

# ORCHIDS



CONSERVATION, CULTURE, FARMING AND TRADE

EDITOR  
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## ABOUT THE BOOK

Orchids are known all over the world for their exquisitely beautiful, long lasting and colourful flowers. Hence, they are considered to be the 'gems' in floriculture trade and have contributed immensely for the development of multimillion dollar cut-flower industry in the world.

India is known for its richness in orchid wealth with about 1150 species with maximum concentration of about 850 species in the North eastern region alone. Many of them have served as germ-plasm for the development of modern day hybrids of commerce else where in the world. However, it is unfortunate that many of these valuable taxa have gradually been depleted even before knowing their utility for supplementing the economy of the people of the region.

In this book, which is largely based on the deliberations and discussions in the Workshop and Orchid Show held during the International Festival of Orchids 1998 at Itanagar, various aspects of orchidology especially conservation of germ-plasm, tissue culture, cultivation, farming and trade have been presented. Current status of Indian orchidology and efforts made in ensuring conservation of endangered species and utilising them for the sustainable development of orchid industry have also been dealt in detail. Policies and programmes for the transfer of technology from export oriented quality production to marketing and actions required to be taken in this direction have been presented and recommended. In order to boost floricultural activities in the country, various schemes of Government of India through the National Horticultural Board have also been given for the guidance of entrepreneurs, industrialists, concerned development and financial agencies and institutions.

This publication would be of immense help to all those interested in orchid conservation, culture, farming and trade besides academic institutions, scientists, planners and policy makers, as a compendium.

Front Cover : *Cymbidium* "Hautescens" - an orchid of commerce.

## ABOUT THE EDITOR

Born in the year 1947, Dr. Sadanand N. Hegde has been involved in the Orchid research and development for the last three decades in India. His work on the Cytological and Chemotaxonomical studies on orchids of Western Ghats fetched him doctorate degree in the year 1976 from Karnataka University, Dharwar. He had a brief stint of two years from 1976 in the National Orchidarium and Experimental Garden, Botanical Survey of India, Yercaud, Tamil Nadu. Subsequently, he joined the Department of Environment and Forests, government of Arunachal Pradesh as Orchidologist and has contributed substantially in understanding, discovering and describing new species and evolving new hybrid orchids, in addition to their conservation, propagation, research and development. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the cause of Indian Orchidology- especially orchid research and development, the Orchid Society of India honoured him with TOSI AWARD 1994, with Plaque of Honour. Subsequently, for the meritorious service rendered by him to the state of Arunachal, he got the State Award with Commendation Certificate in the year 1995. Presently, Dr. Hegde is engaged in the transfer of Technology from Lab to tribal farmers by promoting Farmers and Women Orchid Societies so as to boost cut-flower industry and floriculture in Arunachal Pradesh.

Dr. Hegde has to his credit, more than 120 research publications and articles on various aspects of orchidology in the national and international journals. He has authored the book ORCHIDS OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH and two technical bulletins on orchids. He is the founder member and Secretary of the Orchid Society Arunachal(OSA). He is also the Editor of the Biannual bulletin *Arunachal Forest News* for the last 15 years and has contributed immensely in creating awareness for sustainable development of natural resources adopting biotechnological means.

Back Cover: *Rhynchostylis retusa* Bl. - State Flower of Arunachal Pradesh