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PLETHORA OF PLANTS – COLLECTIONS OF THE BOTANICAL GARDEN, FACULTY OF SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB (9): HISTORIC OVERVIEW OF *TRADESCANTIA* RUPPIUS EX L. AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMELINACEAE FAMILY

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This sequel provides a historical overview of the *Tradescantia* genus and other members of the Commelinaceae family grown in the Zagreb Faculty of Science Botanical Garden between 1895 and 2023. The most recent nomenclatural views on the systematics of wild and cultivated taxa are applied, showing that at least 145 taxa of this family have been grown in the Botanical Garden during the last 128 years. Today we grow 95 taxa of wild species and cultivated taxa within this family.

Key words: Zagreb Botanical Garden, Faculty of Science, historic plant collections, *Tradescantia*, Commelinoideae, Commelinaceae

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Ovaj nastavak serije o zbirkama Botaničkog vrta PMF-a u Zagrebu donosi povijesni pregled roda podarki (*Tradescantia* Ruppius ex L.) i drugih pripadnika porodice komelinovki (Commelinaceae) uzgajanih u našim zbirkama između 1895. i 2023. Primijenjeni su najnoviji nomenklaturni pogledi na sistematiku divljih i kultiviranih svojti, koji pokazuju da je najmanje 145 vrsta, kultivara i križanaca te porodice uzgajano u Botaničkom vrtu tijekom posljednjih 128 godina. Danas uzgajamo 95 svojti porodice Commelinaceae.

Ključne riječi: Botanički vrt PMF-a u Zagrebu, povijesne zbirke biljaka, *Tradescantia*, Commelinoideae, Commelinaceae

FOREWORD

In 2015 I made the first thorough inventory of temperate glasshouse plants ('Aroideae') since the foundation of our Botanical Garden (below: *the Garden*), deducing that the family of Commelinaceae was one of the most abundant over the years (Kovačić, 2015). Due to the lack of reliable literature sources, and considering the fact that various cultons were kept in our collections mostly unnamed, systematic revision of this collection was not completed until now. The *International Society for Horticultural Science* (ISHS) appointed in 2022 the Tradescantia Hub website as an *International Cul-*

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tivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for *Tradescantia*, making it responsible for recording and maintaining the first ever checklist of the correct names for the cultivars in the genus. Besides, results of new research and systematization of the Commelinaceae family in general were published during the last few years, making a modern revision of our modest collection finally possible. As the goal of this paper is not further (un) tangling these complex relations, but to present a historic collection overview from our Botanic Garden point of view, I decided to restrict the common observations and literature citations according to the *Angiosperm Phylogeny Website* (APweb), where all the latest scientific references are regularly included.

Following the general principles established in the first part of this series, and its sequels (Kovačić, 2015, 2022), this review is amended with complete survey of the Commelinaceae in the Garden.

INTRODUCTION

Commelinaceae Mirb. is a core family of the 'monocot' Order Commelinales Mirb. ex Bercht. & J.Presl, which arose in the Cretaceous period, 80 to 110 million years ago. They are mostly tropical, much less temperate plants, many of which are cultivated as ornamentals: the decorative 'power' relies mostly on their foliage, while the flowers wither rapidly. Some are also cultivated as vegetables, fodder or medicinal plants. The variation in morphology within Commelinaceae is considered to be exceptionally high amongst the angiosperms (Evans *et al.*, 2000) – every botanic garden employee, or enthusiastic plant lover, know this well. Yet, it is a surprisingly molecularly well-supported group: their phylogeny is unquestionably monophyletic, although the sub-classifications inside the family underwent many changes, depending on the set of methods and the range of species used (e.g. Burns *et al.*, 2011; Zuntini *et al.*, 2021; Lee *et al.*, 2022). The Commelinaceae family consists of 36 to 41 genera, with ca 650 to 730 species (Christenhusz & Byng, 2016; Lee *et al.*, 2022; PoWO).

Most of the Commelinaceae members have simple, entire leaves with linear to broad-elliptic blades, with closed sheaths (Phototab. 2, 4gh), which alternate up the stem, two-ranked or spirally arranged (Phototabs 1, 2). The leaves of the Commelinaceae seedlings, as well as those at the base of axillary shoots, are two-ranked, even in taxa that have predominantly spiral leaves. The distinctive feature of the family is the way in which the leaves unfurl from the buds: the margins at the leaf base are rolled in (involute) when they first emerge (Phototab 1). Colouring of the leaves throughout the Family is exceptional, and a main reason for its popularity in horticulture (Phototabs 6-15).

The flowers of Commelinaceae can be zygomorphic (bilaterally symmetric or monosymmetric) or actinomorphic (radially symmetric or polysymmetric; Phototab 3efgh). As a rule, they are short-lived: some stay open only for several hours, or less, after which they dissolve or rather deliquesce in atmospheric humidity (Phototabs 3cd, 23b). The flowers are usually bisexual (hermaphrodite), but some species have both male and bisexual flowers (andromonoecious), while others have bisexual, male, and female flowers simultaneously (polygamomonoecious). The flowers of some species have tepals: the stamens then being opposite each tepal member. However, more commonly, there is a true calyx and corolla: the flowers then always have three sepals (varying in shape and colour; petal-like or green) and three petals, usually clearly distinguishable

Phototable 1: Notable features of **Commelinaceae** (details in text) in Botanical Garden collections: **Leaves of various species: a)** "Unfurling" of young leaves: *Tradescantia schippii* and **b)** ***T. zanonia***. **c)** ***Aneilema beninense***: as soon as "unfurl", young leaves are eaten by caterpillars, while those of *Tinantia erecta* (small box) are left intact. **d)** ***Tripogandra glandulosa*** has succulent leaves neatly arranged along the stem. **e)** ***Callisia navicularis***: thick, succulent leaves in "bud" under the bract. **f)** ***Tradescantia sillamontana***: young leaves covered in dense white "fur".

from the sepals. There are almost always six stamens of various shapes and arrangements, and in many genera up to four stamens are infertile (staminodes), while the filaments are often densely hairy (Phototabs 3egh, 19a). All members of Commelinaceae lack nectaries, offering only pollen as a reward to insects – and very frugally. They tend to deceive pollinators by various adaptations, mimicking a larger reward (broad anther connectives, staminodes, "fuzz-ball" made of hairy filaments) than there is in reality. It is also emphasized that surprisingly little is known about pollination in the family (extensive literature in APweb and Tradescantia Hub). Species of Commelinaceae tend to have specific flowering seasons, though local environmental factors could affect exact timing, sometimes considerably. Also, plants tend to flower at a specific time of day; some exhibit differential opening times for male and bisexual flowers. The inflorescence (thyrse, with each subunit composed of cincinni) occurs either as a terminal shoot at the top of the plant, or as terminal and axillar shoots, arising from the lower nodes (Phototabs 3abdeh, 4a, 8a,18ad, 19b, 20de, 21ab, 22, 23). Inflorescences or their subunits are frequently enclosed in a leaf-like bract, resembling a spathe (Phototabs 3bcdg, 10b, 11a), quite often opposite to the leaves.

Phototable 2: Notable features of **Commelinaceae** (details in text) in Botanical Garden collections: **Leaves of various cultivars**: a) ***Tradescantia zebrina* 'Evanesce'** compared to ***Callisia repens* 'Bianca'** (small). b) ***Tradescantia* (Continental group) hybrid**, for a long time inventoried as *T.* 'Albiflora Albovittata'. c) ***Callisia gentlei* var. *elegans***, well-known *Callisia* 'Elegans', and often confused with other "striped" varieties. d) ***Tradescantia zebrina* 'Deep Purple'** in its Summer-colours. e) ***Tradescantia* 'DRATRA01'** (syn. 'Roxxo', probable variety of *T. schippii*) is of unknown origin: dark purple leaves bear a bright green central vein. f) Brought by our visitor as "three tradescantias", not a single one belongs to that genus: ***Callisia repens*** (probably 'Pink Lady', left), ***C. cerinthoides*** (probably 'Nanouk', middle) and (probably) ***Cyanotis ciliata*** cult. (right).

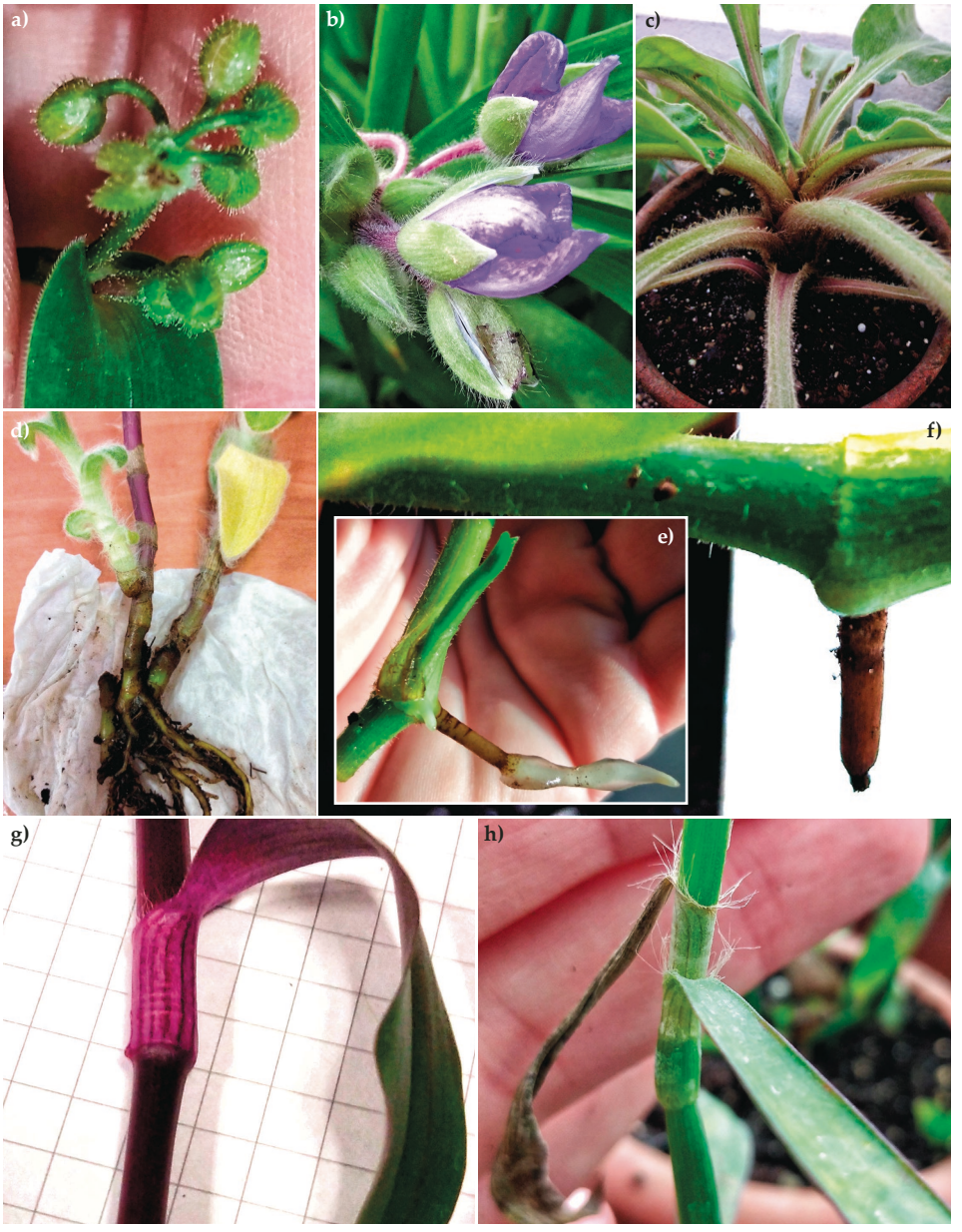
Members of Commelinaceae family are generally perennial, rarely annual. Typically, they are terrestrial plants with an erect or scrambling/ascending habit: members of several genera (*Streptolirion*, *Aetheolirion*, *Spatholirion*) are climbers, while a single one (*Cochliostema*) is epiphytic. The roots are either fibrous or form tubers, while rare species have rhizomes (Phototab. 4d). Commelinaceae often spread by stolons, and/or rooting at the nodes – a favourable feature widely exploited in horticulture (Phototab. 4ef).

Botanical classification

The concept that the results of molecular and morphologic research are in conflict in the systematization of plants, and should not be used combined, finds its proof within Commelinaceae (Evans *et al.*, 2003). In morphological studies, most taxa with strongly monosymmetric flowers form a clade. Unlike molecular (*rbc*L), morphological data do not find the tribes of Commelineae and Tradescantieae to be monophyletic,

Phototable 3: Notable features of **Commelinaceae** (details in text) in Botanical Garden collections: **inflorescences, flowers, pistils and stamens**: **a)** Inflorescence of ***Tradescantia zanonia***: flowers with long stamens and dark 'berries' beneath, and **b)** flower buds in a terminal cyme with succulent bract ('spathe') beneath. **c)** Deliquesced flowers soon after opening: ***Commelina communis*** and **d)** ***Tradescantia*** (aff.) ***subaspera*. e)** Bilateral symmetric (zygomorphic) flowers: ***Tinantia erecta*** with long pistils and **f)** ***Commelina benghalensis*** with reduced third petal. **g)** Polysymmetric (actinomorphic) flowers: ***Tripogandra glandulosa*** with three longer and three shorter stamens, and **h)** ***Callisia navicularis***: buds and flowers in a cyme, each with six stamens; 'spathe' is missing.

Phototable 4: Notable features of **Commelinaceae** (details in text) in Botanical Garden collections: **hairs, roots, shoots and sheaths**: **a)** ***Tripogandra glandulosa***: young inflorescence with glandular hairs. b) ***Tradescantia virginiana*** **cult.** (Andersoniana Group hyb.) covered with dense white hairs. **c)** ***Palisota schweinfurthii***: hairy leaf stalks and blades. **d)** ***Tradescantia sillamontana***: densely hairy young shoot of a freshly rooted cutting. **e)** ***Aneilema aequinoctiale;*** young root and shoot from the same basal node, and **f)** rooting at the nodes as the shoot grows. **g)** ***Tripogandra serrulata*** **'Purple Scimitars'**: dark pink leaf sheath embracing the stalk. **h)** ***Coleotrype goudotii***: long, sparsely hairy leaf sheath covers the flower buds beneath.



due to a high homoplasy of androecial characters. Exceptions are few: in molecular analyses *Floscopa* stands alone, as sister to both Commelineae and Tradescantieae, which are largely monophyletic. In various molecular investigations *Palisota* seems to be separated too. *Callisia* in morphological analyses has a similarly isolated position, which was found to be paraphyletic also in some molecular analyses. In several studies, *Gibasis* appears as polyphyletic, etc. (extensive literature in APweb). However, a morphological phylogeny of *Tradescantia* and its relatives recovered the same major groupings in the genus as molecular phylogeny, although the position of the *Tradescantia* clade differs (Pellegrini, 2017).

All authors agree that the earliest diverging member of the family, with a number of unique traits, is a non-succulent, yellow-flowered genus *Cartonema*, forming a separate subfamily (**Cartonematoideae**), with several species in New Guinea, N and SW Australia. An uncertain position, usually placed near *Cartonema*, is taken by the African annual *Triceratella drummondii* Brennan, which is so rare that it has been collected and herbarized just twice (APweb), without any DNA evidence. Whether *Triceratella* forms a subfamily of its own (Triceratelloideae) is disputable.

Apart from *Cartonema* and *Triceratella*, all other genera of Commelinaceae belong to the same Subfamily – **Commelinoideae**, assembled into tribes, subtribes and series (APweb). The Subfamily comprises the species which, for example, share mostly tuberous roots, raphide canals between veins, and 3-celled glandular microhairs on leaves. Flowers are radial or bilateral; blue, pink or white (rarely yellow). The fruit is a loculicidal capsule, rarely an indehiscent capsule, or berry-like. Commelinoideae are mostly tropical, evolving in all continents except Europe. They are also often ephemeral, weedy and/or invasive (Phototabs 6a, 22c).

Classical approach divides genera of Commelinoideae into two tribes: Tradescantieae Meisner and Commelineae Meisner, while some specialists propose a separate tribe of Palisoteae (Faden & D.Hunt) Zuntini & Frankel (APweb). If so, this tribe includes a single genus, the African *Palisota*. Although different, *Palisota* is included in Tradescantieae, among the plants with usually actinomorphic flowers. That tribe encompasses ca 20(26) genera with 270(300) species, the most proliferous being *Tradescantia*, *Dichorisandra* and *Cyanotis*. Finally, the tribe of Commelineae is characterized by strongly zygomorphic (monosymmetric) flowers and includes ca 10(13) genera with ca 350(380) species. *Commelina*, *Aneilema* and *Murdannia* are the most abundant genera in this tribe.

Horticultural classification

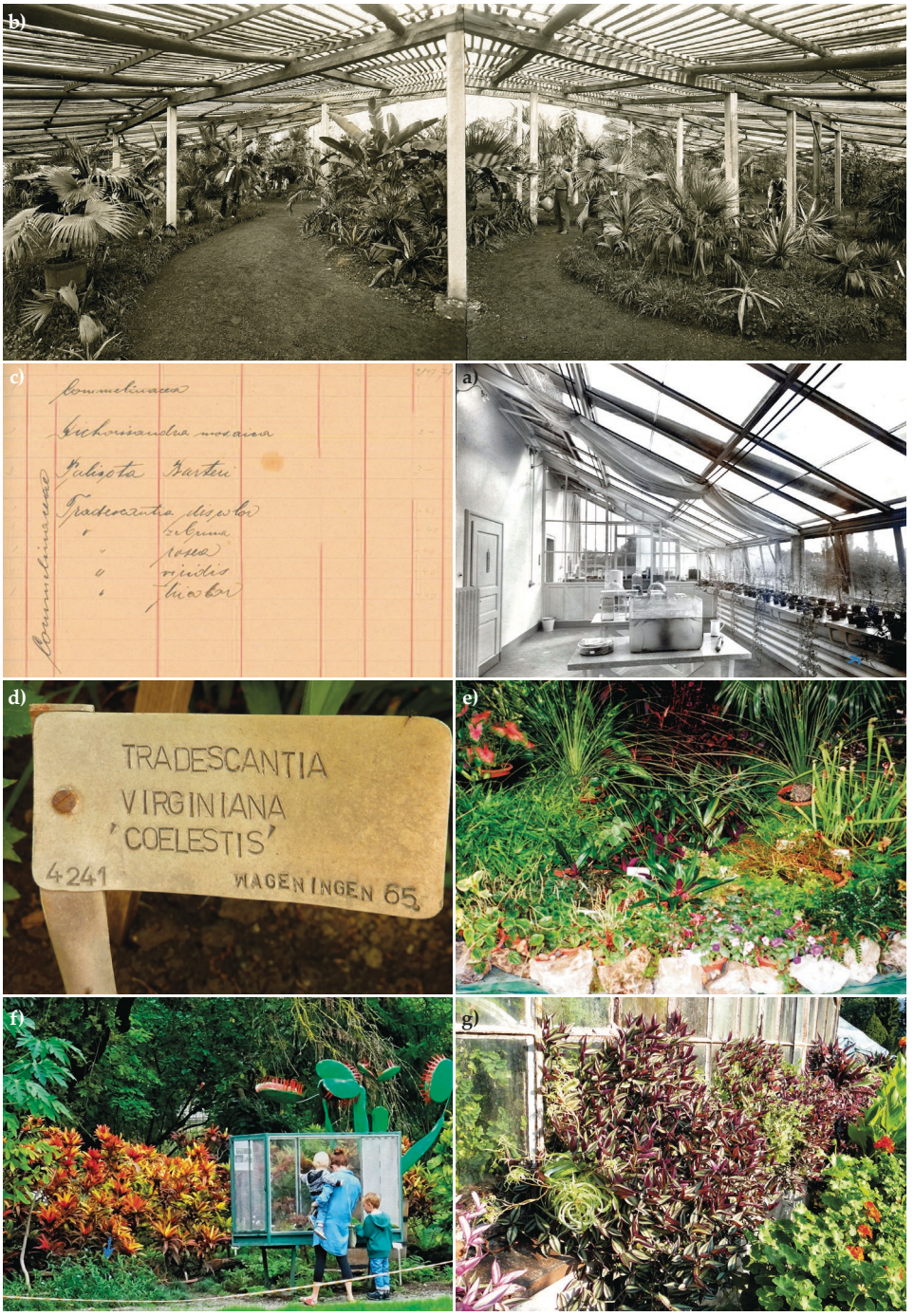
As the members of 'dayflower' or 'spiderwort' family (Commelinaceae) are famous ornamentals with many cultons of untraceable origin, it is hard to navigate through the nomenclature due to the plethora of names, and without an appointed registration authority. For example, the morphology of the "plain Zebrina pendula" (*Tradescantia zebrina* Bosse), famous and widespread for centuries, varies considerably depending on the position of planting: the same individual looks very different placed in various positions, being a young cutting or an "old stock" (German: *Altbestand*). In our Garden, as in many gardens, ornamental members of Commelinaceae have been growing "since forever", without proper (or any) names, inventoried only as "brought by somebody". *Tradescantia zebrina* is one of the most common examples. For these (and similar) ornamentals it is very difficult to find a name beyond species (variety/form/cultivar/hybrid).

Even the existing names are often incorrect: from mixed-up or lost during the century, to inaccurately written ones; even acquired incorrectly named via *Index Seminum* network, or purchased from nurseries. As the reliable literature sources have grown in the last few years, I believe that, with assistance of attending gardeners and many photographs taken during the years, we managed to find most of our recently grown "names". By aiming to purchase carefully chosen new plants with registered names, it was also possible to compare some of our old plants to the newcomers.

Commelinaceae in the Botanical Garden collections

The first inventory of plants growing in the Garden since its foundation (1889) was published by the founder, Professor Heinz (1895-6). Oldest taxa of Commelinaceae mentioned as living in the Garden of the time were (cit.): "Tradescantia virginica from North America (…) and Commelina-species' among the annuals" outside. In the greenhouses, there were: „Zebrina pendula (Tradescantia zebrina) from Mexico (…), Palisota Barteri from tropical West Africa, Dichorisandra from Brasil, Rhoeo discolor from Central America, etc." Nothing was formally published after that, and the photo-documentation is poor. We have only a few photographs from the Garden before the Second World War (WWII), where some Commelinaceae could be (vaguely) recognized, while the gardener's inventory lists provide all of the available information of the collections from that era (Phototab. 5). After 1948, the paper-card database was established (Kovačić, 2015, 2022) and all the plants in the collections were systematically inventoried since then. However, some taxa remained untraceable, due to the undistinguishable and vast synonymy. For example, a plant named "Tradescantia bengalensis" in the pre-WWII inventories could be *Commelina benghalensis* L., of course, but this casual conclusion would be presumptuous. Linneaus' species are well known and respected for centuries, and to assume that the two are synonyms could be misleading. Besides, there is a forgotten name "Tradescantia bengalensis hort. ex Gentil", published in the Brussels Botanical Garden Magazine in 1907 (*Pl. Cult. Serres Jard. Bot. Brux*. 188, according to IPNI). If the seeds of the time arrived from that garden (we do not know that), it is possible that it was that, or at least some *other* species – not *Commelina benghalensis*. Similar examples are numerous, and a possibility of simple 'human-error' mistakes in writing and copying the long lists of Latin names should also be kept in mind. Even the most prestigious plant-lists of today (PoWO, WFO, IPNI) keep "unplaced names: the names that cannot be accepted, nor can they be put into synonymy." The easiest way is to dismiss what we do not know – nevertheless, historic data are worth keeping until we learn more.

Phototable 5: Commelinaceae in Botanical Garden collections through the century (photographs from the Garden archives): **a) Hand-written inventory** from 1904 by the first (then Royal) Head Gardener Vítězslav Durchánek reveals members of the Commelinaceae Family in the warm glasshouse collection. **b)** Late-1920ies photograph of the **'Shady Porch'** taken by the Head Gardener, Franjo Kušenić, reveals the summer habitat of *Palisota barteri* and *Dichorisandra musaica* of the time. **c) Physiological laboratory** situated in the Garden (1935) displays some neatly arranged pots with plant-objects, among which is *Tradescantia zebrina* clearly recognizable (blue arrow). **d) Oldest metal name-tag** of *Tradescantia* culton still in use, hand-made in 1965. **e) Botanical Garden exhibit** at the *FloraArt* Zagreb International Flower Show won a Gold medal in 1998: in the middle are several pots of *Tradescantia spathacea* and its famous striped cultivar 'Vittata' (syn. 'Variegata'). **f) *Tradescantia zebrina*** sunbathing in the Summer of 2009. g) Young visitors observing some **Commelinae in flower** (Summer of 2018); in the left corner *Commelina erecta* is planted directly (blue arrow), among the potted *Codiaeum* plants.


b)
c)
a)
d)
TRADESCANTIA
VIRGINIANA
'COELESTIS'
4241
WAGENINGEN 65
e)
f)
g)

When I took over the Commelinaceae collection (among many others) in 2000, it had already been grown and re-grown from cuttings of unidentified taxa and sources for a long time, mostly disorganised and unlabelled. Not a single one of the employed gardeners remembered any labels being attributed to many of the plants during "their time". Occasionally existing name-tags were of little help, being so often incorrect, or at the least wrongfully assigned to the plants. Actually, there was little help in finding accurate descriptions of the cultons before internet access to various kinds of information became available. Times of relying on the "printed word" are now long gone: much more accurate, scientifically and horticulturally valuable information can be obtained from the superior, meticulously written web sites such as Tradescantia Hub by Avery Rowe (https://tradescantia.uk/) or Commelinaceae BlogSpot by Luminous (https://commelinaceae-plants.BlogSpot.com/), than from poorly written, expensive and practically useless "books" (e.g. Hatch, 2022). Though methodically written, publications such as *European Garden Flora* (Hunt, 2011) are frequently outdated, as the results of new research are being published daily. Even the commercial web-pages of specialised growers and breeders, offering photo-galleries of their own plants in trade, can be helpful in recognizing cultons.

OVERVIEW OF *TRADESCANTIA* AND OTHER GENERA OF COMMELINACEAE

Although Zuntini *et al.* (2021) recently proposed three subfamilies and three tribes within the subfamily of Commelinoideae, the more widely accepted classifications still recognize two of each (literature in APweb). Sub-tribal classification of the Tradescantieae was provided by Wade *et al.* (2006), while Pellegrini (2017, 2018) suggested a sectional classification for *Tradescantia*, which is now widely recognized, and followed also in horticulture (Tradescantia Hub, 2023). As we never had representatives of Cartonematoideae (incl. Triceratelloideae) Subfamily in our Botanical Garden collections, here I will discuss representatives of the **Commelinoideae** Subfamily exclusively, divided into two (three?) tribes:

The tribe Tradescantieae Meisner contains plants with usually actinomorphic flowers. Their chromosomes are large, and n = 5-13. During the century, we have grown many representatives of the eponymic *Tradescantia* genus, as well as 10 more genera of "tradescantias" *sensu lato*, while today we have eight (Tabs. 1-2-3-4): *Tradescantia*, *Gibasis*, *Callisia* and *Tripogandra* (subtribe Tradescantiinae); *Cyanotis* (subtribe Cyanotinae); *Tinantia* (subtribe Thyrsantheminae); *Coleotrype* (subtribe Coleotrypinae); and *Palisota* (subtribe Palisotinae; proposed as tribe Palisoteae), which stands apart.

The most famous 'spiderworts' in horticulture are taxa of the American genus ***Tradescantia***, encompassing ca 85 species with many hybrids and cultivated varieties. The genus is divided into 5 subgenera by Pellegrini (2017), on the basis of which Rowe (2023) in Tradescantia Hub summarizes the commonly-cultivated species and cultivars within, with clear descriptions. The synonymy is immense (according to PoWO, the genus itself has 20 heterotypic synonyms) due to the excessive variability inside and among taxa, multi-centurial horticultural use, and new 'names' popping up from the breeders daily, often for plants already named. Tradescantia Hub has done a tremendous job in solving this confusion – at least as far as our modest Garden collection is in question, which suffered many setbacks. In late 2019 and early 2020, a large portion of our greenhouse plants withered, due to a *Botrytis*- grey mould attack, which was not

sufficiently attended to due to the COVID-19 lockdown of the time, strong Zagreb earthquakes and subsequent lack of central heating. After the misfortunes ceased, our gardeners, neighbours, friends and visitors came to our aid, bringing cuttings from their homes. As tradescantias root readily, very soon the collection was back in place, but now completely unnamed! "Battling" with the registered names, for the purpose of this inventory, we bought 50 "christened" cultivars of various Tradescantieae from a respectable Dutch breeder, for direct comparation to our plants. That was another surprise, with some long-known cultons 'evolved' in modern times looking quite different to our long-standing plants (examples further in text). It is also very important to emphasize that a good number of greenhouse-'tradescantias' *sensu lato* never (or seldom, and then for a blink of an eye) flower, but spread exclusively vegetatively, thus making it impossible to verify the species via determination keys. For the cultivars and hybrids, I refer here strictly to Tradescantia Hub.

Subgenus *Austrotradescantia* (D.R.Hunt) M.Pell.

This subgenus of South-American tradescantias consists of ca 15 creeping or sprawling evergreen perennial species, often with succulent stems and white or pink flowers (Tradescantia Hub). Here belong most of the commonly cultivated houseplant species of this genus (Tabs 1-2; Phototabs 6-9). *Tradescantia fluminensis* Vell. (also called *T. albiflora* Kunth, among other names, Phototab. 6) is a small creeping plant with thin stems, hairless leaves and white flowers. There are lot of cultivars with various leaf sizes, colours and patterns (Tab. 2). Plantsthat were for decades in the market as *T. fluminensis* 'Green Hill' or *forma bicolor*, are now being recognized as *T. mundula* Kunth (Phototab. 7). That taxon is similar to *T. fluminensis*, except for the slightly hairy (strigose) leaves and stems. Among the most widespread modern tradescantias in cultivation today is a colourful little *T. mundula* 'Lisa', "the queen of false identity" and "the most mislabelled tradescantia of all time" (Tradescantia Hub), with at least 10 widely popular registered names, and many more local. *Tradescantia cerinthoides* Kunth (formerly *T. blossfeldiana* Mildbr.; Phototab. 8) is much larger, with succulent stems and leaves, pink tipped white flowers, and green-purplish foliage. There are several cultivars, out of which the most famous is a pink variegated 'Nanouk', which became popular in the last decade. *Tradescantia crassula* Link & Otto is also a succulent species, not very common in cultivation, which we only occasionally had in our collection (Tab. 1). However, it is one of the probable ancestors of many hybrid cultivars, namely of the famous *Tradescantia* Continental Group (Phototab. 9), which arose in "continental Europe", assembled under this name in 2022 (see Tradescantia Hub). Continental Group encompasses hybrid cultivars of compact and branching growth habit, white flowers, and white or pink variegated leaves. We had some during the years, unnamed, mixed or labelled as cultivars of *T. albiflora* ('Albovittata' and similar). The correct name for *T. albiflora* is *T. fluminensis*, and it is obvious that the 'Albovittata'-cultivars are not related to that species (Tab. 2 & Phototab. 9a). Although it was reasonable to expect that, though listed without an author, a "Tradescantia discolor" in our oldest Garden records from the early 1900-ies (Tab. 1) was the already widely grown *T. spathacea* Sw. – it was not, while Professor Heinz inventoried this species several years prior, with a synonym *Rhoeo discolor* (L'Hér.) Hance. This was, actually, the nowadays much rarer *T. hirsutiflora* Bush. According to the first gardening manual written in Croatian language (Biankini, 1889), "Tradescantia discolor" has two varieties: "*fol. albo variegatis*", and "*multicolor*". In the illustrations attached, the first one looks like some culton of the Continental

Group, and the second one like a variegated *T. fluminensis*. The description, however, clearly depicts *T. zebrina*, showing that systematization of ornamental 'tradescantias' at the end of the 19th century was unreliable. Many such synonyms are today untraceable, without the clearly stated authors of the species. For example, "Tradescantia viridis Hort." is unknown to the plant databases: it might have been one of the many older horticultural synonyms of "Tradescantia Albiflora Albovittata", which is today a member of Subgenus Austrotradescantia's Continental Group of hybrids. As *T. albiflora* is a synonym of the today accepted *T. fluminensis*, which was not mentioned in the oldest lists of Commelinaceae in our Garden collection, it is sound to presume that it was this taxon, inventoried under older synonym.

Subgenus *Campelia* (Rich.) M.Pell.

This heterogeneous subgenus is vaguely characterized by succulent stems, and pink or white flowers. The plants could be creeping, upright or rosette-like, and generally live in the forest undergrowth. There are ca 15 recognized species, due to their diversity sub-divided into five Sections (Pellegrini, 2017), and we have representatives of three. The 'name-holder' of the subgenus is not widely known to modern plant-lovers: it is *Tradescantia zanonia* (L.) Sw. (formerly *Campelia zanonia* (L.) Kunth; Sect. Campelia), an impressive species with thick, erect stems and large leaves (Phototab. 10a). Elegant white flowers with long stamens are followed by capsules covered with fleshy purple-black calyx: hence a berry-like appearance (Phototab. 3ab). We have had this wonderful plant in our collection for 50 years now.

To Sect. Rhoeo belongs, of course, *Tradescantia spathacea* (former *Rhoeo discolor*), another well-known ornamental with upright rosettes of narrow leaves and very interesting flowers, enclosed with "cradle-like spathes" (Phototab. 10bcd). In most of the collection inventories since Heinz (1895-6), we did not have cultivars inventoried, not even the yellow-striped 'Vittata' (Phototabs 5e, 10c), considered to be the oldest variegated tradescantia cultivar in the world (Tradescantia Hub). Even today, there is only a handful of cultivars within this species. It is worth mentioning a peculiar culton, which first appeared in 2019: 'Roxxo' (according to Tradescantia Hub the valid name is 'DRATRA01'; Phototabs 1a, 2e), which apparently belongs here. It seems to be of uncertain origin, as it does not look like *T. spathacea*: perhaps it is a hybrid within the Subgenus, or a purple variety of *T. schippii* D.R.Hunt. (according to Commelinaceae BlogSpot)

Finally, to Sect. Zebrina belongs *Tradescantia zebrina*, probably the single most common and best-known indoor tradescantia of all (Phototabs 11, 12, 13, 14). The wild type is a creeping plant with succulent stems and 'zebra-patterned' blue-green blades, adorned with two silvery stripes, and dark purple backs. *Tradescantia zebrina* contains clear, watery sap unique to the species, and more cultivars than any other tropical species in the genus, with a wide range of leaf colours and patterns (Phototabs 12, 13) According to Tradescantia Hub, ca 20 cultivar names are now accepted (Tab. 2.), with virtually hundreds of uncertain and/or synonymic/heteronymic ones. In our collection, natural varieties were once found: var. *flocculosa*, var. *mollipila* and typical var. *zebrina* (though mislabelled; Phototab. 11a), while named cultivars were scarce ('Purpusii' and 'Quadricolor'; Phototabs 11, 14). Only by gaining new, named plants was I able (to some extent) to sort out the unidentified ones. As already said, old varieties of the same name are often very different to the modern ones (Phototab. 6cf, also 14b),

and a very good example of this can be found in two *T. zebrina* 'Discolor' cultivars (explained in Tradescantia Hub): one from 1889 (the stripes are narrow and mostly unbroken), and another from 1959 (the stripes are broken and scattered to streaks; valid name of this cultivar is now 'Flame Dance'). 'Discolor' and similar cultivars are famous for their "chameleonic" appearance (Phototabs 12 & 13): if the plants are exposed to a long period of intense sunlight, the variegation fades and the leaves become evenly purple, changing back to striped-green if taken to the shade. On the contrary, multi-coloured cultivars keep their three-or four-coloured stripes on the leaves if exposed to constant bright, but not direct light (Phototab. 14). This extraordinarily colourful variability, together with its undemanding and resistant nature, brings *T. zebrina* in its many forms to the well-deserved 'tenureship' in horticulture.

Subgenus *Mandonia* (D.R.Hunt) M.Pell. consists of clumping herbaceous plants native to the dry areas throughout the Americas, where they grow as deciduous perennials. There are ca 20 species, which are not common in cultivation. We only had *T. crassifolia* Cav. in the past (Tab. 1), but recently none.

Subgenus *Setcreasea* (K.Schum. & Sydow) M.Pell.

This subgenus encompasses ca 10 perennial species which have succulent, upright or slightly sprawling stems, and generally pink flowers (Phototab. 15). In unfavourable conditions setcreseas retreat to their roots (which is not often, and each time causes fright to our gardeners). Just two species are common in cultivation, grown as houseplants or as outdoor ground cover. The most famous is *T. pallida* (Rose) D.R.Hunt (formerly *Setcreasea pallida* Rose, hence the name of the subgenus) with upright stems and leaves, which in Zagreb happily overwinters in many sheltered outdoor places. The most common cultivar is 'Purpurea', which we have had for years, while others (if such) were never inventoried by name (Tab. 2). *Tradescantia sillamontana* Matuda is also a common member of our succulent collection, one of the most xerophytic species in the genus. It has very distinctive appearance, with neatly arranged leaves covered in dense white hairs (Phototabs 1f, 15d). An interesting cultivar (hybrid?) of this Subgenus is 'Pale Puma' of disputable origin (Phototab. 15f).

Subgenus *Tradescantia*

Beside perennials, Subgenus *Tradescantia* includes several annual species, adapted to open habitats (grasslands). All have long grass-like leaves, which mostly die back to the roots during winter, and ornamental white, pink, blue, red, or purple flowers (Phototab. 16). There are ca 30 species, with a number of cultons grown as hardy garden plants. We had several cultivars and varieties of these species in our collection (Tab. 2), none of which seem to be accepted by the recent literature. Three of the most commonly grown species differ on the basis of their sepal and pedicel hairiness: the most common, *T. virginiana* L., has moderately to densely hairy sepals and pedicels (Phototab. 4a, 16a), and thin, almost hairless leaves. In the wild, flowers are generally blue to purple, but also occasionally pink or white. *Tradescantia ohiensis* Raf. is generally hairless, with a small tuft of hairs on the top of each sepal (Phototab. 16b), glaucose foliage and blue to pink flowers. *Tradescantia subaspera* Ker Gawl. has sparse, but glandular hairs on the sepals and pedicels, wider leaves, zig-zag stems and pale blue-purple flowers (Phototab. 16c). All temperate 'trandescantias' hybridise freely, forming a loosely-related group which have developed through a combination of deliberate and

uncontrolled breeding in cultivation. This group contains most of the known hybrid garden cultivars (Hawke, 2010) with ancestry from *T. virginiana*, *T. ohiensis* and *T. subaspera*. They were often (as in our Garden) mislabelled as the true T. virginiana, or the invalid botanical hybrid *T.* × *andersoniana* W.Ludw. & Rohweder. All hardy garden hybrids of the subgenus Tradescantia are now placed in the Andersoniana Group (details in Tradescantia Hub; Phototab. 16d), unless they are known to have originated from the wild species collections. As in our Garden collection today we do not know the origin of most of our oldest plants, following that rule, we do not have 'pure' species of this subgenus – just hybrids of cultivated origin. However, at least three of the 'pure' species plants can be easily recognized, apart from Andersoniana-hybrids, when they were grown from the seeds, not purchased in a nursery.

Closely related to the core-genus *Tradescantia* is ***Gibasis***, with its ca 15 species of Central- and Southern-American creepers (Tab. 3, Phototab. 17abc). According to some research, *Gibasis* is found to be polyphyletic, which is, oddly, mirrored in our old database, where the paper-cards were many times redetermined and revised to this-or-that species. In cultivation, *G. geniculata* (Jacq.) Rohweder and *G. pellucida* (M.Martens & Galeotti) D.R.Hunt are known as 'bridal veils', as they carry rich panicles of tiny white flowers with bearded stamens. Our Garden plants are the "living proof" of the account of Hunt (2011; p. 321): (*Gibasis pellucida* is…) "…formerly confused with *G. geniculata* and superficially similar to *Tripogandra multiflora*" (to which is still attributed as synonym). As explained in the Commelinaceae BlogSpot, *G. pellucida* in culture has two forms: one with small leaves, and the other with larger leaves, which very much resembles *T. multiflora*. Originally inventoried as both *Tradescantia* and *Aneilema*, our *Gibasis* plants were grown from seed, while the cultivars (if such) were never named. In the photo-database there is only *G. geniculata* (easily distinguished by hairy leaves and stems, Phototab. 17ab), which could be now recognized as 'Purple Plush'. Today we also have two cultivars (Tab. 4).

Tripogandra is also a native of the American tropics, comprising ca 20 species of tuberless annuals and perennials (Tab. 3, Phototab. 17def). Untypically for tradescantias, their flowers are weakly (but visibly) monosymmetric (zygomorphic), assembled in various types of inflorescences. Stamens are dimorphic: three with short and three with long filaments (Phototab. 17e), a valuable elimination characteristic to distinguish the genus – if in flower. Our tripogandras in the collection are infamous among the gardeners, for having (none, or) all sorts of name-tags, being hardly recognizable and often misidentified (either among species, or with *Gibasis*), as they rarely and then only briefly flower. Most commonly grown is *Tripogandra multiflora* Raf. (Phototab. 17de), often confused with the large-leaved type of *Gibasis pellucida*. Some of our plants in collection are exactly that, while the others were labelled as *Tradescantia multiflora* Sw. (older synonym), but also *Callisia multiflora* (M.Martens & Galeotti) Standl.. Annual *Tripogandra amplexicaulis* (Klotzsch ex C.B.Clarke) Woodson plants, which should have large pink flowers, are proven to be perennial *T. glandulosa* (Seub.) Rohweder (Phototabs 1a, 4a, 17e), recognizable by glandular hairs on their inflorescences. In our old Garden registry this species was listed as "Tradescantia pflanzii" (syn. "*T. lanceolata* Hort."), which is also proven to be *T. glandulosa*.

Closely related to *Tripogandra*, ***Callisia*** (Phototab. 18) owns its scientific name to Linnaeus' favourite 'apostle', young Swedish botanist Pehr Löfling (1729–1756), who explored Venezuela where he tragically perished. Using the Greek word for 'beauty'

(*kallos*), Löfling was the first to describe this genus of ca 20 species, today well known in horticulture. As 'true tradescantias', callisias have succulent leaves and actinomorphic flowers arranged in cyme-pairs, but without bracts. There are numerous cultivars described by various generic names, many of which are synonyms (Tradescantia Hub). During the years, we had representatives of ca 10 species in our collection (Tab. 3), many of which were mislabelled. The most popular by far are cultivars of *Callisia repens* (Jacq.) L., frequently 'incognito' on sale in garden nurseries and centres. According to APweb, *C. repens* is a single species of Commelinaceae which simultaneously bears bisexual and female flowers (gynomonoecious) – however, the clone(s) common in cultivation (such as ours, Phototab. 18mnop) never flower. *Callisia gentlei* Matuda was also often confused with other ornamentals, with its beautiful natural varieties *elegans* (H.E.Moore) D.R.Hunt and *macdougallii* (Miranda) D.R.Hunt (Phototabs. 9a, 17d, 18def). We also have in our collection a peculiar, one-metre tall *C. fragrans* (Lindl.) Woodson, with fragrant white flowers (somewhat similar when not in flower to *C. warszewicziana* (Kunth & C.D.Bouché) D.R.Hunt, which was also proven to be mislabelled *C. fragrans* in our collection; Phototab. 18abc). *Callisia navicularis* (Ortgies) D.R.Hunt is a classic succulent greenhouse ornamental (Phototab. 1e, 18l), while several cultivars of Guatemalan *C. soconuscensis* Matuda have become more popular in recent years (Phototab. 18jk). We also have mature plants of *C. insignis* C.B.Clarke and *C. multiflora* in our collection (Phototab. 18ghi), which cannot be botanically verified, since they never flowered!

Genus ***Cyanotis*** (incl. *Belosynapsis*) contains ca 50 species of Southern-Tropics distribution, of which we had several during the years (Phototab. 19). They are not well known in horticulture (except perhaps for the Somaliland endemic *C. somaliensis* C.B. Clarke) while they are, allegedly, "not very attractive" (Hunt, 2011). This is hardly true: cyanotises are quite hardy, spread vigorously and bloom with dense cymes of lovely 'pompom-like' indigo-blue flowers (Phototab. 19ab). Unlike most of the Commelinaceae, they thrive in full sun. White-hairy *C. somaliensis* (mixed with *C. vaga* (Lour.) Schult.f., Tab. 3) has lived in our collection for decades. It forms two types of stems: the non-flowering basal rosettes (which could be missing in cultivated plants), and the creeping shoots which flower, and root, to form new rosettes. Indian *C. beddomei* (Hook.f.) Erhardt, Götz & Seybold (possibly syn. to *Belosynapsis kewensis* Hassk., Phototab. 19d) has lived in our collection at least since 1951, and is one of the oldest members of Commelinaceae family continuously grown. Its most prominent feature are dense brown hairs, covering leaves and internodes. *Cyanotis ciliata* (Blume) Bakh.f. was grown in our collection in the past, and we recently purchased new cuttings.

The annual or short-lived perennial ***Tinantia*** stands fairly isolated on the evolutionary tree of Tradescantieae. This genus from sub/tropical America contains ca 12 species, of which we only ever grew *Tinantia erecta* (Jacq.) Fenzl. Phototable 20 depicts an annual cycle of this species, which thrives in full sun rather than a glasshouse, or a shady position. Our plants always have "hot-pink" flowers, though the wild-type should have blue or purple. Recently purchased, *Tinantia pringlei* (S.Watson) Rohweder grown commercially as 'Forme Claire', has light green leaves without the speckles that characterise the wild type.

Ca 10 species of ***Coleotrype*** are found in the swampy forest understories of Africa and Madagascar. This genus is quite peculiar, compared to the rest of the family. The leaves have long closed sheaths under which the inflorescences form (Phototab. 20f).

To bloom, the flowers must pierce this sheath, which is a unique feature in Commelinaceae. Members of this genus are seldom in horticulture: we only had *C. natalensis* C.B.Clarke during the 1960s, and today we grow *C. goudotii* C.B.Clarke. It might be worth mentioning that this small creeping-and-ascending plant is ignored by the caterpillars, which otherwise happily graze on other 'tradescantias'. Also, from our experience, *Coleotrype* does not root in the nodes so readily.

Finally, there is ***Palisota***, still mostly recognized under subtribe Palisotinae of the Tradescantineae tribus. Members of this genus share traits with 'tradescantias', which are lacking in 'commelinas', such as long, moniliform hairs that completely fill the mouth of the flower. However, their unique morphological, but also molecular characteristics, lead the specialists to recognise a **tribe** of its own: **Palisoteae**. From a botanic-garden point of view, this makes perfect sense, while palisotas are truly exceptional, as for their appearance, so for their lifestyle. They are often, for the family, uncharacteristically large (up to 450 cm!), with rosettes of leaves over 40 cm long and tall apical domes of flowers, followed by colourful 'berries' (Phototab. 21b). Ca 30(50?) species are so far recognized, all of them robust herbs with verrucose hairs, leaves with broadly elliptic blades, and axillar inflorescences of weakly zygomorphic flowers. Palisotas are strictly tropical plants from the understories of African sub-Saharan (especially Gabonese) tropical rainforests. In our oldest Garden inventories (e.g., Heinz 1895-6; Phototab. 5a), there was *Palisota barteri* Hook.f., up to 50 cm tall plant with ornamental red berries. Unfortunately, it has a rather brief life, due to the unfavourable conditions of our glasshouses (and the plant's significant susceptibility to various pests). Today we grow two palisotas: *P. bracteosa* C.B.Clarke and *P. schweinfurthii* C.B. Clarke (Phototab. 4C, 21).

The tribe Commelineae Meisner comprises plants with clearly zygomorphic flowers, which are typically easily distinguishable from the only weakly zygomorphic ones of Tradescantineae. Their chromosomes are small, and n = 6-13. During this century, we have grown representatives of six genera of 'commelinas' (Tab. 3-4), and today we have four: *Commelina*, *Pollia* and *Aneilema*, with *Murdannia* standing aside.

Eponymous to the family and subfamily, ***Commelina*** is a polymorphic genus of nearly cosmopolitan distribution. It comprises ca 200 species and various natural and cultivated varieties, as well as hybrids, many of which are useful and ornamental plants. They are commonly perennials with tubers and blue flowers, borne in the single or paired cymes enclosed by folded bracts, resembling spathes. The flowers are famous for "being opened for a single day" – hence the common name of the genus and the family: the 'dayflowers'. Some 10 species of this genus were grown in the Garden during the century, often mislabelled or nameless (Tab. 3, Phototab. 22). Perennial *Commelina erecta* L. stands out with its bracts fused at the lateral edges, enclosing a cyme of flowers (Phototab. 22ab). Its tubers are slender, but the plant grows up to 75 cm tall. *Commelina benghalensis* is famous for its diversity in reproductive systems. The "regular" flowers appear from a 'spathe', having two blue or purple petals and a third smaller, white or pale blue petal. Apart from those, the plant also produces male-only flowers, as well as subterranean, cleistogamous ones. *Commelina communis* L. is a common weed in many temperate regions of the world – Croatia included (FCD). Depending on the position planted, it can be an annual or a short living perennial. It is a tuberless plant, in appearance somewhat resembling *C. tuberosa* L., which also may lack tubers (in spite of the name: these were inventoried as *Commelina coelestis* Willd.:

today, an informal Coelestis Group includes varieties of *C. tuberosa* grown ornamentally). However, the flowers of these two species are clearly different (Phototab. 22ce): the first has the lower petal reduced, while the second has all three petals identical. Being cosmopolitan, *C. communis* contains many "small taxa": subspecies, varieties and forms. We currently grow *C. communis* var. *hortensis* Makino from Japan, which should be one of the horticultural forms of *C. communis* var. *ludens* (Miq.) C.B.Clarke. This variety has larger bracts than the true species, and dark blue flowers which dissolve in a matter of hours (I hardly managed to take a single photo of an open flower during the summer of 2023; Phototab. 3c, 22c-box).

Genus ***Aneilema*** includes 65 species, mostly of sub-Saharan Africa, which are – apart from the lovely little *A. zebrinum* Chiov. (Phototab. 23a) – not very common in cultivation. Flowers, unlike those of the closely related genus *Commelina*, at maturity usually lack 'spathes'. In our collection aneilemas are cultivated sporadically, notorious as being the "magnets" for all kinds of pests: from caterpillars to thrips, fungi to viruses. Today we grow the very interesting *A. aequinoctiale* (P.Beauv.) Loudon, a scrambling subshrub which is rooting at the nodes, up to 200 cm high (or long). Short-lived flowers with two bright yellow petals open daily from approx. 08:00 to 11:00 a.m. (not for three hours straight, rather during that period for a blink of an eye, Phototab. 23b). The leaves are covered in fine, hooked hairs that give them a "sticky" feeling. The whole plant is edible and curative for humans and livestock, so is cultivated in many African regions. It is a popular fact that the chimpanzees self-medicate (deworm) with *A. aequinoctiale* by swallowing the whole leaves. Another species loved by the caterpillars is *A. beniniense* (P.Beauv.) Kunth from the forest margins of West Africa. This weedy subshrub grows up to 150 cm; the inflorescences are borne terminally on the shoots, densely many-flowered, each with two white-bluish petals (Phototab. 23c). Again, the flowers open just during the several morning hours: in my experience, much longer than the yellow ones of *A. aequinoctiale*.

Pollia includes ca 20 tropical species and naturally occurring hybrids. Most famed and studied is *P. condensata* C.B.Clarke from African forests (Phototab. 24), with its remarkable hard, indehiscent fruit. The unique metallic-blue colour of these glistening 'berries' is not created by pigmentation, but by structural coloration, and is famous as the most intense of any known biological material. Seeds of other taxa have arils which may be dispersed by birds or ants, depending on the habit of the plant (APweb). *Pollia crispata* (R.Br.) Benth. with wavy ("crisp") edges of the leaf sheaths is found in the rainforests of eastern Australia. *Pollia japonica* Thunb. and *P. miranda* (H.Lév.) H.Hara are of Far East subtropics distribution. Pollias are also short-lived in our collection, due to their tropical requirements, which we poorly deliver in our old glasshouses during the coldest months of the year

Genus ***Murdannia*** (incl. *Anthericopsis*) with its ca 65 species is poorly known in horticulture. Subtropical *M. loriformis* (Hassk.) R.S.Rao & Kammathy (Phototab. 24e) is the most popular, with several radiantly coloured cultivars (e.g. 'Bright Star'). The plants spread vigorously, even grown from seed in their first year, planted outdoors.

CONCLUSIONS

Using the available sources, I have investigated the historical data for the Commelinaceae family, growing in our Botanical Garden since 1895 until the end of 2023. During that time, we had in our Garden collections ca 75 taxa of *Tradescantia* and 70 other species of the family. At this moment (December, 2023) we grow 95 taxa, including ornamental cultivars and hybrids.

ZAKLJUČCI

Prema dostupnim izvorima, obrađeni su povijesni podaci porodice Commelinaceae u Botaničkom vrtu između 1895. i kraja 2023. godine. Kroz naše zbirke dosada je prošlo oko 75 svojti najpoznatijeg roda, podarki (*Tradescantia*), te 70 drugih vrsta te porodice. U ovom trenutku (prosinac 2023.) uzgajamo 95 svojti, uključujući ukrasne kultivare i križance.

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If not stated otherwise (MK = Mirna Kirin), photographs were taken by the Author.

a) *Tradescantia Continental*
b-d) Zbirka komelinovki

Phototable 6: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Austrotradescantia: *Tradescantia fluminensis*. a) Wild type, grown in Botanic Garden collections for decades: if taken to direct sun, the leaves become b) chartreuse-pale, almost indistinguishable from c) f. *aurea* (left), here compared to another old variety from Botanic Garden collection, f. *variegata* ('Variegata', right). d). Today, 'Variegata' is an accepted name for a plethora of old cultivars (f.e. 'Albo-Vittata', 'Albo-Lineata', 'Albo-Striata') with sharp-edged, bright yellow to pure white stripes, while e) 'Yellow Hill' is an accepted for the cultivars with indistinct, blurred stripes (f.e. 'Aureo-Variegata'). f) Modern cultivars of the same names, purchased in 2023, differ considerably: 'Aurea' (left) and 'Variegata' (right), to be compared with those of the same names, above (photo c).

Phototable 7: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Austrotradescantia: *Tradescantia mundula*. ab) Green cultivated type. cd) Variegated cultivated types have been sold under many names: both of these were purchased as *T. mundula* 'Lisa', *"the most mislabelled cultivar of all times"* (Tradescantia Hub). Plants never flowered.

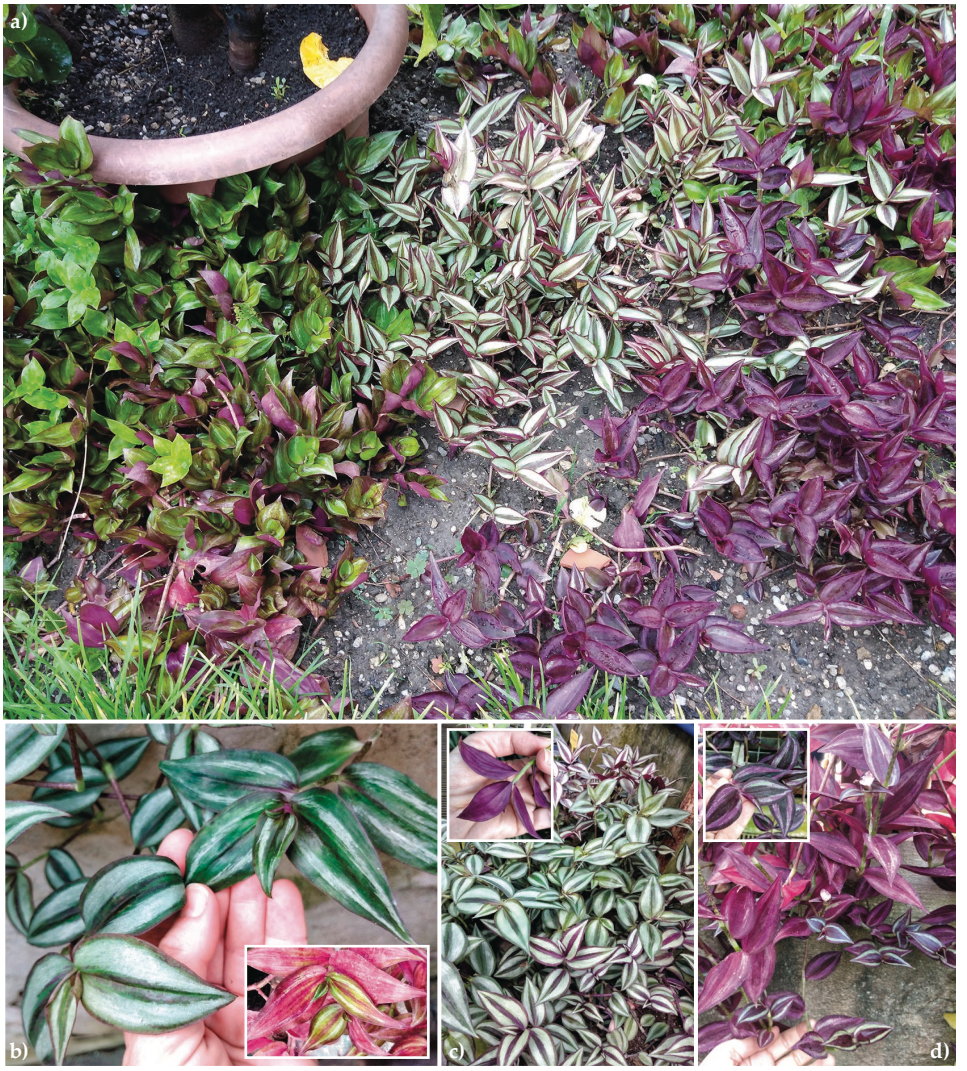
Phototable 8: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Austrotradescantia: *Tradescantia cerinthoides*. a) Mature plant in flower, with olive-grey, hairy older leaves (MK). Cultivars: b) Famous green-white-pink 'Nanouk' and c) green-purple 'Green Nanouk' (former f. *glabra*). d) 'Red Hill' (former f. *pilosa*). e-f) Green-lime-purple 'Limelight' (former f. *glabra* 'Aureovariegata'): front with stripes and back with blotches.

Phototable 9: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Austrotradescantia: Continental Group. a-b-c) Confused labels in the old collection of Continental-hybrids in 2005 (MK): a) Only one shoot in this photo is a true member of this group (*blue arrow*), the main plant is *Callisia gentlei* var. *elegans* (*C.* 'Elegans'; b) Because of the white flowers, most of the plants were labelled as *T. fluminensis*; c) Specimen labelled as *T. albiflora* 'Albovittata' (2005), a synonym of *T. fluminensis*. d) Modern Continental 'Albovittata' (former "*T. albiflora*") cultivar with dark-green and white stripes. e) 'White Giant' ("T. albiflora 'Giant'") is one of the possible candidates for our old nameless Continental-cultivars. f) 'Sweetness' (valid name for this beautiful 'Nanouk'-look-a-like is 'EC-TRADE-2011', which is unfortunate, while plant collectors and aficionados love pretty names! (Cuttings purchased in 2023).

Phototable 10: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Campelia: ***Tradescantia zanonia:*** a) Beautiful large species with impressive rosettes of shiny leaves and snow-white flowers, enclosed by heart-shaped bracts (small boxes). ***Tradescantia spathacea*** (syn. *Rhoeo discolor*; MK): b) Famous large tradescantia which enjoys spending Summers in the sun, where leaves are becoming beautifully coloured. Popular name "Moses in the cradle" (box) follows interestingly constructed inflorescences: white flowers enclosed by boat-like bracts ('cradle'). Cultivars: c) robust 'Vittata' and d) more sensitive 'Sitara' (syn. 'Tricolor').

Phototable 11: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Campelia: Many faces of ***Tradescantia zebrina***. a) Famous old varieties of "Zebrina pendula", common in every Garden-collection of 20th century: pink-flowered var. *purpusii* with dark purple leaves (left), classic var. *zebrina* with silver-striped leaves (mid), compared to blue-flowered var. *flocculosa* with fuzzy light-green leaves (right). b) Today rare in cultivation, *T. zebrina* var. *mollipila*. c) *T. zebrina* 'Purpusii' (valid name; detail of flowers in box). d) *T. zebrina*, once common in every household (MK). e) *T. zebrina* var. *flocculosa* (MK; detail of flowers in box). f) modern cultivar of *T. zebrina* var. *mollipila*: 'Purple Plush'.

Phototable 12: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Campelia: Outdoor and indoor colours of ***Tradescantia zebrina* cultivars**. a) Full sun brings out 'the best' from the leaf anthocyanin and carotenoid pigments: planted directly in the ground, three initially similar varieties are showing clear differences: 'Discolor' (left, and b); Superba group cult. (middle, and c); 'Burgundy' (right, and d). Living indoors: b) "Chameleon of Zebrinas", 'Discolor' (right, and small box) clearly differs from Superba-hybrids (left); c) Superba Group mix of cultivars keep the backs of the blades dark purple (box); d) Old cultivar 'Burgundy' in its transitional and Summer form (box).

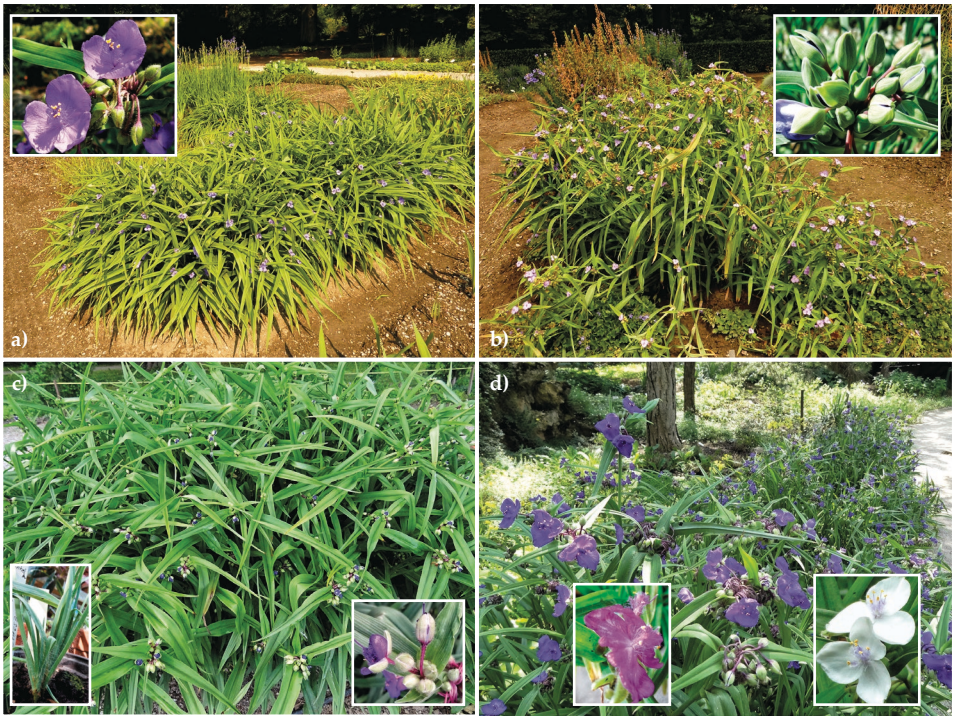


Phototable 13: ***Tradescantia*** **– Subgenus Campelia:** Many faces of ***Tradescantia zebrina*** **'Discolor'**: a) "Common" form, spending Summer outdoors in shade, has silver-striped dark green leaves, with bright purple backs; compared to the b) plant spending Summer indoors. c) Fading-green toward Summer form, in the late Winter, under the influence of brighter light. d) Late Spring form in the greenhouse. e) Bright red Summer form growing new green foliage in early Winter.

Phototable 14: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Campelia: Multi-coloured *Tradescantia zebrina* cultivars. Some cultivars change their colours throughout their leaves: a) 'Violet Hill' has bright pink nuances in the sunny position (top box), while only the youngest leaves of 'Silver Smudge' (bottom box) are green, even in greenhouse conditions. Some cultivars have 3 - 4 colours striped upon a single leaf: b) Cutting of 'Quadricolor' was purchased after old plants withered (oval; MK), looking very different. c) Young cuttings of new type of old 'Discolor Multicolor', and e) famous 'Danny Lee' (valid 'HappiLee').

Phototable 15: *Tradescantia* – Subgenus Setcreasea: *Tradescantia pallida*: a) Mature plants spending summer in full sun, flowering (box; MK). Cultivars: b) 'Pink Stripe', c) 'Blue Sue'. ***Tradescantia sillamontana***: d) Mature plants spending summer in full sun (MK). Cultivar e) 'Variegata' with its wonderful green-lime-white striping. f) Popular hybrid 'Pale Puma' belongs to this Subgenus, but it is of unknown origin.

Phototable 16: ***Tradescantia*** **– Subgenus Tradescantia:** a) ***Tradescantia virginiana*** grown from seed in 1987: sepals and pedicels are densely hairy (box; MK). b) ***T. ohiensis*** grown from seed in 2012 displays original features of species (box: sepals with apical tufts of hairs; MK). c) ***T. subaspera*** grown from seeds in 2018 displays mixed traits (MK): leaves are broad and hairy (especially when young, left box), but the sparse hairs on the sepals are not glandular, flowers are dark blue and dissolve before noon (right box). d) **Andersoniana Group hybrids** are grown in the flowerbeds for decades (MK): they display mixed features of different species and various flower colours (left box: 'Alba', right box: 'Rubra').



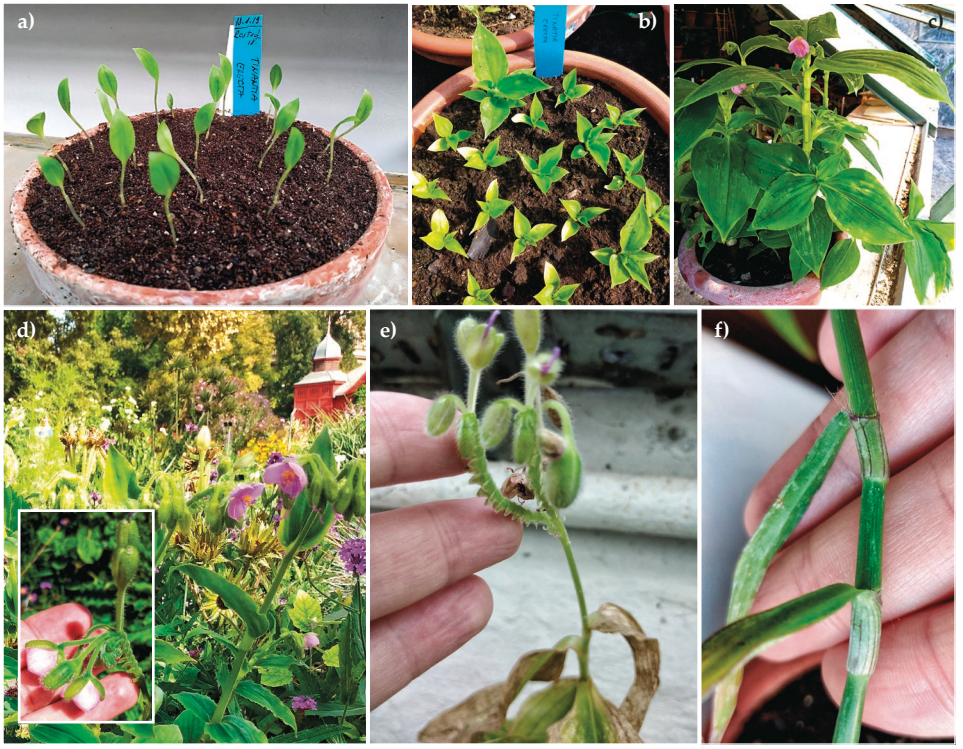
Phototable 17: ***Gibasis*** and ***Tripogandra***. a) ***G. pellucida*** is a slender plant with lanceolate, acute-acuminate and stalkless leaves, while hairless cymes of white flowers in umbels come in pairs (box). b) ***G. geniculata*** ('Purple Plush', MK) is much sturdier plant, with ovate to oblong-elliptic leaves and hairy inflorescences (box). c) ***Gibasis* 'José Puig'** is a modern cultivar of unidentified species, named after Spanish plant grower. d) ***T. glandulosa*** (left) in flower, next to striped *Callisia gentlei* var. *elegans* (right), and ***T. multiflora*** (above), which have never flowered. e) *T. glandulosa* (below, detail of flower in box) and (possible) *T. multiflora* (above). f) Uncommon cultivar ***T. serrulata* 'Purple Scimitar'** displays an impressive colour overflow between dark green and purple.

Phototable 18: ***Callisia***. a) ***C. fragrans***: inflorenscence on our b) oldest plant (MK), and c) young rooted cuttings. d) ***C. gentlei* var. *elegans*** (C. 'Elegans', MK): inflorescensce with e) detail of flowers and f) attractive striped leaves. g) ***C. multiflora*** leaves are h) rooting at the nodes. i) Plants named ***C. insignis*** never flowered.

Phototable 18: ***Callisia***. j) ***C. soconucensis*** with cultivar k) **'Variegata'**. l) Succulent ***C. navicularis***. m) Green cultivated form of ***C. repens,*** with cultivars: n) '**Pink Lady**', o) '**Gold Variegated**' and p) '**Bianca**'.

Phototable 19: ***Cyanotis***. a) ***C. somaliensis*** and ***C. vaga*** standing side-by-side for years; single flower with fuzzy filaments and yellow anthers (box) and b) part of the inflorescence with dense cymes protected by short bracts. c) Old and new growth of *C. vaga* illustrates the old name "C. hirsuta" (MK). d) ***C. beddomei***, popular red-green ornamental. d) ***C. ciliata*** (above) and unnamed older specimen of unknown species, which never flowered (below).

Phototable 20: ***Tinantia erecta*** is an attractive annual, grown from seeds every season: cymes are glandular-hairy and each carry several symmetric flowers. Photos a-e) are showing the annual life-cycle, from seedlings to seeds. f) ***Coleotrype goudotii*** have long, closed, sparsely hairy leaf-sheaths, under which the inflorescences form.



Phototable 21: ***Palisota.*** a-b) ***P. bracteosa*** forms an underground rhizome with a large rosette of shiny leaves (MK). Our older plants sadly withered in 2020, during the COVID-19 lockdown and lack of central heating. c) Today we grow some new seedlings. d) ***P. schweinfurthii*** from central Africa is hardier: it is also a large, hairy plant.

Phototable 22: ***Commelina.*** a) ***Commelina erecta*** has "closed" bracts b) enclosing the flowers (MK). c) ***C. communis*** growing as a pot-weed; Japan variety ***hortensis*** (box) has much larger flowers, which liquefy as soon as they open. d) Flowers of ***C. benghalensis*** in 2023, and 2010 (MK, box). e) ***C. tuberosa*** has perfect flowers with the lower petals intact, and vary greatly in general appearance.

Phototable 23: ***Aneilema*****.** a) ***A. zebrinum***, one of the better-known ornamentals of this genus, with a detail of individual, clearly bilaterally symmetric flowers (box). b) ***A. aequinoctiale*** white-edged leaf covered in brisk hairs, with a detail of pistils protruding from dissolved yellow flowers (box). c) ***A. beninense*** in rosettes, with a detail of many-flowered terminal inflorescence (box)

Phototable 24: ***Pollia*** and ***Murdannia*****.** a) ***P. condensata*** in bloom, November of 2018 (MK). b) ***P. miranda*** prepares to flower, August of 2023. c) ***P. japonica*** growing as a ground cover beneath the pots of tropical plants outdoors, with a detail of flower buds (box). d) Young rosettes of ***P. crispata*** with a detail of distinctive leaf base undulation (box). e) ***M. loriformis*** prepares to flower in late November of 2023 (box).

Tab. 1. Species of genus *Tradescantia* (Commelinaceae family; Subfamily Commelinoideae, tribe Tradescantieae, subtribe Tradescantiinae) **inventoried in Botanical Garden** of the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, **between 1895 and 2023**. Column 1 depicts the affiliation to Subgenus and Section (if such exists) according to Pellegrini (2017, 2018); Column 2 depicts the valid name of species according to the *Plants of the World Online* ("PoWO"); Column 3 lists the original name, as found in our historical documents (with synonyms if such were noted); Column 4 has the same name according to the *World Flora Online* ("WFO"); Column 5 carries the information of the source of plant material and year of its obtaining (if such exist); Column 6 gives the last year of inventorying the plant in our Garden collection.

Subgenus /Sect.	PoWO:	Original name/syn.:	WFO:	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth	Tradescantia blossfeldiana Mill.	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth	52, 58 (pre-WWII) inventories	unknown
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth	Dubrovnik 78; Cluj-Napoca 22	2023
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia crassula Link & Otto	Tradescantia crassula Lk. et Otto	Tradescantia crassula Link & Otto	Bruxelles 63, 65; Nijmegen 69	1960s
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia albiflora (no author)	(Perhaps some hybrid of Continental Gp.?)	1929 Inventory	unknown
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia albiflora Kth.	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	1938, 51, 55, 58 (pre-WWII) inventories	unknown
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia albiflora Kunth	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	62 (pre-WWII) inventory	unknown
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia albiflora Kunth	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Rennes 70, Besancon 71	2023
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia fluminensis (no author)	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	191? Inventory	unknown
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	52 (pre-WWII) inventory	unknown
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell.	Kaunas 70, Cluj 70, Nancy 70, Nantes 70, Besancon 70	2023
Austrotradescantia	Tradescantia mundula Kunth	Tradescantia Mundula	Tradescantia mundula Kunth	Specialized nursery (NL) 23	2023
Campelia / Cymbispatha	Tradescantia gracillima Standl.	Tradescantia venezuelensis Steyerm.	Tradescantia gracillima Standl.	Vacratot 63, Antwerpen 67, Besancon 67, 77	1970s
Campelia /Rhoeo	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	Rhoeo discolor (no author)	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	Heinz 1895/6	unknown
Campelia /Rhoeo	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	Rhoeo discolor Hance	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	1952, 58, 60s (pre-WWII) invent.; Kaunas 70, Nancy 70, Amsterdam 70, Antwerpen 70	1970s
Campelia /Rhoeo	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	Rhoeo spathacea (Sw.) Stearn /= Rh. discolor (L'Hér.) Hance/	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	Stockholm 60, Gent 67	1960s
Campelia /Rhoeo	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	Tradescantia spathacea Sw.	Nancy 70; Nursery 20	2023

Subgenus /Sect.	PoWO:	Original name/syn.:	WFO:	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Campelia /Campelia	Tradescantia zanonia (L.) Sw.	Tradescantia viridis hort. ex Gentil (unchecked)	Tradescantia zanonia (L.) Sw.	Pre-WWII inventory	unknown
Campelia /Campelia	Tradescantia zanonia (L.) Sw.	Campelia zanonia (L.) Sw.	Tradescantia zanonia (L.) Sw.	Antwerpen 74	2023
Campelia /Campelia	Tradescantia zanonia (L.) Sw.	unnamed	Tradescantia zanonia (L.) Sw.	Gift from a visitor 20	2023
Campelia /Zebrina	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse	Zebrina pendula (no author)	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse	Heinz 1895/6; 1929 Inventory	unknown
Campelia /Zebrina	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse	Tradescantia zebrina (no author)	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse	1904 Inventory	unknown
Campelia /Zebrina	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse	Tradescantia zebrina Hort.	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse	191? Inventory	unknown
Campelia /Zebrina	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse	Gift from a visitor 19	2023
Campelia /Zebrina	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse var. zebrina	Zebrina pendula Schnitzlein	Zebrina pendula Schnizl. = Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	1938, 51, 58, 61 (pre-WWII) Inventory	unknown
Mandonia	Tradescantia crassifolia Cav.	Tradescantia crassifolia Cav.	Tradescantia crassifolia Cav.	1938 sewing inventory	unknown
Mandonia	Tradescantia crassifolia Cav.	Tradescantia crassifolia (no author)	Tradescantia crassifolia Cav.	1954 inventory	unknown
Mandonia	Tradescantia crassifolia Cav.	Tradescantia crassifolia Cav. var. glabrata	Tradescantia crassifolia Cav.	Copenhagen 73	1975
Setcreasea	Tradescantia pallida (Rose) D.R.Hunt	Setcreasea purpurea Boom	Tradescantia pallida (Rose) D.R.Hunt	1960s inventory	unknown
Setcreasea	Tradescantia pallida (Rose) D.R.Hunt	Setcreasea purpurea Boom	Tradescantia pallida (Rose) D.R.Hunt	Bonn 64, 68	2023
Setcreasea	Tradescantia sillamontana Matuda	Tradescantia sillamontana Matuda	Tradescantia sillamontana Matuda	Kaunas 12	2023
Setcreasea	Tradescantia sillamontana Matuda	Tradescantia quelmontana (misspelled T. sillamontana)	Tradescantia sillamontana Matuda	Dubrovnik 68	2023
Tradescantia	Tradescantia bracteata Small ex Britton	Tradescantia bracteata Small	Tradescantia bracteata Small	Geneve 63, Kaunas 70	1970s
Tradescantia	Tradescantia hirsutiflora Bush	Tradescantia discolor (no author)	Tradescantia hirsutiflora Bush	1904, 191? Inventory	unknown
Tradescantia	Tradescantia occidentalis (Britton) Smyth	Tradescantia occidentalis Smythe	Tradescantia occidentalis (Britton) Smyth	1958, 63 (pre-WWII) inventories	unknown
Tradescantia	Tradescantia occidentalis (Britton) Smyth	Tradescantia virginiana var. occidentalis Britton	Tradescantia occidentalis (Britton) Smyth	Stuttgart 87	1990s
Tradescantia	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia paludosa (without author; misspelled "caludosa")	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	1953 (recov.c.)	unknown

Subgenus /Sect.	PoWO:	Original name/syn.:	WFO:	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	1958 inventory	1960s
Tradescantia	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia reflexa Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Bruxelles 63, 65	1960s
Tradescantia	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	(ev. T. Andersoniana Gp.)	Amiens 12	2023
Tradescantia	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	(ev. T. Andersoniana Gp.)	Weinheim 17	2023
Tradescantia	Tradescantia subaspera Ker Gawl. var. subaspera	Tradescantia pilosa Lehm.	Tradescantia subaspera var. subaspera	1938 sewing inventory	unknown
Tradescantia	Tradescantia subaspera Ker Gawl. var. subaspera	Tradescantia pilosa Lehm.	Tradescantia subaspera var. subaspera	Hamburg 54	1960s
Tradescantia	Tradescantia subaspera Ker Gawl. var. subaspera	Tradescantia pilosa Lehm.	Tradescantia subaspera var. subaspera	Brno 63, Nijmegen 69	1960s
Tradescantia	Tradescantia subaspera Ker Gawl.	Tradescantia subaspera Gawl.	Tradescantia subaspera Ker Gawl.	Bruxelles 60, 65	1960s
Tradescantia	Tradescantia subaspera Ker Gawl.	Tradescantia subaspera Ker Gawl.	(ev. T. Andersoniana Gp.)	Hamburg 23, Tübingen 23	2023
Tradescantia	Tradescantia virginiana L. (probably)	Tradescantia virginica (no author)	Tradescantia virginiana L. (probably, less likely Callisia rosea (Vent.) D.R.Hunt)	Heinz 1895/6; 1938 sewing inventory	unknown
Tradescantia	Tradescantia virginiana L. (probably)	Tradescantia virginica (no author)	Tradescantia virginiana L. (probably, less likely Callisia rosea (Vent.) D.R.Hunt)	51, 58, 63 (pre-WWII) inventories	unknown
Tradescantia	Tradescantia virginiana L.	Tradescantia virginica (no author)	Tradescantia virginiana L.	Halle 79, Stuttgart 84, Warsaw 89, Tours 89, Nancy 89	1980ies
Tradescantia	Tradescantia virginiana L.	Tradescantia virginica (no author)	Tradescantia virginiana L.	Meise 90	2023
Tradescantia	?	"Tradescantia benghalensis" (unknown, without author)	Tradescantia bengalensis hort. ex Gentil (unchecked name)	51 (pre-WWII) inventory	unknown
Tradescantia	(Gibasis geniculata)	Tradescantia benghalensis Ait. (it was Gibasis geniculata!)		Cluj 70	1981
Tradescantia	?	"Tradescantia chinensis" (unknown; without author)	(misspelled T. ohiensis?)	1955, 58 inventory ("Wisconsin 54")	unknown
Tradescantia	?	"Tradescantia orientalis" (unknown; without author)	(misspelled T. occidentalis?)	1954 inventory	unknown
Tradescantia	?	"Tradescantia Schotiana" (unknown; without author)	?	191? & 1938 inventories	unknown

Tab. 2. Cultivated varieties and hybrids of genus *Tradescantia* inventoried in Botanical Garden of the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, **between 1895 and 2023**. Column 1 depicts the valid name of culton (if such exists) according to 'Tradescantia Hub' or other relevant source; Column 2 lists the original name, as found in our historical documents (with synonyms if such were noted); Column 3 gives the valid name of the species according to the *Plants of the World Online* ("PoWO", if such exists); Column 4 carries the information of the source of plant material and year of its obtaining (if such exist); Column 5 gives the last year of inventorying the plant in our Garden collection.

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	51 (pre-WWII)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Yellow Hill'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Aureovittata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Rennes 70	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp)	Tradescantia virginiana L.	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Meyrin 87	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp)	Tradescantia x andersoniana Ludw. et Rohwed.	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Marburg 60, Nijmegen 63, Aachen 89, Rostock 90	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp)	Tradescantia virginiana L. varieties: 'Coelestis', 'Leonora', 'Pauline', 'Rubra', 'Sky Blue'	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Wageningen 65, 66	1970
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp)	Tradescantia virginiana L. var. grandiflora hort.	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Nijmegen 79	1983
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp) 'Alba'	Tradescantia'Alba'	Tradescantia virginiana L. /Hort.	unknown, before 2000	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp) 'Concord Grape'	Tradescantia 'Concord Grape'	Tradescantia virginiana L. /Hort.	Nursery 23	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp) 'Rubra'	Tradescantia 'Rubra'	Tradescantia virginiana L. /Hort.	Nursery 23	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp) 'Zwanenburg Blue'	Tradescantia × andersoniana Ludw. & Rohw. 'Zwanenburg Blue'	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Wageningen 68	1969
Tradescantia (Austrotradescantia Subg.) 'Pink Hill'	Tradescantia Umbraculifera Pink Hill	unspecified name	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'Albovittata'	Tradescantia Albiflora Albovittata	Tradescantia albiflora = Tradescantia fluminensis	Specialized nursery (NL)	1984
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'EC-TRADE-2011'	Tradescantia Sweetness	unspecified name	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'White Giant'	Tradescantia Albiflora Giant	unspecified name	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'Albovittata'	unnamed	unspecified name	Gift from a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'Albovittata'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Albovittata'	unspecified name	Rennes 70	2023
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'EC-TRADE-2011'	Tradescantia 'Feeling Flirty'	unspecified name	Gift from a visitor 23	2023
Tradescantia (schippii?) 'DRATRA01'	Tradescantia Spathacea Roxxo	Tradescantia schippii D.R.Hunt /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia (Setcreasea Subg) 'Pale Puma'	Tradescantia Pallida Pale Puma (2x)	unspecified name	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia cerinthoides 'Green Nanouk'	Tradescantia Cerinthoides f. Glabra	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia cerinthoides 'Limelight'	Tradescantia Cerinthoides f. Glabra Aureovariegata	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia cerinthoides 'Nanouk'	Tradescantia Cerinthoides Lilac	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia cerinthoides 'Red Hill'	Tradescantia Cerinthoides f. Pilosa	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Aurea'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Aurea'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	51 (pre-WWII)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Aurea'	Tradescantia Fluminensis Aurea	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia albiflora Kth. v. aureo-vittata /=T.fluminensis Vellozo 'Aureo-vittata'/	Tradescantia albiflora = T. fluminensis	Brno 63, Rennes 70	2020
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia Fluminensis Variegata	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	51 (pre-WWII)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Variegata'; ?Continental Gp hyb.	Tradescantia albiflora Kth. v. albo-vittata /=T.fluminensis Vell. 'Albovittata')	Tradescantia albiflora = T. fluminensis	Opeka 69, Rennes 70	1990ies

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Yellow Hill'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Aureovittata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Rennes 70	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Yellow Hill'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Aureovittata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Brno 63	1966
Tradescantia mundula 'Lisa'	Tradescantia Mundula Variegata	Tradescantia mundula Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia mundula 'Lisa'	unnamed	Tradescantia mundula Kunth /Hort	Gift from a visitor 23	2023
Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Amiens 12	2023
Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Weinheim 17	2023
Tradescantia pallida 'Blue Sue'	Tradescantia Pallida Blue Sue	Tradescantia pallida Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia pallida 'Pink Stripe'	Tradescantia Pallida Pink Stripe	Tradescantia pallida Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia sillamontana 'Gold Stripes'	Tradescantia Sillamontana Variegata	Tradescantia sillamontana Matuda /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia spathacea 'Variegata'	Tradescantia spathacea Sw. 'Vittata' (Rhoeo spathacea cv. "Vittata" /=Rhoeo discolor (L'Herit) Hance 'Vittata'/)	Tradescantia spathacea Sw. /Hort	Gent 67	2023
Tradescantia spathacea 'Sitara'	Tradescantia spathacea 'Tricolor'	Tradescantia spathacea Sw. /Hort	unknown	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Little Hill'	Tradescantia Zebrina Giant	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'	Zebrina Purpusii Brüchner	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	1929, 38, 51,55, 58 Inventories	unknown
Tradescantia zebrina 'Burgundy'	Tradescantia Zebrina Burgundy	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Discolor Multicolor'	Tradescantia Zebrina Discolor Multicolor	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Discolor' [1959]	Tradescantia Zebrina Discolor	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Evanesce'	Tradescantia Zebrina Evanesce	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'HappiLee'	Tradescantia Zebrina Danny Lee	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Quadricolor'	Tradescantia Zebrina Quadricolor	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Silver Smudge'	Tradescantia Zebrina Giant	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia zebrina 'Tikal'	Tradescantia Zebrina Tikal	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Violet Hill'	Tradescantia Zebrina Silver Plus cutting	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Deep Purple'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina /Hort.	Gift from of a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Discolor'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina /Hort.	Gift from of a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Discolor Multicolor'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina /Hort.	Gift from of a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Flame Dance/Green Ghost'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina /Hort.	Gift from of a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'	Zebrina purpusii Brückner	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	61 (pre-WWII)	unknown
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'	Tradescantia purpusi Bruch. (misspelled)	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	Nantes 70	2020
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	Nursery 19	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purple Plush' = Tradescantia 'Discolor' [1889]	Tradescantia Zebrina Discolor	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina /var. mollipila/ 'Purple Plush'	Tradescantia Zebrina Mollipila Var. Purple Plush	Tradescantia zebrina var. mollipila D.R.Hunt /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Quadricolor'	Zebrina pendula Schnitzlein var. quadricolor hort.	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	1963, 1978 Naples	1998
Tradescantia zebrina var. flocculosa (G.Brückn.) D.R.Hunt	Zebrina flocculosa Brückn.	Tradescantia zebrina var. flocculosa (G. Brückn.) D.R.Hunt	Strassbourg 73	2020
Tradescantia zebrina var. flocculosa (G.Brückn.) D.R.Hunt	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina var. flocculosa (G. Brückn.) D.R.Hunt	Gift from a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia var. cult. & hyb.	Tradescantia sp.var.	Tradescantia var. cult. & hyb.	1944 selling list	unknown
Unknown	Tradescantia viridis hort. (ex Gentil?)	Tradescantia albiflora Kunth emend. Brückn. = T. fluminensis	1904 Inventory	unknown
Unknown	Tradescantia folio-variegata	unspecified name	1958 inventory	unknown

Tab. 3. Species of the Commelinaceae family, Subfamily Commelinoideae, arranged to genera (except *Tradescantia*, Tab. 1), **inventoried in Botanical Garden** of the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, **between 1895 and 2023**. Column 1 depicts the affiliation to tribe and subtribe (if such exists); Column 2 depicts the valid name of species according to the *Plants of the World Online* ("PoWO"); Column 3 lists the original name, as found in our historical documents (with synonyms if such were noted); Column 4 gives the same name according to the *World Flora Online* ("WFO"); Column 5 provides the information of the source of plant material and year of its obtaining (if such exist); Column 6 has the last year of inventorying the plant in our Garden collection.

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	51 (pre-WWII)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Yellow Hill'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Aureovittata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Rennes 70	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp)	Tradescantia virginiana L.	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Meyrin 87	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp)	Tradescantia x andersoniana Ludw. et Rohwed.	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Marburg 60, Nijmegen 63, Aachen 89, Rostock 90	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp)	Tradescantia virginiana L. varieties: 'Coelestis', 'Leonora', 'Pauline', 'Rubra', 'Sky Blue'	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Wageningen 65, 66	1970
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp)	Tradescantia virginiana L. var. grandiflora hort.	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Nijmegen 79	1983
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp) 'Alba'	Tradescantia'Alba'	Tradescantia virginiana L. /Hort.	unknown, before 2000	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp) 'Concord Grape'	Tradescantia 'Concord Grape'	Tradescantia virginiana L. /Hort.	Nursery 23	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp) 'Rubra'	Tradescantia 'Rubra'	Tradescantia virginiana L. /Hort.	Nursery 23	2023
Tradescantia (Andersoniana Gp) 'Zwanenburg Blue'	Tradescantia × andersoniana Ludw. & Rohw. 'Zwanenburg Blue'	Tradescantia × andersoniana W.Ludw. & Rohweder (unplaced)	Wageningen 68	1969
Tradescantia (Austrotradescantia Subg.) 'Pink Hill'	Tradescantia Umbraculifera Pink Hill	unspecified name	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'Albovittata'	Tradescantia Albiflora Albovittata	Tradescantia albiflora = Tradescantia fluminensis	Specialized nursery (NL)	1984
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'EC-TRADE-2011'	Tradescantia Sweetness	unspecified name	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) ‘White Giant’	Tradescantia Albiflora Giant	unspecified name	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'Albovittata'	unnamed	unspecified name	Gift from a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'Albovittata'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Albovittata'	unspecified name	Rennes 70	2023
Tradescantia (Continental Gp) 'EC-TRADE-2011'	Tradescantia 'Feeling Flirty'	unspecified name	Gift from a visitor 23	2023
Tradescantia (schippii?) ‘DRATRA01’	Tradescantia Spathacea Roxxo	Tradescantia schippii D.R.Hunt /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia (Setcreasea Subg) ‘Pale Puma’	Tradescantia Pallida Pale Puma (2x)	unspecified name	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia cerinthoides ‘Green Nanouk’	Tradescantia Cerinthoides f. Glabra	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia cerinthoides ‘Limelight’	Tradescantia Cerinthoides f. Glabra Aureovariegata	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia cerinthoides ‘Nanouk’	Tradescantia Cerinthoides Lilac	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia cerinthoides ‘Red Hill’	Tradescantia Cerinthoides f. Pilosa	Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Aurea'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Aurea'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	51 (pre-WWII)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis ‘Aurea’	Tradescantia Fluminensis Aurea	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis ‘Variegata’	Tradescantia albiflora Kth. v. aureo-vittata /=T.fluminensis Vellozo 'Aureo-vittata'/	Tradescantia albiflora = T. fluminensis	Brno 63, Rennes 70	2020
Tradescantia fluminensis ‘Variegata’	Tradescantia Fluminensis Variegata	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis ‘Variegata’	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Variegata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	51 (pre-WWII)	2023
Tradescantia fluminensis ‘Variegata’; ?Continental Gp hyb.	Tradescantia albiflora Kth. v. albo-vittata /=T.fluminensis Vell. 'Albovittata')	Tradescantia albiflora = T. fluminensis	Opeka 69, Rennes 70	1990ies
Tradescantia fluminensis ‘Yellow Hill’	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Aureovittata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Rennes 70	2023

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia fluminensis 'Yellow Hill'	Tradescantia albiflora/fluminensis 'Aureovittata'	Tradescantia fluminensis Vell. /Hort	Brno 63	1966
Tradescantia mundula 'Lisa'	Tradescantia Mundula Variegata	Tradescantia mundula Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia mundula 'Lisa'	unnamed	Tradescantia mundula Kunth /Hort	Gift from a visitor 23	2023
Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Amiens 12	2023
Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Tradescantia ohiensis Raf.	Weinheim 17	2023
Tradescantia pallida 'Blue Sue'	Tradescantia Pallida Blue Sue	Tradescantia pallida Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia pallida 'Pink Stripe'	Tradescantia Pallida Pink Stripe	Tradescantia pallida Kunth /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia sillamontana 'Gold Stripes'	Tradescantia Sillamontana Variegata	Tradescantia sillamontana Matuda /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia spathacea 'Variegata'	Tradescantia spathacea Sw. 'Vittata' (Rhoeo spathacea cv. "Vittata" /=Rhoeo discolor (L'Herit) Hance 'Vittata'/)	Tradescantia spathacea Sw. /Hort	Gent 67	2023
Tradescantia spathacea 'Sitara'	Tradescantia spathacea 'Tricolor'	Tradescantia spathacea Sw. /Hort	unknown	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Little Hill'	Tradescantia Zebrina Giant	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'	Zebrina Purpusii Brüchner	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	1929, 38, 51,55, 58 Inventories	unknown
Tradescantia zebrina 'Burgundy'	Tradescantia Zebrina Burgundy	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Discolor Multicolor'	Tradescantia Zebrina Discolor Multicolor	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Discolor' [1959]	Tradescantia Zebrina Discolor	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Evanesce'	Tradescantia Zebrina Evanesce	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'HappiLee'	Tradescantia Zebrina Danny Lee	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Quadri-color'	Tradescantia Zebrina Quadricolor	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Silver Smudge'	Tradescantia Zebrina Giant	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Tikal'	Tradescantia Zebrina Tikal	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Violet Hill'	Tradescantia Zebrina Silver Plus cutting	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Tradescantia zebrina 'Deep Purple'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina /Hort.	Gift from of a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Discolor'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina /Hort.	Gift from of a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Discolor Multicolor'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina /Hort.	Gift from of a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Flame Dance/Green Ghost'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina /Hort.	Gift from of a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'	Zebrina purpusii Brückner	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	61 (pre-WWII)	unknown
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'	Tradescantia purpusi Bruch. (misspelled)	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	Nantes 70	2020
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purpusii'	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	Nursery 19	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Purple Plush' = Tradescantia 'Discolor' [1889]	Tradescantia Zebrina Discolor	Tradescantia zebrina Bosse /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina /var. mollipila/ 'Purple Plush'	Tradescantia Zebrina Mollipila Var. Purple Plush	Tradescantia zebrina var. mollipila D.R.Hunt /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia zebrina 'Quadri-color'	Zebrina pendula Schnitzlein var. quadri-color hort.	Tradescantia zebrina var. zebrina	1963, 1978 Naples	1998
Tradescantia zebrina var. flocculosa (G.Brückn.) D.R.Hunt	Zebrina flocculosa Brückn.	Tradescantia zebrina var. flocculosa (G. Brückn.) D.R.Hunt	Strassbourg 73	2020
Tradescantia zebrina var. flocculosa (G.Brückn.) D.R.Hunt	unnamed	Tradescantia zebrina var. flocculosa (G. Brückn.) D.R.Hunt	Gift from a visitor 20	2023
Tradescantia var. cult. & hyb.	Tradescantia sp.var.	Tradescantia var. cult. & hyb.	1944 selling list	unknown
Unknown	Tradescantia viridis hort. (ex Gentil?)	Tradescantia albiflora Kunth emend. Brückn. = T. fluminensis	1904 Inventory	unknown
Unknown	Tradescantia folio-variegata	unspecified name	1958 inventory	unknown

Tab. 4. Cultivated varieties and hybrids of the Subfamily Commelinoideae, arranged according to genera (except *Tradescantia*, Tab. 2), **inventoried in Botanical Garden** of the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, **between 1895 and 2023**. Column 1 depicts the valid name of culton (if such exists) according to 'Commelinaceae BlogSpot' or other relevant source; Column 2 lists the original name, as found in our historical documents (with synonyms if such were noted); Column 3 brings the valid name of the species according to the *Plants of the World Online* ("PoWO", if such exists); Column 4 provides the information of the source of plant material and year of its obtaining (if such exist); Column 5 gives the last year of inventorying the plant in our Garden collection.

Horticultural source	Original name/syn.:	Botanical literature, note	Source and/or year of obtaining	Last existing in
Callisia gentlei var. elegans (H.E.Moore) D.R.Hunt	Callisia elegans Alexander	Callisia gentlei Matuda var. elegans (Alexander ex H.E.Moore) D.R.Hunt	1960s inventory; Strasbourg 66, Košice 70, Strasbourg 72	1980s
Callisia gentlei var. elegans (H.E.Moore) D.R.Hunt	Callisia elegans Alexander	Callisia gentlei Matuda var. elegans (Alexander ex H.E.Moore) D.R.Hunt /Hort	Porto, 71	2023
Callisia gentlei var. elegans (H.E.Moore) D.R.Hunt	Setcreasea striata Hort. (=Callisia 'Elegans')	unknown	1960s inventory, Rotterdam 59, 61; Strasbourg 72	1970s
Callisia repens 'Bianca'	Callisia Repens Bianca	Callisia repens (Jacq.) L. /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Callisia repens 'Pink Lady'	unnamed	Callisia repens (Jacq.) L. /Hort	gift of a visitor, 23	2023
Callisia repens 'Gold Variegated'	Callisia Repens Yellow Variegata	Callisia repens (Jacq.) L. /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Callisia soconuscensis 'Dragon Tail'	Callisia Soconucensis Dragon Tail	Callisia soconuscensis Matuda /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Callisia soconuscensis 'Variegata'	Callisia Soconuscensis Variegata	Callisia soconuscensis 'Variegata'	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Cyanotis ciliata (=Belosynapsis ciliata) cult.	Cyanotis Ciliata Belosynapsis	Cyanotis ciliata (Blume) Bakh.f. /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Cyanotis ciliata (=Belosynapsis ciliata) cult.	Cyanotis Kewensis Beddomei	Cyanotis beddomei (Hook.f.) Erhardt, Götz & Seybold /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Gibasis 'José Puig'	Tradescantia Gibasis José Puig	Note: "cultivated wild *Gibasis* sp. from Ecuador or Peru"	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Gibasis pellucida 'Tricolor'	Gibasis Pellucida Variegata Tricolor	Gibasis pellucida (M.Martens & Galeotti) D.R.Hunt /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tinantia pringlei 'Forme Claire'	Tinantia Pringlei Forme Claire	Tinantia pringlei (S.Watson) Rohweder /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Tradescantia serrulata 'Purple Scimitars'	Tripogandra Serrulata Purple Scimitars	Tripogandra serrulata (Vahl) Handlos /Hort	Specialized nursery (NL)	2023
Commelina communis var. ludens (Miq.) C.B.Clarke	Commelina communis L. var. hortensis Makino	Commelina communis L. var. ludens (Miq.) C.B.Clarke /Hort	Tokyo 22	2023