

HORTUS VEITCHII

A HISTORY

OF THE

RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE NURSERIES OF MESSRS. JAMES
VEITCH AND SONS, TOGETHER WITH AN ACCOUNT
OF THE BOTANICAL COLLECTORS AND
HYBRIDISTS EMPLOYED BY THEM
AND A LIST OF THE MOST
REMARKABLE OF THEIR
INTRODUCTIONS

BY

JAMES H. VEITCH

Illustrated with Fifty Photogravure Plates

London

JAMES VEITCH & SONS LIMITED, CHELSEA

1906

HORTUS VEITCHII

CORREA CARDINALIS, *Muell.*

Bot. Mag. t. 4912; The Florist, 1856, pl. 116.

This handsome hard-wooded greenhouse plant, with scarlet tubular flowers tipped with green, was originally discovered by Dr. Ferdinand (afterwards Baron von) Müller in sandy places in the sterile plain of Port Albert, Victoria, South Australia.

Raised from seed from the same locality, it flowered for the first time in England in May 1856.

CRAWFURDIA FASCICULATA, *Wall.*

Bot. Mag. t. 4838.

One of the climbing Gentians, a plant with beautiful blue flowers, raised from seed sent by Thomas Lobb from Khasia.

Plants flowered under glass for the first time in January 1855.

CROSSANDRA GUINEENSIS, *Nees.*

Bot. Mag. t. 6346.

A charming plant with dark-green leaves, golden reticulation, and spikes of rose-purple flowers, long known to science prior to introduction, but only flowered for the first time in October 1877.

CROTON ANEITUMENSIS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1881, p. 31.

The midribs, margins, and principal veins of the leaves of this variety are coloured gamboge-yellow on a bright green ground.

CROTON APPENDICULATUS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1876, p. 20, fig. p. 9; Fl. and Pom. 1879, p. 67, fig.

A peculiar variety in which the blade of the leaf is separated by a considerable interval occupied by the midrib only.

CROTON AUCUBÆFOLIUM, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1879, p. 2, fig.

Introduced through the late John Gould Veitch from the South Sea Islands, the foliage bears a strong resemblance to the well-known vulgar *Aucuba japonica* of gardens.

CROTON AUREO-MACULATUS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1878, p. 26; Gard. Chron. 1878, vol. ix. p. 430.

A variety with neat and small foliage, bright green spotted with yellow.

STOVE AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS

CROTON AUREO-MARMORATUS, *Hort.*

Fl. and Pom. 1882, p. 122; Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1884, p. 13.

Introduced through Charles Moore, Esq.

The leaves, fully 1 ft. long and 3 in. broad, beautifully variegated with bright golden-yellow on a deep olive-green ground.

CROTON BISMARCK.

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1876, p. 51.

A form intermediate in the shape of the leaves between the trilobed and broadly lance-shaped varieties, spotted and blotched with yellow on a green ground.

CROTON BRAGÆANUS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1882, p. 17; Fl. and Pom. 1882, p. 122.

An elegant variety with pendulous lance-shaped leaves 18 to 21 in. long, deep olive-green, speckled and spotted in a quaint way with bright yellow of various shades.

It was dedicated to Senhor José Terceiro Da Silva Braga, formerly well known in Portugal as a distinguished and enlightened patron of Horticulture.

CROTON CAUDATUS TORTILIS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1883, p. 14, fig. p. 5.

A twisted-leaved variety, one of the best in cultivation, introduced through Charles Moore, Esq., at one time Superintendent of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney, and the last Government servant to be appointed to such a post by the home authorities.

CROTON CHALLENGER.

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1878, p. 21, fig. p. 10.

A long-leaved variety from the South Sea Islands, found by Peter C. M. Veitch, and also by Sir William MacArthur, of Camden Park, Sydney, N.S.W.

The ground colour of the leaf-blade is light green, blotched and streaked with yellow, assuming a rosy tinge with age.

CROTON CHRYSOPÆCILUS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1885, p. 34.

The foliage of this variety offers a striking instance of the peculiar coloration to which the foliage of Crotons is subject. The midrib, foot-stalks, and sometimes two-thirds of the length of the entire leaf, is coloured pale canary-yellow, the remainder a deep olive-green.

HORTUS VEITCHII

CROTON COMTE DE GERMINY.

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1880, p. 20.

A handsome variety with broad leaves, coloured crimson along the midrib and blotched with light golden-yellow on the blade, dedicated to the Comte de Germiny in recognition of that noble's continuous patronage of Horticulture.

CROTON COOPERI, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1875, p. 11, fig. p. 6.

A variety with large oblong slightly wavy leaves, conspicuously veined and blotched with yellow, the markings, as the foliage ages, developing shades of red.

CROTON CORNUTUM, *Hort.*

Gard. Chron. 1868, p. 884; Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1870, p. 18, fig. p. 6.

An introduction through the late John Gould Veitch from one of the South Sea Islands.

A compact growing variety with curious horn-like processes at the apex of the leaves caused by an extension of the midrib.

CROTON CRONSTADTII, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1882, p. 17, fig. p. 8; Fl. and Pom. 1882, p. 122.

Leaves twisted and crisped, glossy green margined and variegated with yellow—lost to cultivation.

CROTON DAYSPRING.

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1881, p. 32.

A variety introduced through Charles Moore, Esq., late of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney, N.S.W.

CROTON DISRAELI.

Gard. Chron. 1875, vol. iv. p. 420, figs.; Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1876, p. 20, fig. p. 10.

A variety with trilobed leaves marked and blotched with yellow on a green ground, sent to us by A. H. C. Macafee, Esq., of Sydney, N.S.W.

CROTON EARL OF DERBY.

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1878, p. 27.

A trilobed-leaved form of the Disraeli type, with nearly the whole central portion of the leaf-blade yellow, the margins and tips of the lobes a grassy green.

CROTON EVANSIANUS, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1879, p. 23, fig. p. 7.

A very handsome form remarkable for the deep colouring of its trilobed leaves, and still to-day a garden favourite.

STOVE AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS

When first formed these are light olive-green with midribs and veins of golden-yellow; when mature the ground colour deepens to bright bronzy crimson and the yellow to an orange-scarlet.

It was introduced from the South Sea Islands through Peter C. M. Veitch.

CROTON FORDII, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1880, p. 20.

A dwarf-growing form with richly coloured trilobed leaves.

CROTON HANBURYANUS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1879, p. 33, fig.

A variety with leaves of varied coloration, introduced through Charles Moore, Esq., of Sydney, N.S.W.

CROTON HARWOODIANUS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1878, p. 26.

A form with dimorphous foliage of bright and varied colour, the larger leaves are 10 in. in length and the smaller little more than 6 in.

CROTON HAWKERI, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1879, p. 23, fig. p. 8.

For this variety we are indebted both to Lady Robinson, of Government House, Sydney, N.S.W., and to Charles Moore, Esq.

The leaves have the middle and lower portion together with the foot-stalks, coloured bright yellow, the margins and tips tending to a bright green.

CROTON HILLIANUM, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1869, p. 12, fig. p. 2.

Introduced through the late John Gould Veitch from the South Sea Islands, and remarkable for the reddish-yellow effect of the foliage.

CROTON HOOKERI, *Hort.*

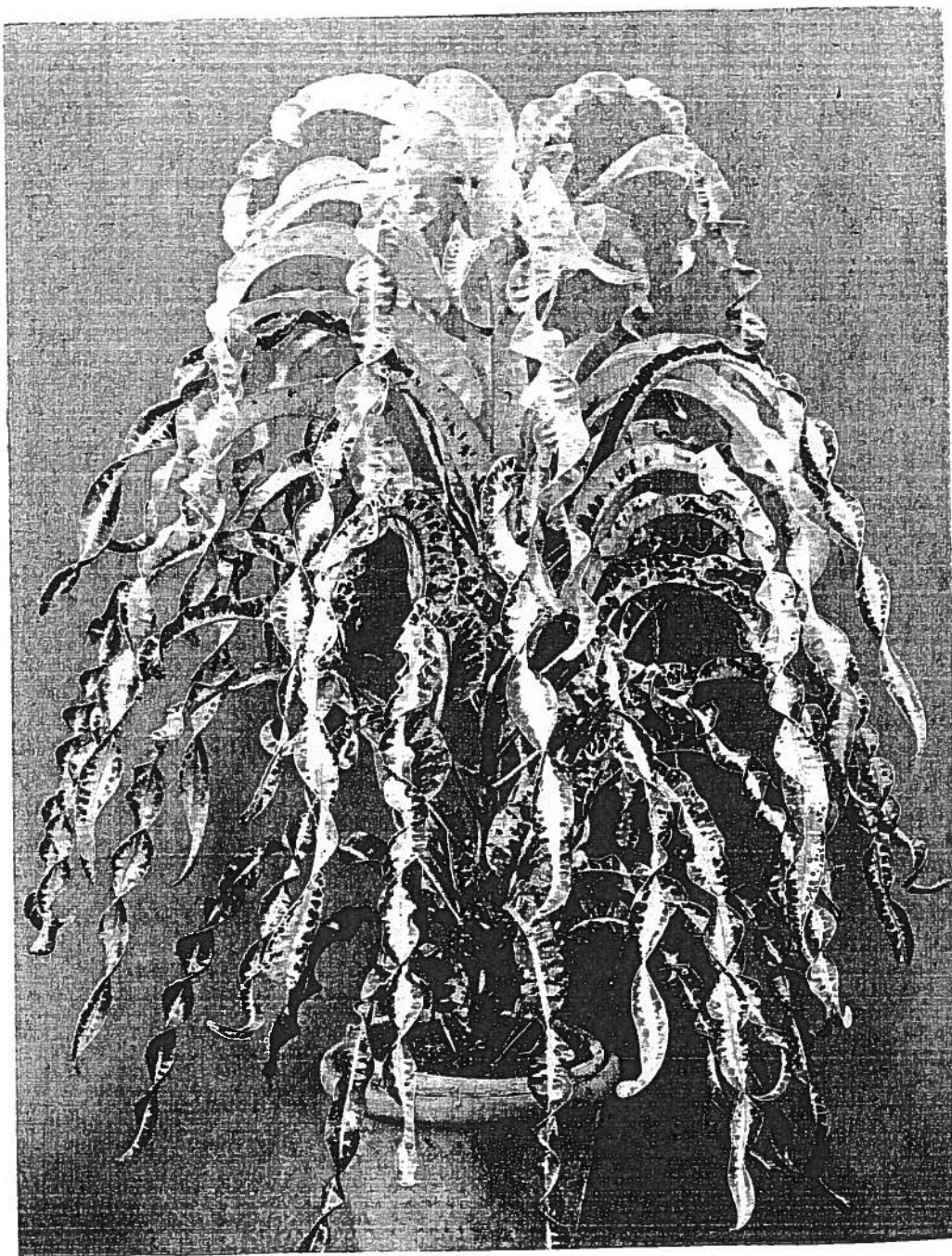
Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1871, p. 15, fig. 5; Gard. Chron. 1868, p. 943; Fl. and Pom. 1871, p. 199, fig.

A beautiful form with leaves marked in the same manner as the Milk-maid Holly, introduced from the South Sea Islands through the late John Gould Veitch.

CROTON INTERRUPTUM, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1868, p. 16, fig. p. 8; Gard. Chron. 1868, p. 844; *id.* 1870, p. 137, fig.

Introduced from the South Sea Islands through the late John Gould Veitch.



Eriobotrya caudatus tortilis.

HORTUS VEITCHII

The leaves, prettily variegated with red, exhibit the peculiar phenomenon of being in separate portions, connected only by an unusually powerful midrib.

CROTON IRREGULARE, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1868, p. 17, fig. p. 9.

The leaves of this variety are of variable size and shape, dark green, more or less spotted with yellow.

It was introduced through the late John Gould Veitch from the South Sea Islands.

CROTON JOHANNIS, *Hort.*

Syns. *C. angustissimum*.

Gard. Chron. 1868, p. 844; *id.* 1871, p. 612, fig. 123; Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1871, p. 14, fig. p. 3.

A variety from the South Sea Islands through the late John Gould Veitch, after whom it was named, with long narrow leaves of a glossy green colour, the centre and margins flaked with bright yellow.

CROTON LACTEUM, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1872, p. 12, fig. p. 4.

A distinct variety introduced through the late John Gould Veitch from the South Sea Islands.

The leaves, of dark shining green, have broad lines of milky or yellowish-white colour.

CROTON MACARTHURI, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1877, p. 21, fig. p. 7.

Sent to us by Sir William MacArthur of Camden Park, Sydney, N.S.W., a well-known Australian amateur, in whose honour it was named.

The leaves are effectively variegated with large blotches and flakes of yellow on a bright-green ground.

CROTON MACULATUS KATONII, *Hort.*

Gard. Chron. 1878, vol. ix. p. 430; Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1878, p. 21, fig. p. 11.

Also due to Sir William MacArthur of Camden Park, Sydney, N.S.W.

It is a trilobed form of the Disraeli type, with numerous bright yellow spots scattered over the deep but bright green leaf-blade.

CROTON MAXIMUM, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1871, p. 36; Gard. Chron. 1870, p. 1668, fig.; l'illus. *Hort.* p. 534.

Introduced through the late John Gould Veitch from the South Sea Islands; a species with large leaves of oblong form, bright golden-yellow in colour, blotched on either side of the centre with olive-green bands.

STOVE AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS

CROTON MOOREANUS, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1876, p. 21, fig. p. 11.

Sent to us by Charles Moore, Esq.; the midrib and margin of the leaf bright orange-yellow on an olive-green ground.

CROTON MULTICOLOR, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1871, p. 15, fig. p. 4; Fl. and Pom. 1872, p. 89, fig.

Introduced from the South Sea Islands through the late John Gould Veitch.

The leaves, of irregular shape, are light green in colour blotched with yellow, reddish-yellow, and red.

CROTON NEVILLÆ, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1880, p. 21, fig. p. 9.

A native of the South Sea Islands, named in compliment to Lady Dorothy Nevill, as a tribute to this great lady's interest in gardening.

The leaves, variegated green, yellow, and crimson, are suffused with a metallic hue peculiar to this plant.

CROTON NOBILIS, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1877, p. 22, fig. 8; Fl. and Pom. 1878, p. 133, fig.

A beautiful variety with long, lanceolate, weeping leaves, found in the South Sea Islands.

CROTON OVALIFOLIUM, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1874, p. 16, fig. p. 6.

A very distinct form with large oval leaves, from the South Sea Islands through the late John Gould Veitch.

CROTON PRINCESS OF WALES.

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1880, p. 26, fig.

A very graceful variety with pendant foliage. The leaves are some 24 in. in length, coloured light yellow in the centre, margined with light olive-green profusely spotted with yellow.

CROTON RECURVIFOLIUS, *Hort.*

Veitchs' Catlg. of Pl. 1881, p. 37, fig. p. 34.

A very fine broad-leaved variety, the foliage dense and gracefully recurved at the tips, the yellow-crimson and deep olive-green variegation unusually brilliant.

HORTUS VEITCHII

CROTON REGINÆ, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1878, p. 22, fig. p. 12; Fl. and Pom. 1879, p. 59, fig.

Sent to us by J. R. Young, Esq., of Sydney, N.S.W.; this handsome form has crimson midribs and veins, and a leaf-blade deep olive-green sparingly spotted with yellow.

CROTON SINITZINIANUS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1881, p. 37, fig. p. 35.

This variety, for which we are indebted to the kindness of Sir William Macarthur, Camden Park, Sydney, N.S.W., has narrow lance-shaped leaves of a deep olive-green streaked with straw.

It is named in compliment to M. Peter Sinitzin, an accomplished Russian amateur.

CROTON TORTILIS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1877, p. 22, fig. p. 9.

A peculiar and remarkable form with the leaf-blade twisted in a spiral manner around the midrib.

CROTON UNDULATUM, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1870, p. 19, fig. p. 7.

Introduced from the South Sea Islands through the late John Gould Veitch.

Of unusually free growth, the margins of the leaves are beautifully undulated and wavy.

CROTON VARIABILIS, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1877, p. 22.

Sent by A. H. C. Macafee, Esq., of Sydney, N.S.W.

It has long leaves, marbled, blotched and flaked with various shades of orange, bronze-yellow, and crimson.

CROTON VEITCHIANUM, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1870, p. 19, fig. p. 7.

This introduction from the South Sea Islands, through the late John Gould Veitch, has leaves which attain a large size effectively variegated with rose, carmine-purple, and creamy yellow.

CROTON WEISMANNI, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1872, p. 12, fig. p. 3; Fl. and Pom. 1873, p. 55, fig.

A very handsome form introduced from the South Sea Islands, with long and narrow leaves not unlike a *Dracæna*, splashed with bright golden-yellow on a dark shining green ground.

STOVE AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS

CROTON YOUNGII, *Hort.*

Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1873, p. 12, fig. p. 4.

This variety, sent through J. R. Young, Esq., of Sydney, N.S.W., has leaves coloured with creamy yellow and bright rosy red on a dark green ground.

CUPHEA CORDATA, *Ruiz & Pav.*

Bot. Mag. t. 4208; Gard. Chron. 1846, p. 477 (Notice of Exhibition); Fl. des Serres, 1846, pl. vii.

A native of the hills and woods of Peru, about Huassahuassi, Ohacalla, Acomayo, and Huanuco. From the last-named locality seed was sent to Exeter by William Lobb in 1842; plants raised and flowered for the first time in 1845.

This beautiful species has remarkable flowers, a scarlet tubular calyx and two large petals held erect as banners, and is much valued by the Peruvians, who credit it with various medicinal properties.

CURCUMA AUSTRALASICA, *Hook.*

Bot. Mag. t. 5620.

Introduced from Cape York, North Australia, through the late John Gould Veitch, and first flowered at Chelsea in August 1866.

Prior to this discovery no species belonging to the extensive genus *Curcuma* had been known to inhabit the Southern hemisphere.

CURCUMA SUMATRANA, *Miq.*

N. E. Brown in Gard. Chron. 1882, vol. xviii. p. 393.

This plant, introduced from Sumatra through Curtis, is a stove species with dense spikes of yellow flowers and large deep orange-red bracts.

DARWINIA FIMBRIATA, *Benth.*

Syns. *Genethyllis fimbriata*, Kipp.

Bot. Mag. t. 5468; Veitch's Catlg. of Pl. 1869, p. 7, fig.

A beautiful inhabitant of the greenhouse from South-West Australia, first flowered in June 1864.

The flowers are small and insignificant, but the bright rose-coloured fringed scales, resembling a large drooping bell-shaped flower, are very attractive, and for this reason alone it is cultivated.

DENDROSEROS MACROPHYLLA, *Don.*

Bot. Mag. t. 6353.

A handsome shrubby greenhouse plant of the peculiar group of tree Composites, now lost to cultivation.