

Flower colour variation in *Brachystelma discoideum*

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Colour variation of flowers is to be found in all plants although that in *Brachystelma* is usually limited to a slight variation especially with seed sown from a single seed pod.

Seed obtained from a single plant of *B. discoideum* was sown late in 1993. After two seasons, the plants flowered and the following large colour variations were photographed.

One distinctive feature about all flowers is the black corona with its white centre. The flowers of this species hang downwards in sets of two at each set of greyish green leaves. The diameter of the flowers is about 22 mm. To photograph the very distinctive flowers, the stems have to be bent back almost 180°.

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Flowers with striking yellow corolla lobes and a pinkish-purple corolla base.



Flowers which have a whitish centre and yellow lobes. This is almost identical to the photo published in *Excelsa* No. 14 in an article about brachystelmas in Zimbabwe.



Flowers with brownish-yellow corolla lobes and dark pink-purple corolla base.