2: 973. 1891. *Ardisia eugenifolia* Kurz (non Wall.) For. Fl. 2: 111. 1877 et in Journ. As. Soc. Bengal 2: 225. 1877.

Distribution: Burma: Sine loc. *Griffith* 3598 (Type CAL); Kachin Hills. March 1898. *Shaik Mokim* s. n. (CAL).

S. boweri Dunn in Bull. Misce. Inform. Roy. Bot. Gard. Kew 1920: 111. 1920.

Distribution: India: Arunachal Pradesh, Abor Summit of Bapu, alt. 2080 m, 7 March 1912. *I. H. Burkill* R.E.P. 36929 (Type CAL).

This species is characterised by many flowered inflorescences and long petioled glabrous leaves.

S. erecta (Clarke) Mez in Engl. Pflanzenreich 9 (iv. 236): 183. 1902. *Pimelandra erecta* Clarke in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 3: 531. 1882. *Tinus erecta* O. Ktze Rev. Gen. 2: 974. 1891.

Distribution: India: Meghalaya, Khasia, Umwari, Clarke 19384. (Holotype not seen).

The key is drawn from the descriptions.

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REFERENCE

MEZ, C. Myrsinaceae. *Das Pflanzenreich.* 9 (iv. 236): 181-183. 1902.

PHAIUS LURIDUS THW. (ORCHIDACEAE)—A NEW RECORD FOR INDIA, FROM AGASTIYA HILLS, SOUTH INDIA

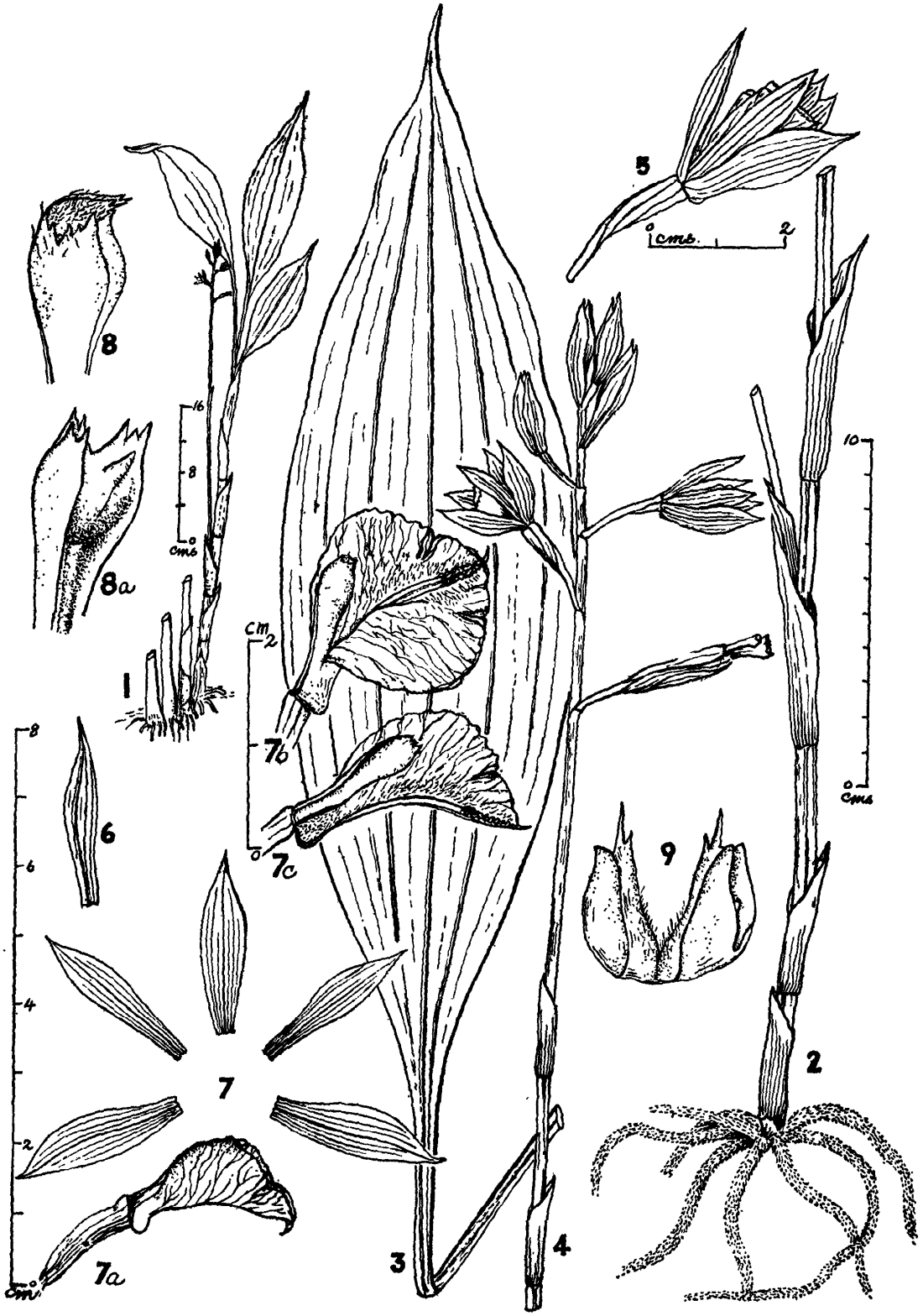
During the botanical exploration tour to Agastiya Hills, Western Ghats (Trivandrum District, Kerala), during October, 1973, an interesting orchid was collected from Athirumalai, at an altitude of ± 675 m. Detailed study of it has been made, comparing with the available species in the herbarium of Botanical Survey of India, both at Coimbatore (MH) and Calcutta (CNH), and it is found matching with the Ceylon species *Phaius luridus* Thw. The genus *Phaius* Lour. is represented in India by about half a dozen species, whose distribution is restricted to tropical Himalayas. Nevertheless, *P. tankervilliae* Roxb. (=*P. wallichii* Lindl.) is nowadays cultivated in some private gardens in South India also. Fischer in Gamble's Flora of Madras Presidency did not include any species of this genus. Thus this discovery is interesting, in that the representation of this genus *Phaius* is established for the first time, for the Flora of South India through this species *P. luridus*.

This genus is closely allied to *Calanthe* R. Br. especially in the vegetative characters, and in having 8 Pollinia. But it is distinguished from the latter, by the characters of caducous, foliaceous bracts and the partial union of the column with the lip instead of persistent bracts, and complete adnation of the column with the lip. Lack of a spur coupled with the presence of the rhomboid obscurely lobed lip at once single out *P. luridus* from other species of this genus in India.

The type specimen of *P. luridus* Thw. C.P. 613 (Acc. no. 567959), from Ceylon, deposited in the Central National Herbarium, Howrah, is incomplete in the sense that only two disconnected leaves, and a portion of the inflorescence are mounted on the sheet.

Phaius luridus Thw. Enum. Pl. Zeyl. 300. 1861; J. D. Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 5: 817. 1890; Trim. Handb. Fl. Ceylon 3: 172. 1895.

Terrestrial orchids, non-bulbous; *rhi-*



Phaius luridus Thw.

Figs. 1-9 : 1. Habit. 2. Lower portion of the stem (uprooted). 3. Penultimate leaf. 4. Inflorescence (2, 3 & 4 same scale). 5. Flower. 6. Flowering bract. 7. Sepals and petals. 7a. Lip with ovary (lateral view). 7b. Lip with the column spread out. 7c. Lip cut longitudinally. 8. Apex of the column with anther, 8a. The same without anther showing the submarginal scale within. 9. Anther cells spread out. (8, 8a & 9 not to scale).

zome slender, creeping, in well shaded places, on humous soil; *stem* ± 35 cm tall, erect, quadrangular, more or less ridged; internodes progressively longer, sheathed; *sheaths* 5 to 6, progressively longer, 1.5-10.0 cm long, shorter than the internodes, forming a loose tube around it, oblique at the mouth, acute to acuminate at tip. *Leaves* 3 or 4 only, terminal, 13-45 × 3.0-10.0 cm, varying in size in the same plant, broadly elliptic, plicate, shortly acuminate at tip, sheathing at base, black and thin when dry, sessile or the base tapering into a short or long petiole, penultimate leaf with longest petiole (± 12 cm). *Inflorescence* a raceme, simple, erect, lateral one per plant 33-43 cm long, lax flowered, long scaped, arising from the axil of the sheathing bract, about the middle of the stem. *Scape* 26-30 cm long, clad with 2 or 3 sterile persistent sheathing bracts. Flowers rather large, ± 5 cm long; perianth more or less patent, yellowish white with brownish lip, bracteate; lower ones at longer intervals, upper ones more or less crowded. *Flowering bracts* ± 2.75 × 1.0 cm, caducous, oblong-obovate, acuminate at tip, conduplicate, erect, closely embracing the bud. *Dorsal sepal* ± 2.7 × 0.6-0.8 cm, oblanceolate-oblong, acute to shortly apiculate at tip; *lateral sepals* as long as the dorsal sepal, falcately oblong-obovate, more or less equal or slightly broader than dorsal sepal (± 0.8 cm broad), apiculate at tip, free from the column. *Petals* narrowly oblanceolate, as long as but narrower than the sepals, ± 5.5 mm broad, acute or mucronate at tip, *lip* 2.2-2.5 × ± 2.0 cm, shorter than the perianth, brownish, adnate to the column at the base for less than half of the length of the column, ending in a saccate tip, more or less tubular with overlapping margins but rhomboid when spread out, with a recurved mucro at tip, almost unlobed, crumbled at margins, but apex margins more or less reflexed; sac and adnate portion densely shortly pubescent within, sparsely ferrugenous hairy beyond except towards the margins and along the median longitudinal ridge; ridge grooved longitudinally, smooth towards the base and puberulous towards the tip: sac obscure, sparsely finely pubescent externally; *column* 1.4-1.6 cm long, stout, suberect, more or less hooded at apex, footless, glabrous, adnate to the lip towards the base, free and winged at the margins towards the apex; wing broader and hooded at the apex; hood ± 0.5 cm-(0.8 cm when spread out) across, irregularly toothed beyond the attachment of anther and bent over it at the end margins, with 2 submarginal later narrow scales within one on each side below the anther cell; *anther* terminal, 2-celled, hinged with the column; cells united at the very base and closely held side by side, sparsely, shortly hairy on the dorsal side especially towards base; each cell obliquely lanceolate with a median dorsal ridge; ridge unequally horned towards the tip; pollen sac imperfectly bipartite; pollinia 8, in 2 groups of 4 each, subequal, pyriform, without stipe, with a granular disc. *Ovary* ± 2.5 mm long, shortly stalked. *Young fruit* arcuate, with marcescent lip and column (Figs. 1-9).

Specimen examined: Joseph 44575 (MH); Type specimen C.P. 613. (Acc. No. 567959), (CAL), Howrah.

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