

A NEW SPECIES OF *CORALLORHIZA* GAGNEBIN FROM GORI VALLEY

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The authors came across a few specimens of *Corallorhiza* Gagnebin, a saprophytic orchid with much branched fleshy rhizome, without any roots and possessing scaly leaves kept under *C. trifida* Chatel in the herbarium of Botanical Survey of India, Northern Circle, Dehra Dun (BSD), while working on the orchids of the Gori Valley. On critical study and scrutiny of literature it is seen that this species differs from *C. trifida* Chatel (1760) (= *C. innata* R. Br. 1813, Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 5 : 710. 1890) in having simple lip with undulate margins and free from coloured blotches. It is seen that *Corallorhiza* Chatel (1760) is a later homotypic homonym of *Corallorhiza* Gagnebin (1755) and that *C. innata* R. Br. (1813) (*Ophrys corallorhiza* L.) is nom. superfl. illeg. (Art. 63.1) for *Corallorhiza trifida* Chatel (1760).

A key to differentiate the 2 species is given below :

Lip trilobed, clawed, midlobes white with purple blotches ..	<i>C. trifida</i>
Lip not lobed, oblong, undulate, not clawed, free from coloured blotches ..	<i>C. anandae</i>

Corallorhiza anandae Malhotra et Balodi *sp. nov.* a *C. trifida* Chatel differt labello simplici oblongo, marginibus undulatis, sine maculis coloratis.

Herba erecta, terrestris, annua vel perennis, 23 cm alta, rhizomatibus coralloideis ; scapi

1 vel 2 e basi, simplices, aphylli, vaginati, vaginis 11.0 cm longis tubularibus. Flores 1.1 cm longi, in spicis terminalibus, sessiles, sepala dorsalia 4 mm longa, oblongo-lanceolata, sepala lateralibus subaequalia, oblongo-lanceolata, pallide viridia, petala sepalis aequantia, oblongo-lanceolata, basi connata ad pedem brevis columnae, labellum sepalum aequans, erectum, oblongum, ad marginem undulatum, album, sine maculis coloratis, pollinia 2.

Corallorhiza anandae Malhotra et Balodi *sp. nov.*

Terrestrial, erect, annual-perennial herbs, 23 cm tall rhizomes coralloid, scapes one or two from the base, simple, leafless, sheathed, sheaths 11.0 cm long, tubular. Flowers 1.1 cm long, in terminal spikes, sessile, dorsal sepals 4 mm long, oblong-lanceolate, lateral sepals subequal, oblong-lanceolate, pale-green, petals equalling the sepals, oblong-lanceolate, united to the base at the foot of the short column, lip equalling the sepals, erect, oblong, margins undulating, white, free from coloured blotches, pollinia two.

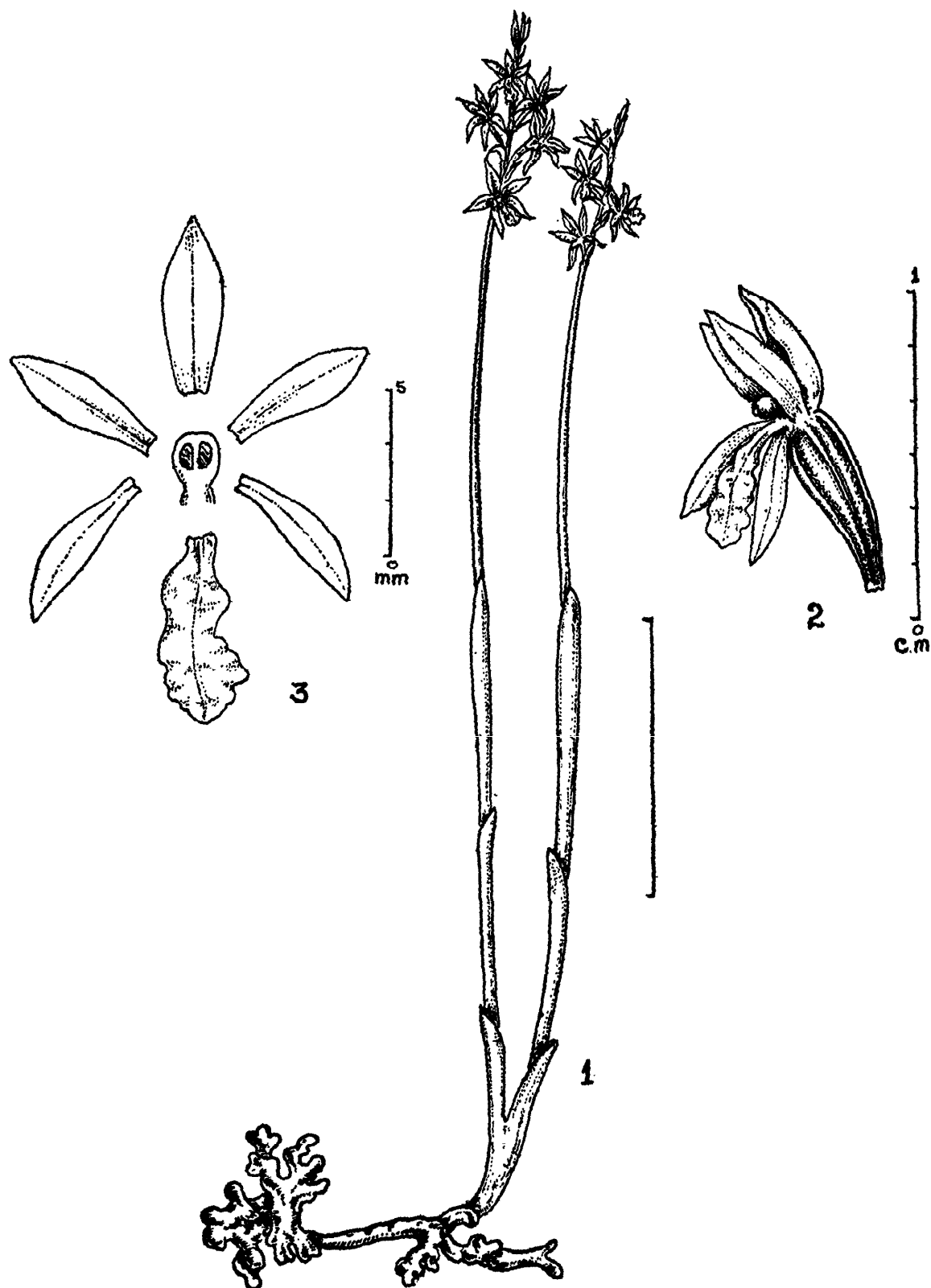
Growing on slopes in the shade of *Betula* trees. Holotype—Martoli Bugyals 4500 m, June 15, 1958. T. A. Rao 6851 A. (CAL) ; (T. A. Rao 6851 B-C, Isotypes, BSD).

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The specific name is given after Dr. T. Ananda Rao, the collector of the species.



Corallorhiza anandas Malhotra et Balodi sp. nov.
Figs. 1-3 : 1. Habit. 2. Flower. 3. Flower dissected.