

11/4
~~12/3~~/91.

Dear Mark,

Whilst clearing up my old correspondence recently I came across a 11 yr old letter from the late Frank Horwood and thought you may be interested in portions of it in relation to *Adonium obesum* 'Singapore'.

As you can see 'Singapore' was introduced in 1933 according to Prof. Holtum of UK. You may wish to write to him to find out the origins of the clone as I have yet to find my book. He is > 90 yrs old now according to somebody I know in the Singapore Botanic Gardens. Good luck!

Have you received my letters + photo of my white *Adonium*?

Albert Chan

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P/S: I think you can locate Prof. Holtum thro' the Kew Gardens, England UK
Please let me know yr findings too!

(Letter from Frank Horwood to Albert Chan, 1980)

I do know your very fine Singapore clone, which is almost certainly the plant which used to be known as *Adonium coetatum*. I met Professor Holtum in England many years ago and he recognised my plant straight away as coming from Singapore! He told me that it was introduced in 1933 and the first plant was taken to him at the University for identification. I would be most interested to hear if any of the plants set seed, since presumably they must all be one clone. I tried for 10 years to self-pollinate my plant, but only partially succeeded once last year - only 10 viable seeds! Still, I should now be able to cross back with more success as soon as the seedlings flower. The plant crosses extremely easily with other forms of *obesum*.

I am at present associated with Abbey Garden Nursery, but am sorry to say that at the moment we don't have any of the more interesting *Adoniums* for sale. The only nursery I know who might have one or two species is "Cycadia", P.O.Box 191, Reseda, California 91335.

I will send you our 1980 catalogue in case there should be any other succulants you would like. I would be most interested in exchanging plants from our catalogue for Hoyas, *Hydnophytum* or *Myrmecodia*. The one plant which I have been trying without success to obtain is *Impatiens mirabilis* from Langkawi Island. I once saw a large plant of this species at Kew Gardens in England. Unfortunately it was not self-fertile and never produced seed and they had been trying since 1885!

Best wishes,

Frank Horwood.