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The cover image shows sunflowers by Darda Effendi

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The purpose of HSI is to increase the enjoyment and understanding of Heliconia and related plants (in the families Cannaceae, Costaceae, Lowiaceae, Marantaceae, Strelitziaceae, and Zingiberaceae) of the order Zingiberales through education, research and communication. Interest in Zingiberales and information on the cultivation and botany of these plants is rapidly increasing. HSI will centralize this information and distribute it to members.

The Heliconia Society International is the official International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for the genera Heliconia, Musaceae, Etlingera, Costus, Cheilocostus, Chamaecostus, and Paracostus.

A cultivar name must comply with the standards as found on the website of the International Society for Horticul tural Science (ISHS) at http://www.ishs.org/sci/icra.htm. A cultivar name is "accepted" if it is compliant with the naming standards of the ISHS. The name becomes "established" only after it has been published in hard copy with a description in a publication that meets the requirements of the ISHS.

The following information is required to register a new cultivar:
1. Cultivar name
2. Parentage of cultivar
3. Origin of cultivar
4. Description of cultivar with characteristics that distinguish it from other similar cultivars or species
5. Photo of the inflorescence and/or other plant parts that distinguish it
6. Citation of the earliest dated hard copy publication, if any, of the cultivar

The Heliconia Society International will periodically publish accepted cultivar names of Heliconias, Costaceae and Etlingera and will provide registration services, following the rules of the ISHS. Contact can be made through the HSI website (www.heliconia.org or CultivarRegistry@heliconia.org).

References
www.heliconiasocietypr.ort/cultivar_registration.htm
www.heliconia.org/Registry/CostaceaeChecklist.pdf

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