

RECOLLECTION OF *ARMODORUM SENAPATIANUM* PHUKAN & A.A. MAO (ORCHIDACEAE)

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Armadorum senapatianum Phukan & A.A. Mao (in Orch. Rev.110:299. 2002) was described based on a collection from Senapati hills of Manipur. It appears to be rare species as several attempts to collect more plants from the type locality or different places from Manipur was not successful. This species could be of horticultural importance for its beautiful flowers. During November 2009 the author came across a similar plant in flowering condition in garden of a resident in Shillong. On enquiry it was learnt that the plant was collected along with few other orchids from nearby hills of Darjeeling about 6 years back. The plant established itself well on the host tree growing very healthy and is larger than the first collection. The leafy stem is about



Fig. 1. : *Armadorum senapatianum* Phukan & A.A. Mao.: a. habit; b. distichous leaves; c & d. close up flower.

55 cm long with distichous leaves which are c. 25-30 cm long. There are three axillary inflorescence which is about 35 -40 cm long.

A few differences were noted than the type *i.e.* flowers of this plant opening a few at a time in acropetal succession where as in type specimen all flowers opened at the same time. Flowers in this plant are slightly smaller than the type. Most interesting is the flowering time *i.e.* the type specimen flowered in June and lasted for about 10 days and after pollination started wilting whereas this plant started flowering in second week of November a few at a time and continued upto 1st week of January.

To mark this as the second collection after the type of the species for making a voucher specimen the whole plant could not be used since it is a monopodial orchid but the owner was kind enough to give one inflorescence and few leaves for the purpose. The specimen is deposited in herbarium of Botanical Survey of India, Shillong (ASSAM).

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