with a ~

- *actinomorpha* T.P.Lin - Taiwan - Alt 792m - Flowers in Dec. - Shady and wet in spring and summer, dry and humid winter - Terrestrial
- *amboinensis* [Zipp.] Blume - Indonesia, New Guinea and out through the Pacific Islands - Alt 0-100m - Flowers in June-Oct -Terrestrial
  - ~*papuanus*
  - ~*zollingeri*
- *assamicus* -?Sanders list
- *bernaysii* - ?Sanders list
- *bkumei* - ?Sanders list
- *borensis* J.J.SM - Borneo - Terrestrial - Rare
- *callosus* [Blume] Lindl. - Malaysia, Indonesia, Java - Alt 1219-1525m - Flowers in Nov-Dec - Shady montane forest -Terrestrial
  - ~*hasseltii*
  - ~*kuhlii*
- *celebicus* Scltr. - Possibly conspecific with *P. flavus* - Sulawesi [Celebes] Islands and Indonesia - Alt 1200m - Flowers in Dec. - High elevation forest in humus - terrestrial - Wet summer, dryer late winter and early spring

- *columnaris* Tang & cheng - China - Alt 230m - Flowers in May-June - Limestone areas under forest trees - terrestrial
- *cooperi* Rolfe - Rare
- *corymbioides* Schltr. - Rare
- *cupreus* Rchb.f. -Java - Rare  
~*augustinianus*
- *daenikerii* Krzl. - New Caledonia - Alt 750-1200m - Flowers in Jan, June and Sept. - among rocks in humid forest areas - Terrestrial - Even water year round
- *ecalcaratus* J.J.Sm. - Indonesia - Rare  
~*callosus* var *ecalcaratus*
- *epiphyticus* Seidenf. - Thailand - Alt 1400-1530m - Flowers in ? - small epiphyte
- *flavus* [Blume] Lindl. - India, Thailand, Malaysia, China, Japan, Taiwan and the Philippines - Alt 1220m-1768m - Flowers in Dec-May, July-Aug and Oct - Terrestrial - High swampy forest - shaded light - more water May-Oct., less water Nov-Apr.  
~*bracteosus*  
~*flexuosus*  
~*crispus*  
~*indigoferis* Blume  
~*maculatus*  
~*minor*  
~*platyichilus*  
~*somai*  
~*undulatomarginata*  
~*woodfordii*
- *fragilis* L.O.Williams - Philippines - Alt 900-1500m - Flowers in Apr-Aug - Mossy forests -terrestrial - Water even year round
- *\*francoisii* {Sclctr.}Summerh. - Madagascar - Alt 1200-1600m - Flowers in Aug-Oct. - Humid forests - Water more May-Sept -terrestrial
- *\*geffrayi* J Bosser - Madagascar - Alt 1000m - Flowers in ? - Moist shady forest - terrestrial
- *gibbosulus* H.Perrier - Rare
- *graeffi* Rchb.f. - Samoa and Fiji - Rare
- *gratus* Blume - Ambon Island - Rare
- *hainanensis* Tang&Cheng - Hainan Island, China - Alt 1100m - Flowers in May - Rock crevasses - Terrestrial - More water Apr-Nov - medium wet all year
- *hookerianus* Rchb.f. - Rare - location unknown
- *humblotii* [Rchb.f.] Summerh - Madagascar - Alt 1000-2000m - flowers in May-Oct - wet semi-deciduous forest - more water June-Oct - Terrestrial  
~*schlechteri*
- *indigoferus* Hassock - Thailand and Vietnam - Alt 1300m - Flowers in ? - Montane forests - More water Apr-Oct - terrestrial
- *klabatensis* J.J.Sm. - Sulawesi [Celebes] Island -Rare
- *labiatus* J.J.Sm. - Sumatra - Rare
- *linearifolius* Ames - Philippines - Alt 1200-1650m - Flowers in June and July - Hill forests at streamside - Terrestrial - more water May-Oct
- *longibracteatus* Frap. ex Cordem. - Rare
- *longicuris* Z.H.Tsi - Rare
- *luridus* Thwaites - Sri Lanka [Ceylon] - Alt 0-200m - Flowers in Aug-Sept - Moist shady lowlands - Rare - terrestrial
- *\*luteus* [Ursch&Genoud] J.Bosser - Madagascar - Alt 900m - Flowers in Mar-Apr. - Humid forests - Terrestrial or occasionally epiphytic on base of mossy trees

- *lyonii* Ames - Philippines - Alt 600-850m - Flowers in Mar-Sept - Open and shady glades - terrestrial - water more May-Oct
- *mannii* Rchb.f. - May be conspecific with *P. wallichii* aka *P. tankervilleae* - Zaire Africa - Terrestrial - More water May-Nov.
- *mindorensis* Ames - Philippines - Alt 1000-1430m - Flowers in Mar and Nov - Mossy forests - terrestrial or epiphyte - more water May-Nov
- *mishmensis* [lindl.] Rchb.f. - Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands - Alt 900-1500m - Flowers in July-Jan - Broadleaf forests with semi shade - Terrestrial - more water Apr-Oct
  - ~*crinita* [Gagnep.]Seidenf.
  - ~*gracilis* Hayata
  - ~*roseus* Rolfe
- *montanus* Schltr. - New Guinea - Alt. 800-1300m - Flowers in Jan-Feb and Sept - Sharp ridges in cloud forest in the Finistere Mtns. often rooted in humus between large rocks in open semi- bushy spots - Dappled shady light as the location gets few clear days - Keep damp all year, water more Nov-Apr - terrestrial
- *nanus* Hkr. - W Bengal, India - Rare
- *neocaledonicus* Rendle - New Caledonia - Alt 75-400m - Flowers in Nov-Feb - rarely seen but found in dense forest - even water year round - Terrestrial
- *occidentalis* Schltr. - Uganda, Angola, Malawi, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe - Alt 1100-1400m - Flowers in Feb and Oct-Nov - Sphagnum swamps - keep wet year round but water more Mar-May - Terrestrial
- *pauciflorus* Blume - Malaysia, Sumatra and Java - Alt 800-1500m - Flowers in Jan and Aug - Forests - water more Apr-Nov - Terrestrial
  - ~*pallidus*
- *\*peyrotii* J.Bosser - Madagascar - Alt 900-1100m - Flowers in ? - Shady forests - Terrestrial - more water July-Oct but keep wet year round
- *philippinesis* N.E.Brown - Philippines - Alt 900-1200m - Flowers in Jan, Mar-Apr and Oct-Nov - mossy bogs - water year round but more water in May-Oct - shady - terrestrial
- *pictus* T.E.Hunt - Australia, Cape York peninsula - Alt 0-800m - Flowers in May - warm rainforest - more water June-Oct never soggy - terrestrial -shady
- *\*pulchellus* Krztl - Madagascar - Alt 700-1500m - Flowers in Feb-May - shady humid forest - terrestrial - more water Jan-Sept never soggy
- *\*pulcher* [Hum&Perr de Bathie]Summerh - Madagascar - Flowers in ? - Alt 800-1700m - shady humid forest - Even water year round - terrestrial
- *ramosii* Ames - - Philippines - Rare
- *robertsii* von Mueller - New Caledonia - Alt 90-1400m - Flowers in Sept-Dec - Humid forest - even water year round - terrestrial
  - ~*monticola*
- *sanderianus* ?Sanders list
- *\*simulans* Rolfe - Madagascar - Flowers are similar to *P. tuberculosis* yet plants are distinctly different - epiphyte with climbing branching rhizome - moss covered tree trunks
- *sinensis* Rolfe - Kwangtung China - Rare
- *stenocentron* Schltr. - Sulawesi [Celebes] - Rare
- *steppicola* Hand.&Mazz. - China - subtropical and rocky - Rare
- *subtrilobus* Ames and Schweinfurth - North Borneo - Alt 1500m - Flowers in Jan-Feb - even water year round - terrestrial
- *tahitensis* Schltr. - Tahiti - Rare

- tankervilleae Blume - Africa through Asia and out to the Pacific Islands including Australia - Alt 0-2000m - open grassy fields or moist open deciduous forest, or in swampy areas of shady pine forest - more water May-Sept -Terrestrial
  - ~australis
  - ~brenaysii
  - ~blumei
  - ~bicolor Lindl.
  - ~carronii Schltr.
  - ~giganteous
  - ~grandiflorus
  - ~grandifolius Lour.
  - ~incarvillei
  - ~leucophoeus Ames
  - ~longicornu
  - ~roeblingii
  - ~stuppens
  - ~tuberculatus
  - ~wallichii Hkr.f.
- \*tenuis Rchb.f. - Madagascar - Rare
- trichoneurus Schltr - Sulawesi {Celebes} Islands - Alt 0-100m - terrestrial
- \*tuberculosis Blume - Madagascar
- warpurii Weathers
- veratrifolius Lindl. - Himalayas - Rare
- wenshanensis -?Sanders list