

×*Cremnovelum* - A new hybrid genus and its first candidate ×*Cremnovelum* 'Corso'

by Margrit Bischofberger (photographs by Christophe Camassel)

Over several years, Christophe Camassel (<https://planegrassfontignan.fr/>) has made various crossing attempts to create a hybrid that could handle both relatively cold winter temperatures and the summer sun in southern France. It turned out that ×*Graptopetalia* 'Titubans', the hybrid of *Graptopetalum paraguayense* and *Echeveria derenbergii*, is an ideal crossing partner. This is all the more astonishing since it was believed for a long time that hybrids, especially intergeneric hybrids, were not fertile, i.e. could not be used for further crossings. However, says Christophe, what is true regarding ×*G. Titubans*, does not apply to other ×*graptopetalias*, like ×*G. Fantôme*, ×*G. 'Debbi'* or ×*G. 'Cap Ferrat'*, i.e. ×*G. Titubans* seems to be an exception. One of his most recent crossings involving ×*G. Titubans* concerns *Cremnophila nutans*. ×*G. Titubans* was used as the mother plant, and not surprisingly the hybrid is clearly resembling it. The shape of the leaves and the shape of the flowers strongly remind one of ×*G. Titubans*, however the leaves are thicker, the peduncle is much thicker and rather stout and covered in numerous thick bracts. Christophe has named it 'Corso'.

While crossings between genus *Cremnophila* and genus *Echeveria* have a long tradition, the first ones created by Jean-Baptiste A. Deleuil at Marseilles in the 1870s and including ×*Cremneria* 'Pruinoso' (*C. linguifolia* × *E. coccinea*), ×*C. 'Mutabilis'* (*E. spec.* × *C. linguifolia*) and ×*C. 'Scaphylla'* (*E. agavoides* ×

C. linguifolia), the first crossings between genus *Echeveria* and genus *Graptopetalum* are reported only 60 years later. They were produced by Pierre Gossot (also a Frenchman!) in the 1930s and published as ×*G. 'Haworthioides'* (*E. agavoides* × *G. paraguayense*), ×*G. 'Caerulescens'* (*E. spec.* × *G. paraguayense* ?) and ×*G. 'Calva'* (*G. paraguayense* × *E. pulvinata*) in the obscure French journal 'Notre Vallée'.

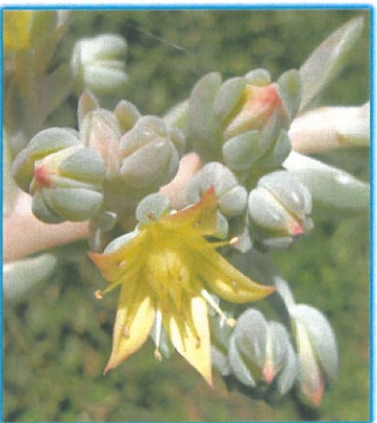
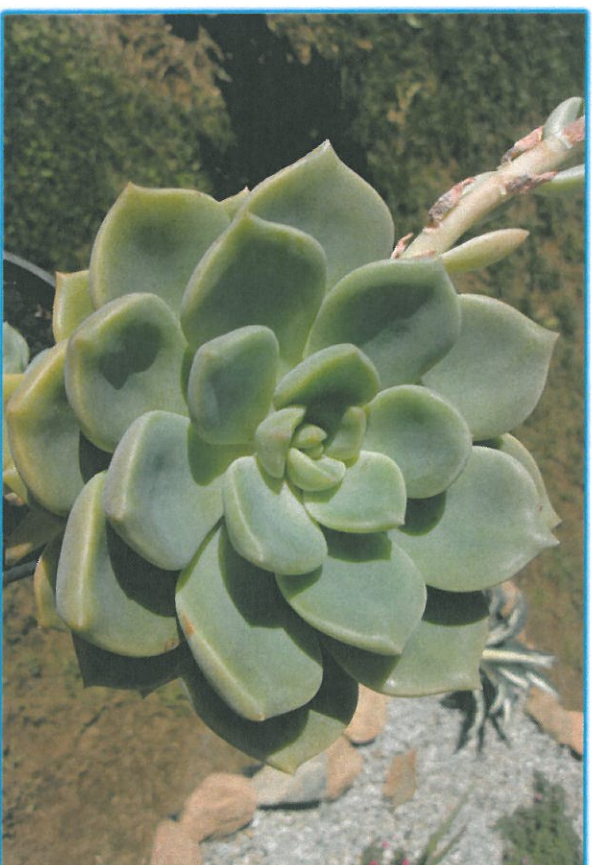


Figure 1. ×*Cremnovelum* 'Corso'.

As far as I am aware Christophe Camassel's hybrid is the first crossing involving the three genera *Cremnophila*, *Echeveria* and *Graptopetalum* and I suggest to call this new hybrid genus ×*Cremnovelum*.

×*Cremnovelum* Bischofb. nothogen. nov.
= *Cremnophila* Rose × *Echeveria* DC ×
Graptopetalum Rose



Figures 2a,b,c
×*Cremnovelum* 'Corso'.

