

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Goodyera vittata (Lindl.) Bentham ex Hooker.f. (Orchidaceae): A new record for Nagaland

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ABSTRACT

Goodyera vittata (Lindl.) Bentham ex Hooker.f. (Orchidaceae) has been collected from mt. Japfu, Kigwema and is recorded as a new addition to the flora of Nagaland. A detailed taxonomic description along with photographs, ecology and distributional details of the species is provided in the present paper.

KEYWORDS: *Goodyera vittata*, new record, Nagaland.

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Introduction

The genus *Goodyera* belonging to the family Orchidaceae, was established in 1813 by Robert Brown in the second edition of William Aiton's *Hortus Kewensis*. Pridgeon *et al.* (2003) placed the genus in the sub tribe Goodyerinae of the tribe Cranichideae in the sub family Orchidoideae. *Goodyera* R. Br. is a genus of predominantly terrestrial orchids. Some members of this genus are referred to as 'jewel orchids' for their beautifully reticulated or blotched or striped leaves. The genus contain about 100 species (Chen *et al.*, 2009) distributed in the world. During the floristic survey in August 2015, this species has been collected from Mt. Japfü, Kigwema village of Kohima district, Nagaland. With the help of available flora and literature (Pearce & Cribb 2002, Lucksum 2007, Chen *et al.*, 2009), the species was identified as *Goodyera vittata* (Lindl.) Bentham ex Hook.f. which was never mentioned in previous literature (Chankija *et al.*, 1992; Hynniewta *et al.*, 2000; Deb *et al.*, 2003; Deb & Imchen 2008) from Nagaland. So, the present finding is a new distributional record for the orchid flora of Nagaland. A detailed description along with photograph is provided for easy identification in the field (Figure 1). The voucher specimen has been deposited in herbarium of Botany Department, Nagaland University.

Taxonomic treatment

Goodyera vittata (Lindl.) Bentham ex Hook.f., Fl. Brit. India 6(1): 113 (1890); Icon. Pl. 22: t. 2185 (1894).

Georchis vittata Lindl. in J. Proc. Linn. Soc., Bot. 1: 184 (1857).

Orchiodes vittatum (Lindl.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl.2: 675 (1891).

Plants terrestrial, 12-18 cm tall. Stem erect, 7-10 cm, 4 or 5 leaved. Leaves widely spaced along stem, abaxially reddish purple, adaxially deep green with a white band along midvein, ovate-lanceolate, lamina 2-5x 1-2.5 cm, apex acute; petiole-like base and tubular sheath 0.8-1 cm. Inflorescence 8-10 cm long, secund, crowded; peduncle 3-5 cm, glabrous with 1 or 2 sterile bracts; rachis 5-7 cm, subdensely 10 or more flowered; floral bracts lanceolate, 9-12 mm, apex acuminate. Flowers opening weakly, pinkish white; pedicel and ovary linear, 7-9 mm, glabrous. Sepals white at base, tinged pink toward apex, glabrous, 3-veined; dorsal sepal 8x3 mm, oblong-ovate, concave, apex obtuse; lateral sepals 8x4 mm ovate, subacute, slightly falcate. Petals white, oblanceolate, slightly falcate, oblique, 8x3 mm, apex obtuse; lip white, broadly ovate-lanceolate, 8.5x5 mm, 7-veined; hypochile concave-saccate, inside papillose; epichile oblong-lanceolate, 4.5 mm, with 2 longitudinal lamellae, apex subacute, slightly recurved. Column 5x2 mm, stout, acuminate; rostellum long, erect. Anther cordate, two-chambered, yellow; pollinia 2, clavate; stigma large.

Habitat & Ecology

Found growing in Rhododendron forest along with species such as *Ainsliea aptera*, *Rubia* sp., *Ophiopogon* sp., *Dryopteris* sp. etc.

Flowering: July - September

Fruiting: April



Figure 1. *Goodyera vittata* (Lindl.) Bentham ex Hooker.f.; (a) flowering (b) fruiting.

Distribution

N.E. India (Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Nagaland), Bhutan, China, Nepal.

Specimen cited

INDIA: Nagaland, Kohima district, Mt. Japfu, Kigwema village, N 25° 36' 253", E 094° 04' 295". 2579 m, 22.08.2015, K. Sachü 70 (NUH).

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