



## The Orchids of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands / Las Orquideas De Puerto Rico Y Las Islas Virgenes

*By James D. Ackerman, Maria Del Castillo*

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This volume is above all a pictorial essay on the diversity of flora found in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. It is directed primarily at nature and orchid lovers. The text accompanying the paintings describe each species, including its taxonomy, natural history and distribution. Readers with deeper interest will find definitions and additional information in the Introduction and Glossary. Contains over 50 watercolors.

Este volumen es, ante todo, un ensayo pictorico sobre la diversidad de la flora de Puerto Rico e Islas Virgenes. Se dirige principalmente a los amantes de la naturaleza y las orquideas. El texto que acompaña las pinturas describe cada especie, incluyendo su taxonomia, historia natural y distribucion. Los lectores que deseen profundizar aun mas encontraran definiciones e informacion adicional en la Introduccion y en el Glosario. Contiene mas de 50 acuarelas.

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### Editorial Review

Language Notes

Text: English, Spanish

About the Author

As a boy in Hawaii, **James D. Ackerman** pulled weeds from his grandfather's extensive orchid plantings. A disdain for weeds developed, but a fondness for orchids persisted. He completed a master's degree in 1976 at Humboldt State University in California, and went to Florida State University for doctoral studies under the direction of Norris Williams. His dissertation work on orchids and euglossine bees was done in Panama at the Smithsonian Tropical research Institute. In 1981, he took a job at the Rio Piedras Campus of the University of Puerto Rico. He has since become Professor and Director of the Department of Biology, and has published more than 40 scientific articles, most of which deal with orchid pollination and systematics. De niño, **James D. Ackerman** arranco yerba en los extensos cultivos de orquideas de su abuelo. Así desarrollo su aversion a las yerbas malas y su amor a las orquideas. Ackerman termino su maestria en 1976 en Humboldt State University, California y fue a Florida State University para obtener el doctorado bajo la direccion de Norris Williams. Su tesis doctoral, sobre orquideas y abejas, la realizo en el Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute de Panama. desde 1981 trabaja en el Recinto de Rio Piedras de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, donde ha llegado a ser Profesor y Director del Departamento de Biología, y ha publicado mas de 40 articulos, la mayor parte sobre polinizacion y sistematica de la sorquideas.

**Maruja Del Castillo Mayda** studied art in her native Salamanca, at the Academia Real de Arte "San Fernando" in Madrid, and with the well-known painter and teacher E. Chicharro. after a successful career in portraits and still-life, including almost a decade in Washington, D.C., she moved to Puerto Rico in 1966. An amateur naturalist, she developed an interest in native orchids and began to plant this collection in 1973, starting with an oncidium found on a sailing trip to Culebra.!

**Maruja Del Castillo Mayda** estudio arte en Salamanca, su ciudad natal, en la Academia Real de Arte "San Fernando" en Madrid, y con el conocido pintor y maestro E. Chicharro. Luego de una exitosa carrera en retratos y naturaleza muerta y casi diez años en Washington, D.C., se mudo a Puerto Rico en 1966. Naturalista for aficion desarrollo gran interes por las orquideas nativas y comenzo a pintar esta coleccion en 1973 con una oncidium que se encontro en un viaje por mar a la isla de Culebra.

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