

ANTHURIUM TRINERVE FROM SURINAM

The University of Hawaii released three types of pearl anthuriums through the Hawaii Association of Nurserymen in 1973. Two of these belonged to the species *Anthurium trinerve* and one to *Anthurium scandens*. They were introduced into Hawaii from Panama. *A. trinerve* can be readily distinguished from *A. scandens* by their larger plant parts including the fruiting spadix.

A third type of *A. trinerve*, collected from Stoelmans Island in Surinam by Dr. H. Kihara and his associates of Japan in 1973, was obtained and evaluated. The description of this introduction follows:

Leaf blade elliptic to lanceolate, 5-7 in. long, 2-3 in. wide; petiole 1-3 in. long; peduncle 2-3 in. long; spathe inconspicuous, small, green, 1/2-3/4 in. long; spadix in fruit 3-4 in. long with about 80 berries in 6 rows; berries obovate, light purple (RHS Color Chart 76B) containing up to 10 berries.

This pearl anthurium from Surinam has a more erect and compact habit than those from Panama. Also the large light purple fruiting spadices are attractive. We are releasing this anthurium as *Anthurium trinerve* cv. Surinam to distinguish it from previous releases.

Pearl anthuriums are self-pollinating and true breeding unlike *Anthurium andreanum*, and therefore can be readily increased from seeds. The seeds are separated from the pulp by squashing the berries in water and decanting the water and pulp. The seeds are scattered on fine hapuu fibers and placed under relatively heavy shade. The seedlings are transplanted into flats in two months and into six inch pots in about 10 months. It will take 18 to 24 months from seedage to produce a plant with "pearls".

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