bination *Microcarpaea minima,* based on *Paederota minima* Retz.-the earliest, legitimately published name, as the correct name for this Scrophulariaceous plant. Further, Bentham's concept of *Paederota minima* as comprising both *M. muscosa* and *Glossostigma spathulatum* was erroneous, as Retzius's description of *P. minima* is exactly similar to the description of *Microcarpaea muscosa.*

The currently accepted nomenclature for this interesting taxon is as follows:

Microcarpaea minima (Koen. ex Retz.) Merr. in Philip. Journ. Sci. Bot. 7: 100. 1912; Backer & Bakh. f. Fl. Java 2: 508. 1965. *Paederota minima* Koen. ex Retz. Obs. 5: 10. 1788. *Microcarpaea muscosa* R. Br. Prodr. 436. 1810; Benth. in DC. Prodr. 10: 433. 1846; Hook. f. in Fl. Brit. Ind. 4: 287. 1884; Santapau in J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 46: 381. 1946 et Ibid. 49: 48. 1950. *M. alterniflora* Bl. Bijdr. 744. 1826.

Distribution: India to Southern China, Malaya and Tropical Australia; in India: N. Bengal, W. Coast, S. Canara to Travancore and Sikkim Terai.

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NEW RECORDS OF SOME ORCHIDS FROM WESTERN HIMALAYA—IV

Four species of orchids hitherto known from Sikkim, Bhutan, Manipur and Nepal are now recorded from Pithoragarh District of Eastern Kumaon, in the Western Himalaya. For three of them, Chromosome numbers have been determined for the first time. The voucher specimens including those for the chromosome count are housed in the Herbarium of Botanical Survey of India, Northern Circle, Dehra Dun, under the respective field numbers of the author.

Bulbophyllum wallichii Rehb. f. Walp. Ann. 6: 259. 1861. (Fig. A)

Epiphytic on *Quercus* spp., pseudobulbs smooth at flowering time. Leaves two, deciduous at fruiting time; peduncle with 3-4, connate bracts. Raceme straight, wavy or slightly decurved. Lateral sepals linear, acuminate; petals pubescent, 1-nerved, lip jointed at the foot of the column by a 2-3 mm long connective. Column short with more or less straight teeth. Fruit oblong,

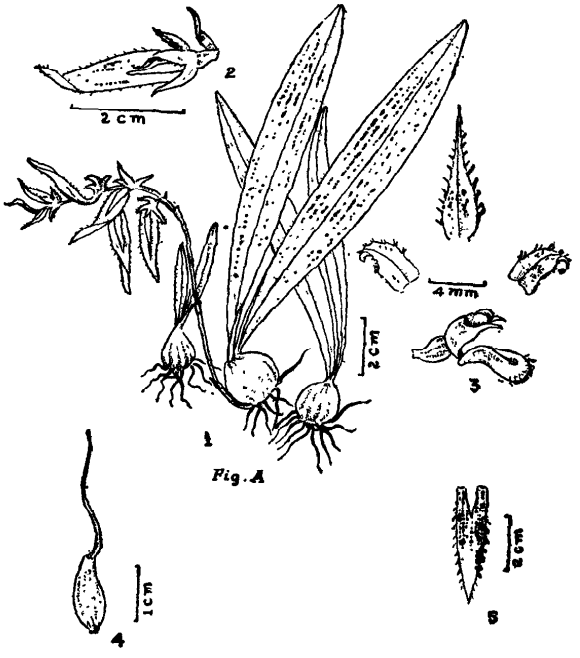


FIG. A. *Bulbophyllum wallichii* Rehb. f. 1. Habit. 2. Flower. 3. United lateral sepals. 4. Rest of flower parts spread out. 5. Capsule. (Arora 38824 & 45766).

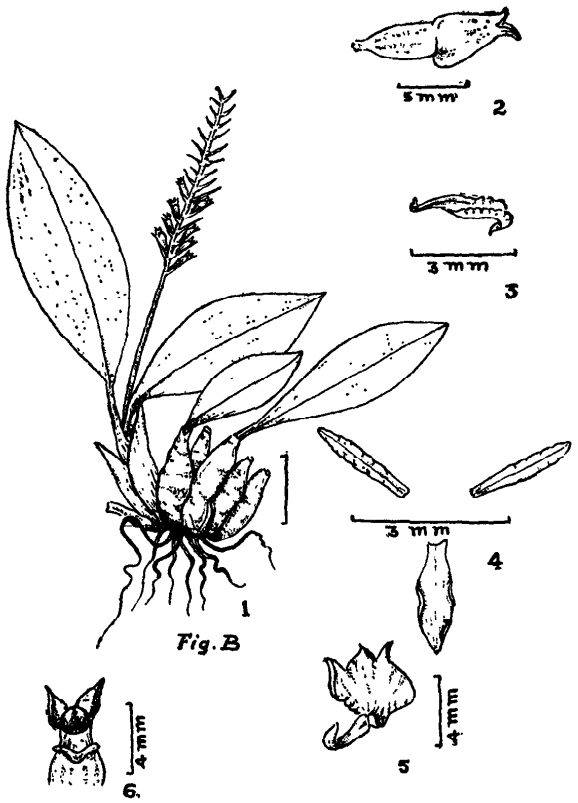


FIG. B. *Cryptochillus lutea* Lindl. 1. Habit. 2. Flower. 3. Lip—lateral view. 4. Sepals. 5. Lip—spread out. 6. Column. (Arora 38820).

10-13 mm long, 3-4 mm broad with long beak of persistent lateral sepals.

Fl. September and January. Common in Didihat and Maitli, Arora 38824 and 45766. n: 19.

Cryptochilus lutea Lindl. in Journ. Linn. Soc. 3: 20. 1859; Hook. f. in Fl. Brit. Ind. 5: 827. 1890. (Fig. B)

Epiphytic on *Quercus* spp.; pseudobulbs narrow, crowded, oblong, less than 1 cm in diameter, 1-2 leaved. Leaves coriaceous, 7-12.5 cm long, 1.3-2.2 cm broad, lanceolate, base slightly petioled, young leaves plicate. Scape terminal, naked. Flowers yellow, glabrous, subglobose, closely set in a distichous spike, shorter than the persistent bracts; sepals obtuse; petals and lip lanceolate. Anther 2-celled. Pollen whitish. Capsule woolly, ellipsoid.

Fl. June-July. Fr. August. Rare in Shandev. Arora 38820.

Oberonia auriculata King & Pantl. in Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta 8: 13, t. 16A. 1898. (Fig. C)

Epiphytic on *Quercus* spp.; stem 2.5-3.8 cm long. Leaves linear, equitant, acuminate, not falcate, 1.3-2.5 cm long, 0.4-0.7 cm broad. Inflorescence erect, thrice as long as the leaves; peduncle less than 2.5 cm, naked or with a few bracts, sparsely flowered; floral bracts lanceolate, erose. Sepals ovate, subacute, the pair reflexed. Petals erect, like the dorsal sepal, narrowly oblong, blunt, margins erose. Lip longer than the petals and sepals, oblong, narrowed at the truncate base, widening upwards, the apex divided into two obtuse diverging lobulose by a deep triangular sinus, mucronate at its apex; lateral lobes none but at base with two small rounded auricles each with a triangular depression inside it.

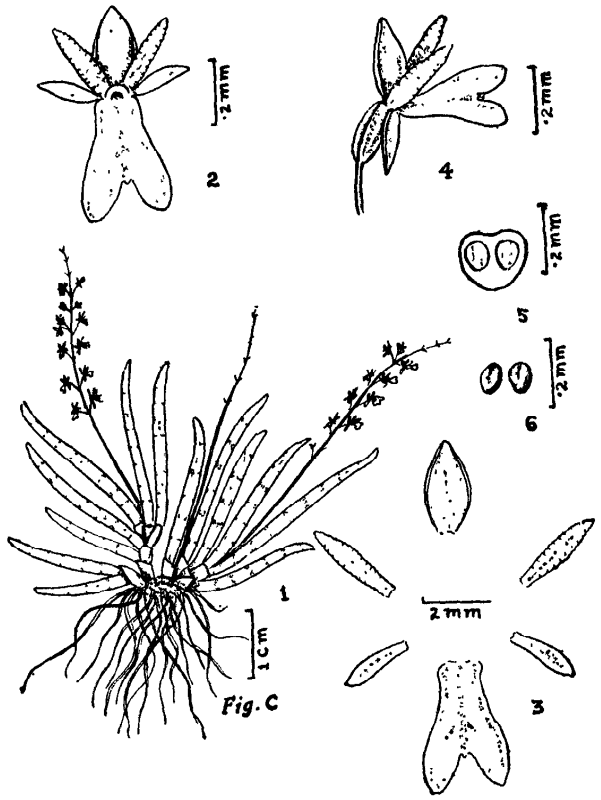


FIG. C. *Oberonia auriculata* King & Pantl. 1. Habit. 2. Flower. 3. Perigone spread out. 4. Flower—lateral view. 5. Anther. 6. Pollinia. (Arora 37801, 38418 & 38821).

Fl. & Fr. July-August. Common in Shandev. Arora, 37801, 38418 and 38821. n: 18.

Oberonia myosurus Lindl. in Gen. and Sp. Orchid. 16. 1830; Hook. f. in Fl. Brit. Ind. 5: 685. 1888. (Fig. D)

Epiphytic on *Quercus* spp. Leaves radical, terete, fleshy, 7-10 cm long, 1.25 cm in diameter, curved. Scape short, bracteate; spike small, dense flowered; bracts lanceolate, denticulate. Petals narrow, linear; lateral lobes of the lip rounded and sinnate toothed; mid-lobe oblong-quadrate with toothed sides and two curved ascending spurs from each side of the retuse tip.

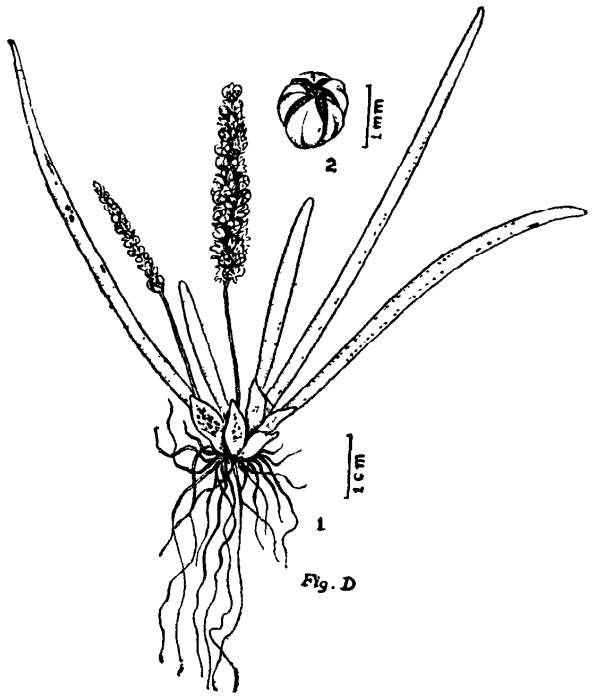


FIG. D. *Oberonia myosurus* Lindl. 1. Habit. 2. Capsule. (Arora 41332).

Fl. July and Fr. Sept. Common in Shandev. Arora 41332. n: 18.

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A NEW SPECIES OF *ARGYROLOBIUM* (PAPILIONACEAE) FROM N. W. HIMALAYA

Argyrolobium album Bhattacharyya sp. nov. *A. trigonelloidi* Jaub. et Spach valde affinis, sed floribus albis, petiolis plerique foliolo longioribus, legumine multo longiore gracili, 8-10 seminato differt.

Perennis. *Rami* longi graciles, 30-50 cm alti., decumbentes, diffusi, juniores appresse strigosi, infra glabrescentes. *Stipulae* parvae, lineares, *Folia* trifoliata; petiolis semper foliolio longioribus. *Foliolia* petiolulata, obovato-spathulata, (foliolum terminale maius) lateralia leviter falcata, .8-1.5 cm longa, .4-.8 cm lata, supra glabra, infra appresse strigosa, juniora dense strigosa, integera, apice