

Single Chinese not sterile after all?

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There are scientific journals out there that say N. Tazetta 'Chinese sacred lily' or 'Orientalis' is sterile. This is because the plant is triploid with 30 chromosomes and this causes pollen to not germinate on the stigma and few viable embryos according to <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11515-005-0007-2>

My friend Bill Welch the Tazetta expert has succeeded in obtaining viable seed pods from this variety.

Bill asks, "So who is going to tell me that Chinese Sacred Lily is sterile? I've grown offspring from it before, and I guarantee these carefully pollinated (and repeat pollinated) pods have plenty of real cargo...anyone in China want to comment on this?"





Bill mentioned that if you pollinate three days in a row on the same floret you're more likely to get viable seed and also the other key element is: "a temperature of at least 80 degrees (27 Celsius) as the high during those 3 days is ideal, certainly anything under the 70s is hopeless." It seems like repeat pollination and temperature is the key to make this "sterile" variety fertile. Please share any comments or ideas.

Further information shows we must differentiate *N. Tazetta* subspecies *lacticolor* from Chinese sacred lily as they're not the same. This is why Daffseek lists that *N. Tazetta* subspecies *lacticolor* as fertile with offspring yet 'Chinese sacred lily' is supposed to be sterile. Lawrence explains further below in the comments section.