

## Why Is My *Potinara* Not A *Potinara*? Part 3 in The Name Changing Game

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Now I am going to tell you at the beginning—this will be very complicated, so bear with me. There are at least **five** reasons why your *Potinara* is no longer a *Potinara*. *Potinara* (*Pot.*) is a man-made genus (called a nothogenus) that was created by the combination of species from four different genera: *Brassavola* x *Cattleya* x *Laelia* x *Sophranitis*. Anytime that you involve species from so many different genera, there is always the possibility of confusion when taxonomists play the “genus shuffle game.”

The **first** reason that some *Potinara* are not *Potinara* is that if the *Brassavola* species used was *Brassavola* (*B.*) *digbyana*, it is no longer *Brassavola* but now *Rhyncholaelia* (*Rl.*) *digbyana*. (You will recall that was discussed in an earlier NOS Newsletter article).

The **second** reason is that the Brazilian species of *Laelia* are no longer *Laelia* but now *Cattleya*.

The **third** reason is that the species of *Sophranitis* are no longer *Sophranitis* but now *Cattleya*. So, that means that if the *Brassavola* species originally used to create the *Potinara* was *Rhyncholaelia digbyana*, and the *Laelia* and *Sophranitis* species are all now *Cattleya*, then the new genus name for these plants is *Rhyncholaeliocattleya* (*Rhyncholaelia* x *Cattleya*), or *Rlc*.

The **fourth** reason your *Potinara* is not *Potinara*, is due to another twist in the naming game—some species that were originally *Cattleya* have been transferred out. *Cattleya auriantica*, *C. bowringiana*, and *C. skinneri*, are now in the genus *Guarianthe* (*Gur.*). So if *Rhyncholaelia digbyana* was combined with a *Laelia* that is now a *Cattleya* and another *Cattleya* that is now a *Guarianthe*, then you have *Rhyncholaelia* x *Cattleya* x *Guarianthe* = *Rhynccattleanthe* (*Rth.*)

Take *Potinara* Burana Beauty, for example (one of my favorites, small fragrant yellow flowers with red splash on the petals). It is a cross between *Potinara* (now *Rhynccattleanthe*) Netrasiri Starbright and *Cattleya* Netrasiri Beauty. If you trace its ancestry back to its “great great (or so) grandparents” you find that *Brassavola* (now *Rhyncholaelia*) *digbyana*, *Laelia* (now *Cattleya*) *crispata*, *Sophranitis* (now *Cattleya*) *coccinea* and *Cattleya* (now *Guarianthe*) *auriantica* were involved. Using the old terminology, that is *Brassavola* x *Cattleya* x *Laelia* x *Sophranitis* = *Potinara*. Using the new names, however, you have *Rhyncholaelia* x *Cattleya* x *Guarianthe* = *Rhynccattleanthe* (*Rth.*)



And a **fifth** reason your *Potinara* is not *Potinara* is that if the *Brassavola* species used was one other than the old *B. digbyana*, then those plants are now *Brassavola* x *Cattleya* = *Brassocattleya* (*Bc.*) or *Brassavola* x *Cattleya* x *Guarianthe* = *Brassocatanthe* (*Bct.*)

So to find the new name of your Potinara you need to know (1) if *Rhyncholaelia digbyana* or another *Brassavola* species was involved and (2) the nature of the *Cattleya* involved, whether or not it was a former *Laelia* or *Sophranitis*, or one of the *Cattleya* species that is now *Guarianthe*. To know this you may have to look at the genealogy of crosses back several generations (like the *Potinara* Burana Beauty example above).

Here is a simple chart to help with the process of determining the new names. Remember that **all** of these crosses have *Cattleya* in them including the changes associated with the *Laelia* and *Sophranitis* names. ☺

<i>Rhyncholaelia digbyana</i> ?	<i>Cattleya</i> now <i>Guarianthe</i> ?	New Name
Yes	Yes	<i>Rhyncattleanthe</i> ( <i>Rth.</i> )
Yes	No	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> ( <i>Rlc.</i> )
No	Yes	<i>Brassocatanthe</i> ( <i>Bct.</i> )
No	No	<i>Brassocattleya</i> ( <i>Bc.</i> )

Remember, whatever the name, it is still an orchid and a great plant!

I have listed some examples of potinaras and their new names in the table below. If yours do not appear below, then you can find the correct names at the Royal Horticultural Society Orchid Registry website at [www.rhs.org.uk/plants/registerpages/orchiddetails.asp](http://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/registerpages/orchiddetails.asp)

#### The Old Way

##### **Potinara**

*Potinara* Beaufort Gold  
*Potinara* Chia Pet  
*Potinara* Egyptian Queen  
*Potinara* Frank Gilmore  
*Potinara* Hattie Sims  
*Potinara* Haw Yuan Gold  
*Potinara* Hawaiian Prominence  
*Potinara* Hisako Akatsuka  
*Potinara* King's Jewels  
*Potinara* Little Toshie  
*Potinara* Love Call  
*Potinara* Samantha Duncan  
*Potinara* Shin Shiang Diamond  
*Potinara* Susan Fender

##### **Potinara**

*Potinara* Burana Beauty  
*Potinara* Free Spirit  
*Potinara* Netrasiri Starbright  
*Potinara* Roy's Magic  
*Potinara* Shinfong Little Love  
*Potinara* Thi-Ti  
*Potinara* Twentyfour Carat

#### The New Way

##### ***Rhyncholaeliocattleya* (*Rlc.*)**

*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Beaufort Gold  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Chia Pet  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Egyptian Queen  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Frank Gilmore  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Hattie Sims  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Haw Yuan Gold  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Hawaiian Prominence  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Hisako Akatsuka  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* King's Jewels  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Little Toshie  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Love Call  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Samantha Duncan  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Shin Shiang Diamond  
*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Susan Fender

##### ***Rhyncattleanthe* (*Rth.*)**

*Rhyncattleanthe* Burana Beauty  
*Rhyncattleanthe* Free Spirit  
*Rhyncattleanthe* Netrasiri Starbright  
*Rhyncattleanthe* Roy's Magic  
*Rhyncattleanthe* Shinfong Little Love  
*Rhyncattleanthe* Thi-Ti  
*Rhyncattleanthe* Twentyfour Carat

***Potinara***

*Potinara* Hoku Gem

*Potinara* Richard Young

***Potinara***

*Potinara* Crimson Sunrise

*Potinara* Neapolitan Cutey

*Potinara* Stardust Memory

*Potinara* Texas Sunrise

***Brassocattleya (Bc.)***

*Brassocattleya* Hoku Gem

*Brassocattleya* Richard Young

***Brassocatanthe (Bct.)***

*Brassocatanthe* Crimson Sunrise

*Brassocatanthe* Neapolitan Cutey

*Brassocatanthe* Stardust Memory

*Brassocatanthe* Texas Sunrise

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