



The Scottish Rock Garden Club Forrest Medal Glasgow Show 2014



Cypripedium 'URSEL'
(fasciolatum x henryi)
Shown by Cyril Lafong



**The 49'er From Fife Marches On
Cyril's secret is out!**

Here we see him training his Cypripedium. Rarely in the wild does a Cypripedium plant grow into such a big clump. When treated well in cultivation a plant with a single nose can develop over the years into a fabulous example like this. The grower

has to care for it, tend it and train it. In the round picture, in which we see the back of the panful, Cyril has the plant in 'training mode'.



Plants respond to care as Prince Charles knows but Cyril knows you don't have to talk to them, just send them your thoughts.

*Cyril is thinking:-
'Stand up straight!
Hold your heads up!
Look straight ahead!
Puff out your cheeks!
Look happy!'
He even taught them to shine!*



Seriously though, Cyril deserves to be happy. Time after time his plants win the supreme award at our shows. The standard of his exhibits is unrivalled. I am full of admiration for the dozens of perfect specimens he exhibits in single pan and multi-pan classes. Whenever a description of growing technique is needed he supplies full details on cards beside his exhib-

its. He is the most approachable of men and will take time to explain to those who ask how he cultivates any particular species. He grows many from seed, very often being the first to show a species. He is an expert propagator who has mastered the technique of grafting and growing Daphnes. Indeed the runner up to the Forrest at Glasgow was his own Daphne calcicola 'Napa Hai', which was awarded a Certificate of Merit.

This is an anxious time for the Maestro frae' Fife. This George Forest memorial Medal medal at Glasgow is an unparalleled 49th!. No one else has come close. Only about 10 exhibitors have won more than 10 Forrests.

Our SRGC is a friendly club and part of each and every one of us shares in Cyril's success. Cyril's contribution to our shows over the last 15 years has been remarkable. Lets hope he has set his target of medals at 100!

WELL DONE CYRIL!



Cypripedium fasciolatum



Cypripedium henryi

Cypripedium 'URSEL' is a hybrid produced by W. Frosch in 2003 from two Chinese species. The cross uses species with different qualities. The C. fasciolatum [a high elevation species] produces the large flower bowls and twisted sepals and C. henryi providing the multi-flowers. You can see how their offspring, Ursel has inherited features from both parents.