

臺灣文心蘭當紅炸子雞

‘太陽之子’之育種推手－莊忠湧先生

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臺灣文心蘭市場主要以‘檸檬綠’品種為主進行出口，但近年來‘太陽之子’品種在出口日本市場逐漸提升，其推手正是該品種的育種者－莊忠湧先生。莊忠湧先生原為工廠的黑手，但看到工廠附近種植百合，透過百合種植者認識豐原蘭園組培業者，覺得文心蘭切花會有更多的利潤，因此莊先生於民國 85 年草創蘭園，於豐原地區 2 分地農地進行開創，主要栽培‘南西’品種，並貸款 1 千多萬，也開始在家中頂樓進行育種工作。

在草創時期也不是非常順利，在從事文心蘭栽培過程，發現植株一旦感染病毒病，造成花朵畸形，會使切花收益受到極大的影響，因此開始注重國內健康種苗及組培苗的概念。為擴大栽培面積將栽培場移至外埔地區 6 分地；民國 95 年發現‘檸檬綠’品種，優點為花形及花色漂亮，每支切花可達 7 叉以上且吸水性佳，初期開始試種 500 株種苗及 4000 株組培苗，97 至 98 年因切花收益佳，已將 1 千多萬的貸款還清，98 至 100 年為鼎盛時期，莊忠湧先生表示年產量可達到 30 萬支，每支可賣到 60-70 元。

莊忠湧先生也嗅到‘檸檬綠’品種在

達到某一段時期後可能萎縮，該品種可能會被淘汰，因此開始尋找另一個替代

‘檸檬綠’的品種，民國 98 年在蘭園栽培場中發現一‘檸檬綠’變異株具切花潛力，遂開始觀察及進行少量組培苗生產，發現其花色色澤佳、花朵數量多及瓶插壽命長，因此於民國 103 年以‘太陽之子’為品種名，申請並獲得品種權，後續向貿易商請益在日本及國際市場進行佈局，在民國 106 年於日本申請並獲得品種權，開啓‘太陽之子’切花出口之門，民國 111 年‘太陽之子’出口日本達 200 萬支切花，以高於‘檸檬綠’5 元的切花單價，成為目前全黃文心蘭切花的當紅炸子雞。

未來期望方面，莊忠湧先生表示期盼近期‘太陽之子’朝向切花優質化，健康種苗生產、切花數量管控、品質穩定及建創品牌能成功站穩日本市場，長遠規劃則期望能篩選未來市場之黃花切花新品種，可再刺激市場購買，擴大國際市場需求，以優化文心蘭產業結構。



圖 1. 圖為本文主角莊忠湧先生

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The Breeder of the Most Sought-after Oncidium variety in Taiwan

‘Apollo’ -Mr. Chung-Yung Chuang

Chih-Hao An¹, Ming-Chung Liu²



Fig 1. The picture shows the protagonist of this article - Mr. Chung-Yung Chuang.

Japanese market, and the driving force behind this trend is none other than Mr. Chung-Yung Chuang, the breeder of the "Apollo" orchid.

Mr. Chuang used to work as a factory worker, but he became interested in orchid cultivation after seeing lilies being grown near his workplace. Through the lily growers, he became acquainted with tissue culture experts at the Fengyuan Orchid Garden and realized that there was more profit to be made from Oncidium cut flowers. In 1996, Mr. Chuang founded his own orchid garden in Fengyuan, using 1,940 square meters of farmland to cultivate mainly the "Gower Ramsey" variety. He borrowed more than NT\$10 million and started breeding orchids on the rooftop of his home.

During the early stages, things were not very smooth. Mr. Chuang found that the Oncidium plants were infected with a virus, which caused deformities in the flowers and affected the profits from cut flowers. As a result, he began to focus on the concept of domestic healthy seedlings and tissue-cultured seedlings. To expand the cultivation area, he moved the cultivation site to a 5,880 square meters of land in Waipu. In 2006, he discovered the "Honey Angel" variety, which has beautiful flower

shape and color, can yield over 7 branches per cut flower, and has good water absorption. He initially experimented with 500 seedlings and 4,000 tissue-cultured seedlings. Due to the good profits from cut flowers in 2008-2009, he was able to repay his loan of over NT\$10 million. From 2009 to 2011, the business was thriving, with Mr. Chuang's personal annual production reaching 300,000 stems, each sold for NT\$60-70.

Mr. Chuang also realized that the "Honey Angel" variety might be phased out after a certain period of time, so he began to look for another alternative. In 2009, he discovered a mutated strain of "Honey Angel" in his orchid garden and started to observe and produce a small number of tissue-cultured seedlings. He found that the mutated strain had better color, more flowers, and a longer vase life. In 2014, he applied for and obtained the plant variety right for this strain, which he named "Apollo." He then sought the advice of traders and started to promote the variety in the Japanese and international markets. In 2022, "Apollo" cut flowers reached an export volume of 2 million stems in Japan, with a price 5 NT dollar higher than that of "Honey Angel," making it the current top-selling yellow Oncidium cut flower.

Looking towards the future, Mr. Chuang hopes that "Apollo" can move towards improving the quality of cut flowers, producing healthy seedlings, controlling the quantity of cut flowers, ensuring stable quality, and establishing the brand, so as to successfully establish itself in the Japanese market. In the long term, he hopes to screen new yellow flower cut flower varieties for future market demand, stimulate market purchasing, and expand international market demand, in order to optimize the structure of the Oncidium industry.

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