

TAENIOPHYLLUM ANDAMANICUM BALAKR. & BHARGAVA (ORCHIDACEAE)
—AN INTERESTING NEW SPECIES FROM ANDAMAN ISLANDS

Taeniophyllum andamanicum Balakr. & Bhargava, *sp. nov.* (subg. *Codonophyllum* Schltr., sect. *Sepalocodon* Schltr.) ab affine *T. viride* Carr. a qua tamen differt plantae magnioribus; inflorescentiis longioribus, usque ad 3 cm longas, glanduliferis, punctatis; sepalis brevioribus, ± 1 mm longis; marginibus labiorum undulatis; sinuatis; uncis terminalibus labiorum brevioribus; calcaribus magnioribus; discis caudiculis polliniorum brevioribus, flavis.

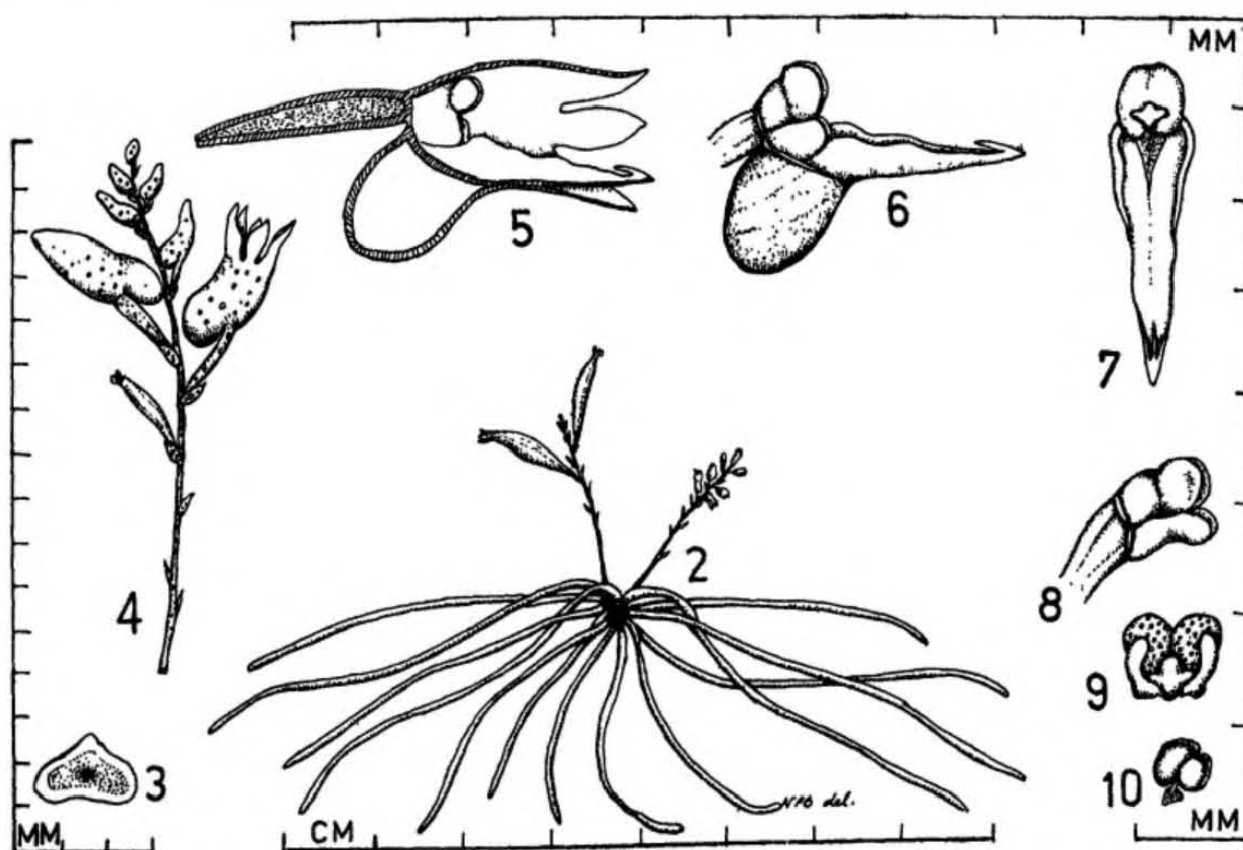
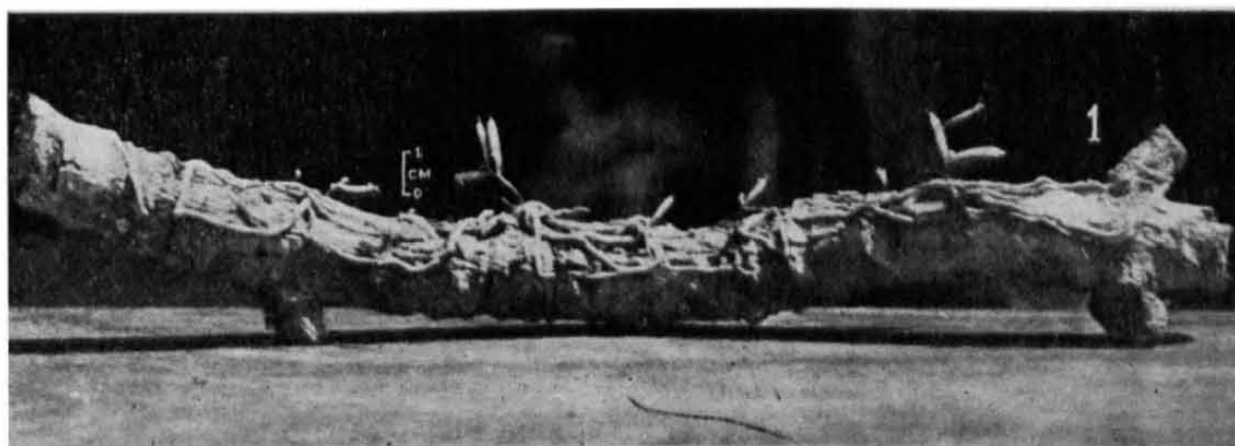
Herbae epiphyticae, aphyllae; radices 3-5, 3-8 cm longae, 1-2 mm crassae, subtrigonae in transectis, cinereo-virideo. *Inflorescentia* erecta, 1.0-3.0 cm longa, punctata; pedunculi 5-12 mm longi, carnosii, flavo-virentes, roscens; spicae 5-13 mm longae; bractae ovatae, acutae, amplexicaules, ± 1 mm longae, papillosae punctatae, dilutae roseae, persistentes. *Flores* 7-15 omnes inflorescentiam, non resupinati, ± 4 mm longi, dilutivirides, cremescentes et extremum sanguinescentes, persistentes 3-5 diebus; pedicelli cum ovariis longitudinales forcati, ± 2 mm longi, ± 0.5 mm crassi, rosei vel ferruginei, sparsim punctati. *Sepala et petala* connata in tubos per ultra dimidias longitudines, punctata; tubi ± 1.5 mm longi; lobi ± 1 mm longi, carnosii, 1-nervi, acuti, leviter extrinsecus patentes. *Labellum* discretum, anguste lanceolatum, ± 3 mm longum, ± 1 mm latum, integrum, leviter lamellatum ad marginem lateralem basim versus, saccatum ad basim rima V-formata, apice subulato, acuminato, incurvo, uncato; calcar globosum, ± 1 mm longum, nervatum, hyalinum. *Columna* carnosae, ± 1 mm longa et lata, branchio ad basim 2, subulato carnosae superjecto rima calcari; operculum hyalinum; pollinia 4, pyriformia, paribus anticis brevioribus; caudicula parvula, flavida. *Capsula* oblonga, ± 1 cm longa, 2-3 mm crassa, leviter curvata, longitudinalis porcata, dilu-

ta viridis, cremescens et extremum sanguinescens, bractea et perianthio ad fructum persistenti; fructus persistens per unum mensem.

Herb, epiphytic, leafless; roots 3-5 per plant, 3-8 cm long, 1-2 mm thick, subtrigonus in cross section, greyish-green. *Inflorescences* erect from roots:ock, 1.0-3.0 cm long, glandular-punctate; peduncles 5-12 mm long, fleshy, light yellowish green, turning to light pink; spikes 5-13 mm long, papillose-punctate, light pink, persistent. *Flowers* 7-15 per inflorescence, non-resupinate, ± 4 mm long, light green, turning to light cream to yellowish and finally to light blood-red, persisting for 3-5 days; pedicel with ovary longitudinally ridged, ± 2 mm long, ± 0.5 mm thick, pink or light brown, sparsely glandular punctate. *Sepals and petals* united into a tube for more than half the length, gland-dotted; tube ± 1.5 mm long; lobes ± 1 mm long, fleshy, 1-nerved, acute, slightly spreading outwardly. *Lip* free, narrowly lanceolate, ± 3 mm long, ± 1 mm wide, entire, slightly undulate wavy at lateral margins towards base, saccate at base with V-shaped slit, with subulate acuminate hooked incurved apex; spur globose, ± 1 mm long, nerved, hyaline. *Column* fleshy, ± 1 mm long and wide, with 2 subulate obtuse fleshy incurved arms at base, lying over the slit to the spur; operculum hyaline; pollinia 4, pyriform, anterior pair smaller; caudicle very small, yellowish; stipe broad, very short, hyaline; disc very small, triangular, yellowish. *Capsule* oblong, ± 1 cm long, 2-3 mm thick, slightly curved, longitudinally ridged, light green turning to creamy yellow and finally to light brown with persistent bract and perianth, lasting for one month (Figs. 1-10).

Flowering & fruiting: July-August.

Specimens: S. ANDAMANS: Baratang Island, Nilambur, alt. ± 25 m, on *Tectona*



Taeniophyllum andamanicum Balakr. & Bhargava

Figs. 1-9: 1. Habit in natural growth. 2. Plant. 3. T.S. of root. 4. Apical part of inflorescence. 5. L.S. of flower. 6. Lip, side view. 7. Lip, front view. 8. Column, side view. 9. Column, front view. 10. Pollinia with stipe and disc.

grandis, 17 July 1977, Bhargava 5932 (holotypus 5932 A in CAL, et isotypi 5932 B-C in PBL); *ibidem*, 23 July 1975, Bhargava 2488/2 (paratypi in PBL).

This species belongs to the subgenus *Codonophyllum* Schltr. and section *Sepalocodon* Schltr. and approaches near to *T. viride*

Carr of Malaya but differs in being a larger plant with longer inflorescences up to 3 cm long, glandular-punctate rachis, bracts, pedicels and perianth; perianth lobes shorter, ± 1 mm long; margins of lip undulate-wavy; terminal hook of lip, shorter; spur larger and disc of pollinia caudicle smaller,

yellowish. This is the first record of the genus from Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

There is a specimen of *Taeniophyllum* in Kew Herbarium, collected from S. Andamans by Kurz without number and received at Kew on 23 Sept. 1867, identified as *T. filiforme* J. J. Sm. by Dr. Lars Jonnson. However the present new species differs from *T. filiforme* fundamentally in the sepals and petals being united into a tube for half its length, while in the latter they are free to the base.

This species was growing on *Tectona grandis* in the teak plantations of Forest Department, associated with leafy liverworts, *Hoya nummularia*, *Thrixspermum hystris* and *Luisia* sp. Many individuals were ob-

served in the field. Live specimens were brought to Port Blair for further observations. The description and illustrations made from live as well as liquid preserved materials.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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N. P. BALAKRISHNAN

Botanical Survey of India, Port Blair
AND

N. BHARGAVA

Botanical Survey of India, Dehra Dun

A CRITICAL NOTE ON *CAPPARIS FUSIFERA* DUNN (CAPPARACEAE)

The authors collected this interesting species with flowers and fruits from the forest of the Western slope of Agastyamalai of Western Ghats, on the Kerala side during October 1973 at an altitude of 875 m.

The present critical study of a large number of both flowering and fruiting materials warrants a modification of the existing description (which is incomplete and inaccurate in many aspects especially in floral characters) incorporating additional characters, range of variation etc.

Capparis fusifera Dunn in Kew Bull. 1914: 377. 1914 & in Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1: 32. 1957 (repr. ed.), Jacobs in Blumea 12: 454. 1965. *C. tomentella* Dunn in Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1: 33. 1957 (repr. ed.) & Kew Bull. 1916: 62. 1916. *C. parviflora* sensu Bedd. Ic. Pl. Ind. Or. 65, t. 276. 1874 (non Hook. f. & Thoms. 1872).

Shrubs ± 2 m tall, with irregularly spreading branches, branchlets terete, more

or less zigzag, tip of tender twigs puberulous, stipular thorns 2, small, straight, mostly wanting. *Leaves* simple, variable in size and shape, upto 15.2×5.3 cm, elliptic to oblong, acuminate and blunt at tip, glabrous on both surfaces, nerves upto 9 pairs; midrib sunken on the upper side but projecting below; petiole ± 4 mm long, puberulous. *Inflorescence* more or less umbellate on condensed peduncle, axillary and at the tip of branchlets with arrested growth. *Bracts* setaceous, puberulous, more or less persistent. *Flowers* small, upto 4 (sometimes 1, often 3), ± 1.5 cm across; pedicel ± 1.1 cm long, filiform. *Torus* ± 1 mm across. *Sepals* 4, free, subequal, glabrous on both surfaces but finely puberulous at margins, deeply concave, ovate, obtuse, thick in the middle, membranous towards the margin, outer sepals $\pm 7 \times 4$ mm, inner sepals $\pm 8 \times 4$ mm. *Petals* 4, subsessile, $\pm 9.00 \times 3.5$ mm, light green; oblong, more or less rounded at base, obtuse at tip, thin, finely puberulous along the margins and pubescent towards base at