

Kerigomnia*, a New Genus of Orchids from New Guinea

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Abstract

Royen, P. van. *Kerigomnia*, a new genus of orchids from New Guinea. *Contrib. Herb. Aust.* 12: 1–4, 1976. A new genus of orchids in the relationship of the subtribus Thelasioideae Schlechter is described from New Guinea, *Kerigomnia* with one species, *K. bilabrata* Royen.

INTRODUCTION

During the studies of the orchids for the Alpine Flora of New Guinea this small species was originally assigned to the genus *Chitonanthera* Schlechter. Some details, however, made this position somewhat suspicious, but until some more material was received no confirmation of its true character could be found. When it turned out that only two pollinia could be found in each of the four specimens included, it was decided to lift it out of *Chitonanthera*, which among others is characterized by eight pollinia. Details warranting the exclusion from *Chitonanthera* are (1) the peculiar basal appendage of the column protruding forward like a second lip, and (2) the numerous warts on the leaves. In *Chitonanthera*, *C. filiformis* L. O. Williams and *C. tenuis* (J. J. Smith) L. O. Williams have warty papillae either on the sheaths only or on limb and sheaths, but in both species eight pollinia are found and no liplike appendage at the base of the column is produced.

As the first specimen to come to my attention was found on Mount Kerigomna, just south of Mount Wilhelm in the Territory of New Guinea, the generic name is derived from the name of this mountain.

***Kerigomnia* Royen, gen. nov.**

Herbae epiphyticae parvae erectae simplices vel ramosae, foliis distichis integris duplicatus articulatis a latere compressis verrucosis, inflorescentiis racemosis 1–3-floriferis axillaribus et ocream superam transfigentibus, pedunculo cum bracteis resupinatis parvis carnosis, petalis quam sepalis minoribus, sepalis in basi connatis et rugam exteriori formantibus, petalis liberis, labia simplici rigida, columna brevi crassa in basi cum appendici grandi integro vel bilobato, rostello distincto, pollinia duo.

Small, bushy, erect, simple or branched, epiphytic herbs. Leaves distichous, entire, duplicative, laterally compressed, articulate, warty. Inflorescence a 1–3-flowered raceme, axillary, piercing the sheath above the insertion on the stem. Peduncle with

* *Sertulum Papuanum* No. 22; for list of previous *Sertula Papuana* see end of this paper.

several bracts, upper ones each with one flower. Flowers resupinate, small, fleshy, petals smaller than sepals. Sepals connate at base and forming an outward pointed fold on the connection. Petals free. Lip simple, immobile. Column short and stout, at base with a large, entire or 2-lobed appendage. Rostellum distinct. Anther flattish, 2-celled. Pollinia 2. Stipes very short. Viscid disc small.

Type species: *K. bilabrata* Royen.

Distribution: One species in New Guinea.

Note: The genus belongs to the Subtribus Thelasieae in Schlechter's sense (1926) with *Chitonanthera* its closest relative. It differs from all genera in the Thelasieae by having two pollinia instead of eight.

Kerigomnia bilabrata Royen, sp. nov.

Fig. 1

Herba 4–8 cm alta; radicibus carnosis flexuosis subalbis glabris, caulibus flexuosis teretibus glabris, laminis ensiformibus oblongi-ellipticis 5.5–6.5 mm longis 1.2–1.7 mm latis apice acutis vel apiculatis basi rotundatis patentibus carnosis grosse subverrucosis, ocrea compressa oblique quadranguli-obovoidea 4–5 mm longa subdense grosse papillata, floribus 1–3 badio-aurantiacis, pedunculo 2.5–3 mm longo in basi cum 4 bracteis, bracteis in basi tubulosis in apice subdistentis et oblique truncatis 1.5–2.5 mm longis acuminatis 1-nervosis cum verrucis paucis grandis, pedicellis 0.5–1 mm longis, ovario late obovoideo vel clavato 3–3.5 mm longis 1.5–3 mm latis, sepalis late ovatis ea mediali paullo latiori quam eis lateralibus obliquas 2–2.5 mm longis 1.5–1.8 mm latis subacutis 1-nervosis intra remote papillatis, sepalis lateralibus cum bordini ciliato, petalis lateralibus reniformibus ad phaseoliformatis circa 0.4 mm longis et in marginibus angustis cum pilis paucis longis rigidis carnosis, labia subpurpurea oblonga subcochleata circa 1.2 mm longa 0.6 mm lata rotundata vel retusa 1-nervosa in margini cum pilis longis rigidis intra subdense setulosi-villosa cum pilis brevioribus, columna obconica 1–1.5 mm diametro in basi cum appendici labiata crassa carnosum cum basi columnae connata ruga cum crista angusta parve strigulosa, lobis solum infra rugam, steliidiis 2 deltoidei-ovatis circa 0.3 mm longis obtusis, anthera plana galleriformata circa 0.8 × 0.6 × 0.2 mm, polliniis anguste pyriformibus, rostello subulato, capsula incognita.

Small, 4–8 cm high herb. Roots fleshy, flexuous, whitish, glabrous. Stems flexuous, terete, glabrous. Limb of leaves ensiform, oblong-elliptic, 5.5–6.5 by 1.2–1.7 mm, acute or apiculate, rounded at base, patent, fleshy, scattered coarsely warty; sheath compressed, obliquely quadrangular-obovoid, 4–5 mm long, subdensely coarsely papillate. Flowers brownish orange, 1–3 in each inflorescence. Peduncle 2.5–3 mm long, at base with 4 bracts. Bracts tubular in basal part, slightly flaring and obliquely truncate in apical part, 1.5–2.5 mm long, acuminate, 1-nerved, with a few scattered coarse warts. Pedicels 0.5–1 mm long. Ovary broadly obovoid or claviform, 3–3.5 by 1.5–3 mm, glabrous. Sepals broadly ovate, median one slightly wider than the more oblique lateral one, 2–2.5 by 1.5–1.8 mm, acutish, 1-nerved, scattered papillate on inside, lower margin of lateral sepals ciliate. Lateral petals kidney shaped to bean shaped, c. 0.4 mm long, with scattered long stiff hairs along the narrow edges, fleshy. Lip slightly purplish, oblong, slightly spoon shaped, c. 1.2 by 0.6 mm, rounded or retuse, 1-nerved, with long stiff hairs along margin, subdensely setulose-villose on

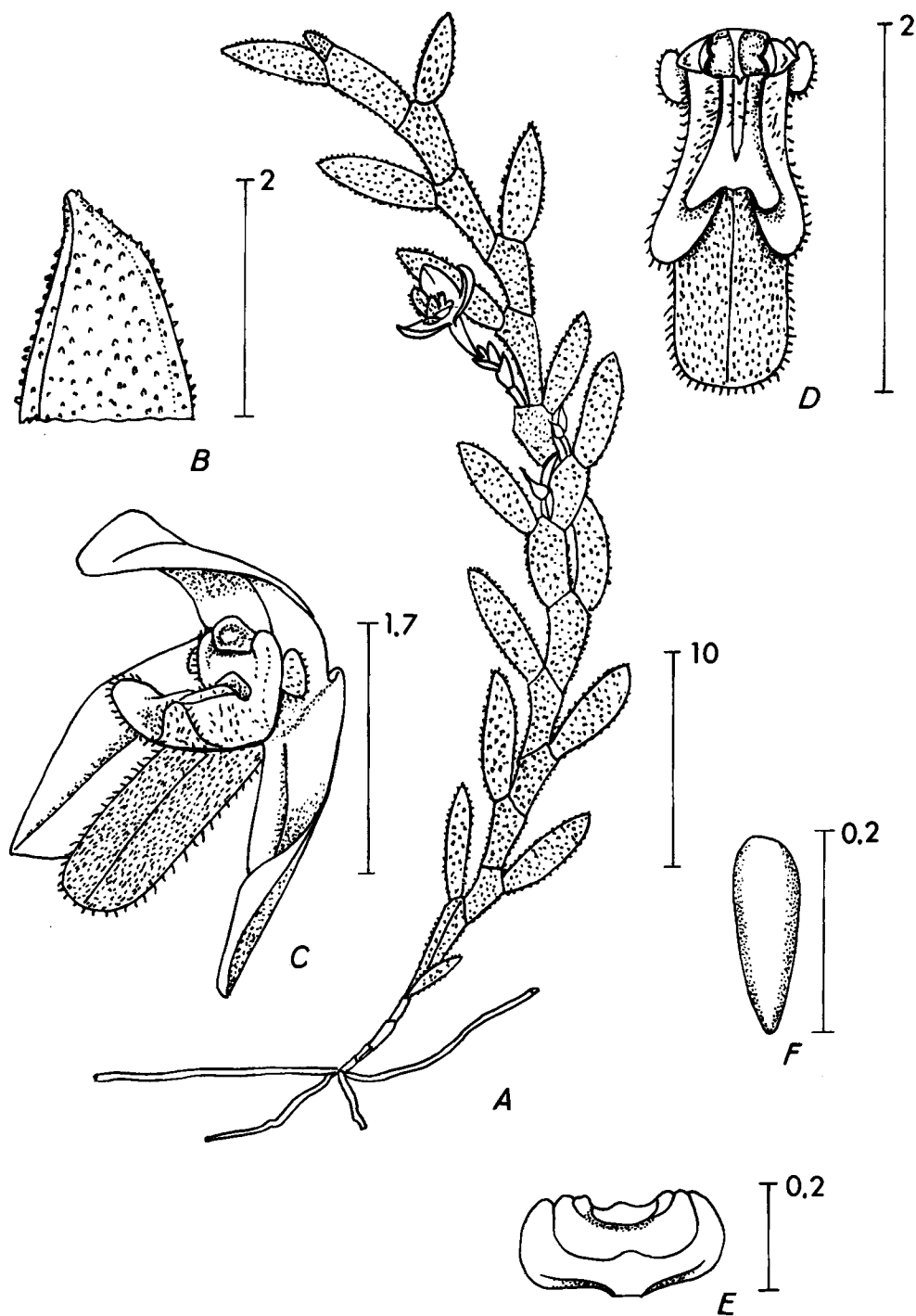


Fig. 1. *Kerigomnia bilabrata* Royen. A, habit; B, tip of leaf, lateral view; C, flower, oblique-frontal; D, column, lateral petals, columnar appendage and lip, from above; E, anther from above; F, pollinia. (Brass 30394.) Dimensions on scales in mm.

inside with shorter hairs than along margin. Column obconoid, 1–1.5 mm across, at base with a thick, fleshy, 2-lobed, liplike appendage on upper side connected by a third fleshy ridge to lower part of column, this ridge with a narrow, scattered strigulose hairy crest, lobes equal or unequal, appendage subdensely strigulose on entire outside, on inside only on the parts below the connecting ridge to column. Stelidia 2, triangular-ovate, c. 0.3 mm long, obtuse. Anther flat, cap shaped, c. 0.8 by 0.6 by 0.2 mm. Pollinia narrowly pear shaped. Rostellum subulate. Capsule not seen.

Type specimen: Hoogland & Pullen 5525, in CANB.

Distribution: NEW GUINEA: Territory of New Guinea, N. slopes of Sugarloaf complex, near Wapu River, 2895 m (Hoogland & Schodde 7099, July); Mt Wilhelm, E. slopes, 2900 m (Brass 30394, June); near Kerigomna Camp, c. 3000 m (Hoogland & Pullen 5525, July). PAPUA: Mt Giluwe, 3050 m (Schodde 1860, August).

Ecology: On mossy branches in upper montane forest or on edge of grasslands, 2895–3050 m. Flowers June–August.

Native names: eluwai (Hagen, Togoba), erimbinameh (Mairi, Mondo), tang' rank (Mendi).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Sertula Papuana 1–21

Under the title *Sertulum Papuanum* the following papers were published by P. van Royen (unless indicated otherwise):

- 1, Eriocaulaceae. *Nova Guinea*, (N.S.) 10, 1: 21–4. 1959.
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- 3, Notes on the vegetation of Waigeo. *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 5: 25–62. 1960.
- 4, The genus *Schuermansia* Blume (Ochnaceae) [by A. Kanis]. *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 6: 63–72. 1961.
- 5, Nymphaeaceae. *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 8: 103–26. 1962.
- 6, Himantandraceae. *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 9: 127–35. 1962.
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- 8, Rafflesiaceae. *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 14: 243–5. 1963.
- 9, Blanche Bay Vulcanoseres. *Trans. Papua New Guinea Sci. Soc.* 12–15. 1962.
- 10, Gentianaceae. *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 17: 1–47. 1964.
- 11, Plantaginaceae. *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 18: 417–26. 1964.
- 12, Sketch of the alpine vegetation of Mount Bangeta. *Trans. Papua New Guinea Sci. Soc.* 14–20. 1964.
- 13, The genus *Papuzilla* (Brassicaceae). *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 19: 427–33. 1964.
- 14, The vegetation of the Cycloop Mountains. *Nova Guinea, Bot.* 21: 451–69. 1965.
- 15, The genus *Rubus* (Rosaceae) in New Guinea. *Phanerog. Monogr.* 122 pp. 1969.
- 16, The Scrophulariaceae of the Alpine regions of New Guinea. *Bot. Jahrb. Syst.* 92: 383–437. 1972.
- 17, The genus *Corsia* in New Guinea and surrounding areas. *Webbia* 27: 223–55. 1972.
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- 21, The genus *Cotula* (Asteraceae) in New Guinea. *Blumea* 22: 197–206. 1975.