

Macodes

Pronunciation: ma-KO-deez

Tribe: Erythrodeae

Subtribe: Goodyerinae

Macodes is one of the genus of fabulous 'jewel orchids' – orchids with veined foliage more beautiful than the rather non-descript flowers, although a well-bloomed specimen with many inflorescences is a sight to behold. Described by John Lindley in 1840, **Macodes** is closely allied to *Ludisia* and *Goodyera*. Its name is derived from the Greek word *macros* (long) probably an allusion to the elongated mid-lobe of the lip.

These terrestrial orchids are widely distributed from Malaysia to the islands of the Pacific at low to medium elevations in rain forests.

Number of species: The World Monocot Checklist currently recognizes 12 species.

Distribution: From Malaya, Java and Sulawesi to New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

CULTURE

Temperature: Depending on the species as these can be warm or intermediate.

Light: Good shade throughout the year.

Water-Humidity: 40-60% humidity; plants should be kept evenly moist throughout the year, never drying out completely.

Fertilizer: Monthly with a balanced fertilizer.

Potting: Shallow pots or pans work best due to the creeping nature of the plants and the plant should be grown in sphagnum moss.