

Sarracenia purpurea *ssp. venosa* var. *burkii* 'Melissa Mazur'

About ten years ago I was sent some *Sarracenia purpurea* *ssp. venosa* var. *burkii* seed of the veinless form from plants originally collected from Walton Co. Florida, by Carl Mazur, a *Sarracenia* grower in Canada.

From the seeds that eventually germinated I separated out three seedlings that showed interesting characteristics. Once the plants reached maturity it became strikingly obvious that these three plants while subtly different, exhibited characteristics that warranted separation and possibly eventually cultivar status.

Of the three plants, one was eventually selected for cultivar registration and has been named for Melissa Mazur, wife of Carl who originally supplied the seed all those years ago. Melissa (Meli) is well known among her CP hunting friend as an intrepid bog hunter and is the discoverer, no less, of several important *Sarracenia* finds.

Sarracenia purpurea *ssp. venosa* var. *burkii* 'Melissa Mazur' has pitchers with no visible veining either inside or outside. When newly opened, the pitchers are coloured a beautifully delicate shade of coral pink. Later, as the pitchers age the pink colour fades to a more overall green colour with whitish and sometimes pinkish areas. During the cold winter months darker pink patches sometimes appear on the pitchers. The pitchers are mostly retained through the winter in all but the coldest climates.

The flowers are especially beautiful. The petals are a very delicate shade of pale pink and are unscented.



Figure 1: *Sarracenia purpurea* ssp. *venosa* var. *burkii* 'Melissa Mazur'

Because the specific characteristics of this cultivar are most unlikely to reproduce from seed, it is determined that this cultivar should be propagated asexually only. I will be endeavouring to make this plant available through a number of carnivorous plant outlets including my own private plant sales. See Figure 1 for a photograph of the cultivar.