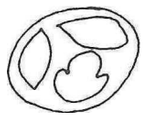
MINIATURE CATTLEYA ORCHID

Your set comprises following items:-





Column petal and petal shaping stand Three petal cutter

1. Please read introduction paras 1-29.

2. Prepare paste as paras 9-12. You may wish to colour paste to the basic base colour required (see para 26).

3. This is a very miniature orchid but is quite easy to make. The method used is very similar to the standard CatUeya Orchid but apart from the column petal it is not wired, so it is assembled as per the unwired Cymbidium Orchid on the following pages. This method of assembly which we developed for the Cymbidium is easily the best and fastest of any method we have tried. The main problem you may have is the small size of the flower, but with a little practise this is easily overcome.

4. Make petals in the following order and assemble as indicated.

a) Column petal, 1 per orchid. Make these petals in advance as they must set for a few hours before attachment to trumpet petal. DO NOT powder mould. Fill mould with a very small roll of paste just sufficient to fill the column petal, the more accurately you can judge this the easier it will be to fill the mould cleanly. Use your fingertip to 'smear fill' the mould similar to diagram on top page 8 obviously the mould used is different in this case.. Make a very small snub hook with 33 guage wire (see diagram). Make a very small hole or 'dint' mark on the surface of the paste as marked in diagram, place snub hook in this hole and push it forwards into the column petal. To remove, see para 15 take out with sticky finger pad not with wire. Hold by wire and squeeze lower edges slightly to dull sharpness, see diagram.

b)Trumpet petal, 1 per orchid. Roll paste; cut and vein as per paras 13, 14. Remove as para 15 and frill petal as per para 20, only frill very slightly. Place on stand and form with cocktail stick or similar. To attach to column petal, bend wire so that column petal is at angle (see diag), coat column with egg-white at sides of pointed end, hold wire in left hand and lower into position between petal sides of trumpet petal (see diag).

c) Gently close trumpet petal edges together using cocktail stick to fasten petal to column. Hold in position for minimum five seconds, to give time to stick. Place to dry as para 23.

5. When the trumpet petal and column petal are well set you can make and assemble the remaining petals, these are all made and then fastened to the centre before they are fully set so care must be taken.

a) Side petal, 2 per orchid. Make as per petal above. Frill edge lightly.

b) Pointed petal, 3 per orchid. Make as per petal above no need to frill.

6. Assemble using method as for the unwired Cymbidium Orchid. It is important to fix the side petals at the correct angles as per the Cymbidium Orchid; do not use too much egg-white for assembly and keep the back of the orchid neatly made as a fairly smooth cone. The pointed petals or sepals go in between the three petals see diagram.

