

GOODYERA FOLIOSA VAR. COMMELINOIDES (ORCHIDACEAE): A NEW RECORD TO ORCHID FLORA OF NEPAL

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Abstract: *Goodyera foliosa* (Lindl.) Benth. ex C. B. Clarke var. *commelinoides* (Fukuy.) F. Maek. (Orchidaceae) is first time reported from central Nepal as a new record to flora of Nepal. Detailed description, illustration and relevant notes are provided.

Key words: *Goodyera foliosa* var. *commelinoides*; New record; Nepal.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Goodyera* comprises 40 species in the world (Pearce and Cribb 2002). It is widely distributed in the Mexico, Madagascar, South East Asia, The Pacific Island, Australia, Europe and North America (Pearce and Cribb 2002), (King and Pantling 1898). *Goodyera foliosa* (Lindl.) Benth. ex C. B. Clarke var. *commelinoides* (Fukuy.) F. Maek. is found in the Japan (Yoshisuke 1998).

The Genus *Goodyera* has 9 species in Nepal distributed in the subtropical to temperate and subalpine regions (Rajbhandari and Dahal 2004). *Goodyera foliosa* (Lindl.) Benth. ex C. B. Clarke var. *commelinoides* (Fukuy.) F. Maek. is so far not reported from Nepal (Hara *et al*, 1978; Banerji 1984; Press *et al*, 2000; DPR 2001; Rajbhandari and Dahal 2004). There is no record of this specimen in the National Herbarium, Kathmandu (KATH) and Tribhuvan University Central Herbarium (TUCH). Present species of *Goodyera*, was collected from Sivapuri National Park (Central Nepal) at an altitude of about 1600 meter and that was identified as *Goodyera foliosa* (Lindl.) Benth. ex C. B. Clarke var. *commelinoides* (Fukuy.) F. Maek. The present report is, therefore an addition to the orchid flora of Nepal.

Goodyera foliosa var. *commelinoides* is similar with the *Goodyera foliosa* in gross morphological characters but *Goodyera foliosa* var. *commelinoides* can be distinguish distinctly having elliptic and entire leaves peduncle longer, floral bracts finely acuminate, flower comparatively smaller, sepals densely glandular pubescent, lip apex subacute. In the *Goodyera foliosa* leaves ovate-elliptic, margin undulate, peduncle shorter, floral bracts acuminate, flower

comparatively larger, sepals thinly glandular pubescent, lip apex obtuse.

***Goodyera foliosa* (Lindl.) Benth. ex C. B. Clarke var. *commelinoides* (Fukuy.) F. Maek.**

Plant 15-20 cm tall. Rhizome stemlike, creeping, elongate, noded. **Stem** erect, 9-12 cm, with 4-6 leaves. **Leaves** petiolate; petiole 1.5-2 cm, base dilated into clasping sheath; leaf blade green, elliptic, 4.5-8×1.5-3 cm, apex acute. **Peduncle** and rachis 6-10 cm, hairy; raceme with secund flowers. **Floral bracts** lanceolate, 2 cm×2 mm, abaxially hairy, apex finely acuminate. **Ovary** terete, hairy, including pedicel 1 cm. **Flowers** 5×4 mm, light pink, hardly half-opened. **Sepals** narrowly ovate, concave, 5-8×3.5-4 mm, abaxially hairy, apex obtuse. **Petals** connivent with dorsal sepal forming a hood, obliquely rhombic, 5-8×3.5-4 mm, glabrous, base contracted into a claw, apex obtuse. **Lip** 6-8×3.5-4.5 mm, base concave-saccate; basal sac subglobose, inside with glandular hairs; limb ligulate, apex slightly recurved. **Column** 3 mm. **Anthers** ovoid, 4 mm. **Pollinia** 3 mm.

Flowering time: September

Habit and habitat: Terrestrial on deep shade in litter covered humus near river bank or damp, occurs in the subtropical evergreen forest at an altitude of 1600 meter.

Distribution: Central Nepal and Japan.

Conservation status: Localized and threatened due to habitat destruction and over-grazing.

Exsiccates: Sundarikal, Sivapuri National Park (Central Nepal), September, 2007, Raskoti 250 (TUCH).

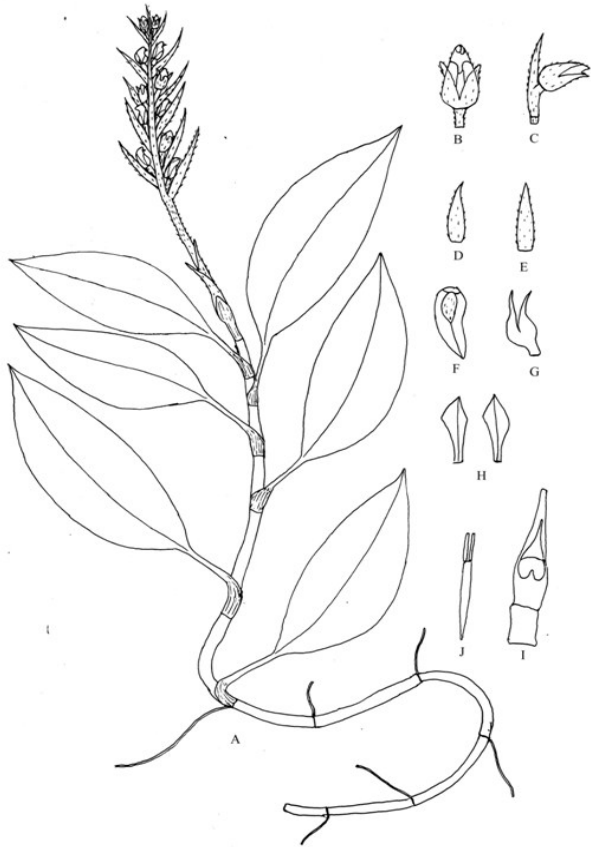


Figure 1: A. Habitat; B. Flower front view; C. Side view of flower with bract ; D. Lateral sepals; E. Dorsal sepal; F. Lip; G. Column and lip; H. Petals; I. Back view of the column with anther; J. Pollinia.

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