

ing rhizome, 2-leaved. *Leaves* 4-8.5 × 0.5-0.6 cm, sub-sessile, narrowly lanceolate. *Inflorescences* a raceme ± 4 cm high at the apex of fresh shoots with many imbricating sheathy bracts around the rachis, from the base of the terminal pseudobulb, erect, as long as or shorter than the leaves; *flowering axis* short, zigzag with 3-7 flowers. *Bracts* caducous, cymbiform, longer than and enveloping the pedicelled ovary, ± 7 × 7 mm, rhomboid when spread out. *Flowers* white, small, glabrous; *sepals* and *petals* free, 3-nerved, gland-dotted towards apices; *dorsal sepal* ± 5 × 3 mm, oblong, retuse; *laterals* ± 5 × 4 mm, oblong, keeled, apiculate; *petals* equal 4.5 × 3.5 mm, sub-orbicular, when obtuse; *lip* cupulate with overlapping margins at apex, sub-orbicular when spread out, ± 4 × 4 mm with a shallow sinus at apex and ridged callus at base, distinctly 5-nerved; *column* pink, short, winged at apex; *anther* pyriform, compressed laterally with thin translucent cell walls; *pollinia* 4, in pairs held on thread-like straps; *ovary* green, ridged; *pedicel* short, slender, pink. *Capsule*

shortly pedicellate, globose-oblong, 6-ridged with marcescent perianth.

Flowering and Fruiting: November-December.

Note: The original material collected from Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh, was introduced into the National Orchidarium in vegetative condition in 1970, where it blooms in early winter.

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DIPLAZIUM PIN-FAENSE CHING—A NEW RECORD OF FERN FOR INDIA

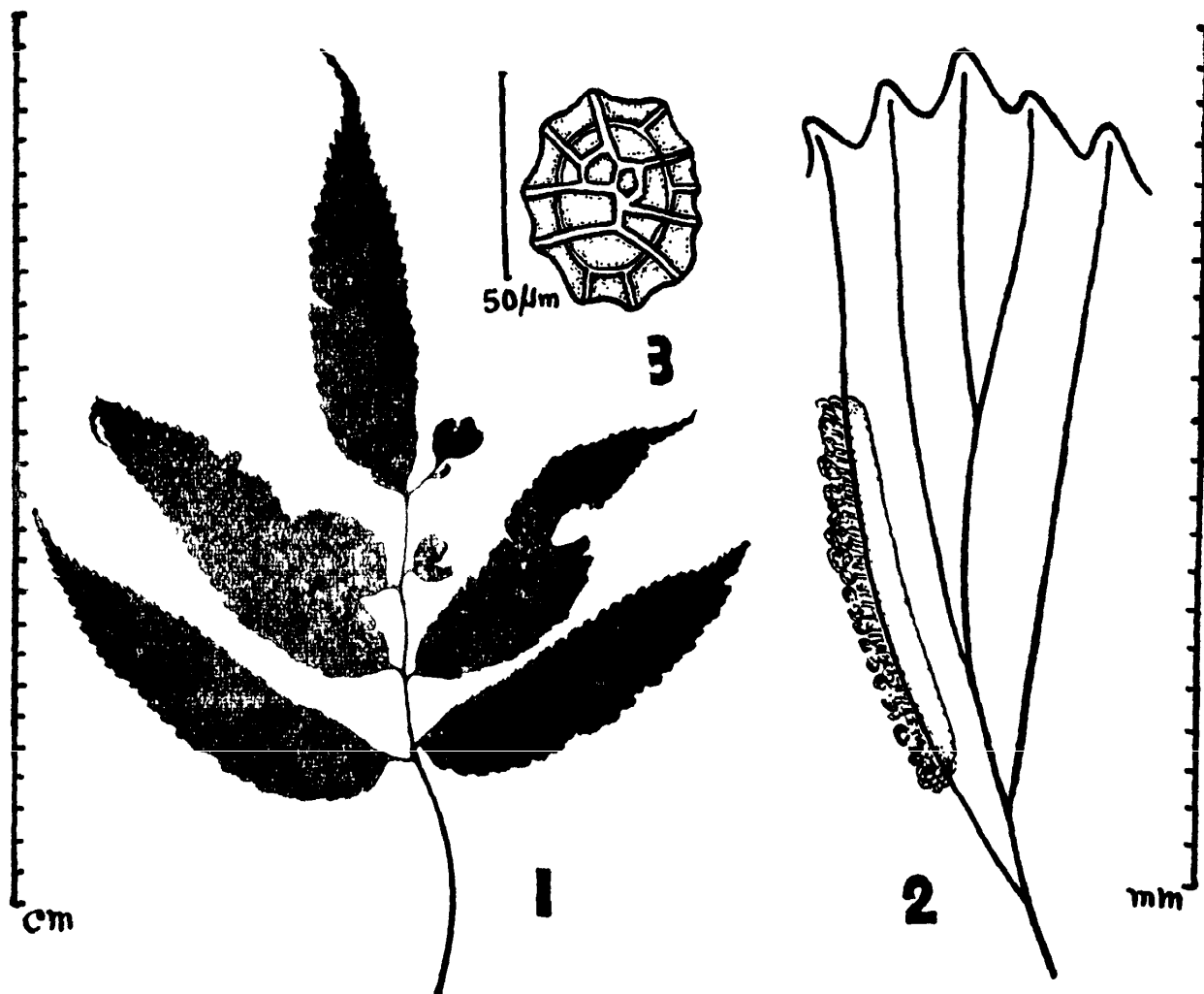
During the course of identifications of the pteridophytic collections made from the Manipur state in February-March, 1978, the authors came across two peculiar specimens of the genus *Diplazium* Sw., which could not be compared with any specimen from the Indian region present in the Central National Herbarium (CAL). A critical examination of the specimens from the adjoining regions of India, housed in CAL proved fruitful. Our specimens were identical with the specimen identified by R. C. Ching as *Diplazium pin-faense* bearing no. Tsiang 6298 from China. A perusal of literature revealed that this particular specimen has been cited by Ching (1936) in the

protologue. It is a new record for the country.

The species is described in detail with illustrations to facilitate its easy identification.

Diplazium pin-faense Ching, Lingnan Sc. Journ. 15 (2): 279. 1936; Pichi-Sermolli, Index Fil. Suppl. 4, 103, 1956. *Athyrium pin-faense* (Ching) Ohwi, Bull. Nat. Sci. Mus. Tokyo, 3: 100. 1956.

Rhizome sub-erect; fronds tufted, erect; stipes small, 8.5 to 17 cm, pale-stramineous, scaly at the base, glabrous above, scales pale-stramineous, variable in size, ovate-oblong, acuminate, waxy; lamina 13-25.5 ×



Diplazium pin-faense Ching

Figs. 1-3: 1. Habit, Dixit 58825. 2. A vein group with soriferous region. 3. Spore.

11-24.5 cm, ovate, imparipinnate, pinnae 3-4 jugate, 9.5-15 × 2.5-3.7 cm, oblong-lanceolate, petiolate, petiole upto 6 mm long, rotundo-cuneate at the base, acuminate at the apex, margins irregularly aristato-serrate, texture flaccid, herbaceous, glabrous on both the sides, green, midrib distinct on the lower surface, veins visible, free, 2-4 times furcate extending into serrations; terminal leaflet like other lateral pinnae; rachis subflexuose. Sori born on basal acroscopic branch of the furcate vein group, completely covered with greyish, membranous indusium when young, but turning brownish and reflexed back at maturity. Soriferous region continuous, elongated, 1-1.6 cm long, starting near the costa leaving about one third from the margins. Spore 38-50 μ m,

covered with thin, folded, translucent perispore supported by struts assuming pseudo-reticulate form. (Figs. 1-3).

Specimens examined: MANIPUR: Tushen, Luikai Chihui, 1300 m, 21.2.78, Dixit 58825, 58825A (CAL). CHINA: Kweichow—Sanhoa: Yao-renshan, 6-8-1930, Y. Tsiang 6298 (CAL).

Earlier distribution: China, Japan.

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