

The Third Species of the Genus *Pachyplectron* Schltr., Orchidaceae

by

Tamotsu HASHIMOTO*

橋本 保*: ラン科 *Pachyplectron* 属第 3 の種

The genus *Pachyplectron* is endemic to New Caledonia. Until now, two species, namely *P. arifolium* Schltr. and *P. neocaledonicum* Schltr., have been recorded. The third species, a plant without normal leaf, is newly described here.

Pachyplectron aphyllum T. Hashimoto, sp. nov. (Fig. 1 & 2)

Differto a *P. arifolium* planta aphylla, petalis lateralibus subtruncatis cum denticulatis, labello apice deltoideo et subacuto.

Plant terrestrial, saprophytic, 22 cm high on the ground, glabrous. Roots fascicled, slender-tuberous, glabrous. Leaves reduced to scales; scales 11 including basal 3, white with dark brownish splashes, membranaceous; basal scales ovate with an acute or acuminate tapering tip, 8~12 mm long; scapous scales narrowly ovate with an acuminate tapering tip, ca. 15 mm long. Scape simple, white with dark brownish splashes, erect, 21 cm long including a terminal inflorescence. Inflorescence 9 cm long, loosely 6-flowered. Bracteole green at the anterior 1/3, white with dark purplish splashes at the basal 2/3, narrowly ovate-lanceolate with an acute or caudately acuminate tip, clasping, shorter than the ovary, 8~11 mm long. Flowers ca. 1 cm across in natural position; sepals light green with dark purplish dots; dorsal sepal elliptic-ovate, subacute, concave, 1-nerved, 6 mm long, 3 mm broad, forming a hood together with petals; lateral sepals obliquely obovate, long-decurrent on the ovary at the oblique base, with the free portion spreading, acute, 1-nerved, 9.5 mm long, 3.1 mm broad; petals light green with dark margins, subfalcate, subtruncate with minute teeth, 1-nerved, as long as the dorsal sepal, ca. 2.5 mm broad; lip dark purple outside, white inside, medially adnate to the lower half of column, ca. 11 mm long totally, tubular involute with a spatulate and subacute epichile of which an anterior portion is triangular, posteriorly provided a 4~5 mm long, green spur of which bilobed longitudinally, hairy inside; column with yellowish white tips of clinandrium which embrace the anther; anther yellowish chestnut; ovary white with dark purplish splashes, ascending, subcylindric-ovoid, 12 mm long.

NEW CALEDONIA. Near the Great Kaori, Parc Provincial de la Rivière Blue, Dec. 11, 1997, coll. by T. Hashimoto - holotype in TNS.

This new species is closely related to *Pachyplectron arifolium* Schltr. but differs from it by the leafless state, i.e., saprophytic habit, subtruncate with a denticulate apex of petals and the triangular front of the lip.

*Tsukuba Botanical Garden, National Science Museum, Tsukuba, 305. 国立科学博物館 筑波研究資料センター
筑波実験植物園.

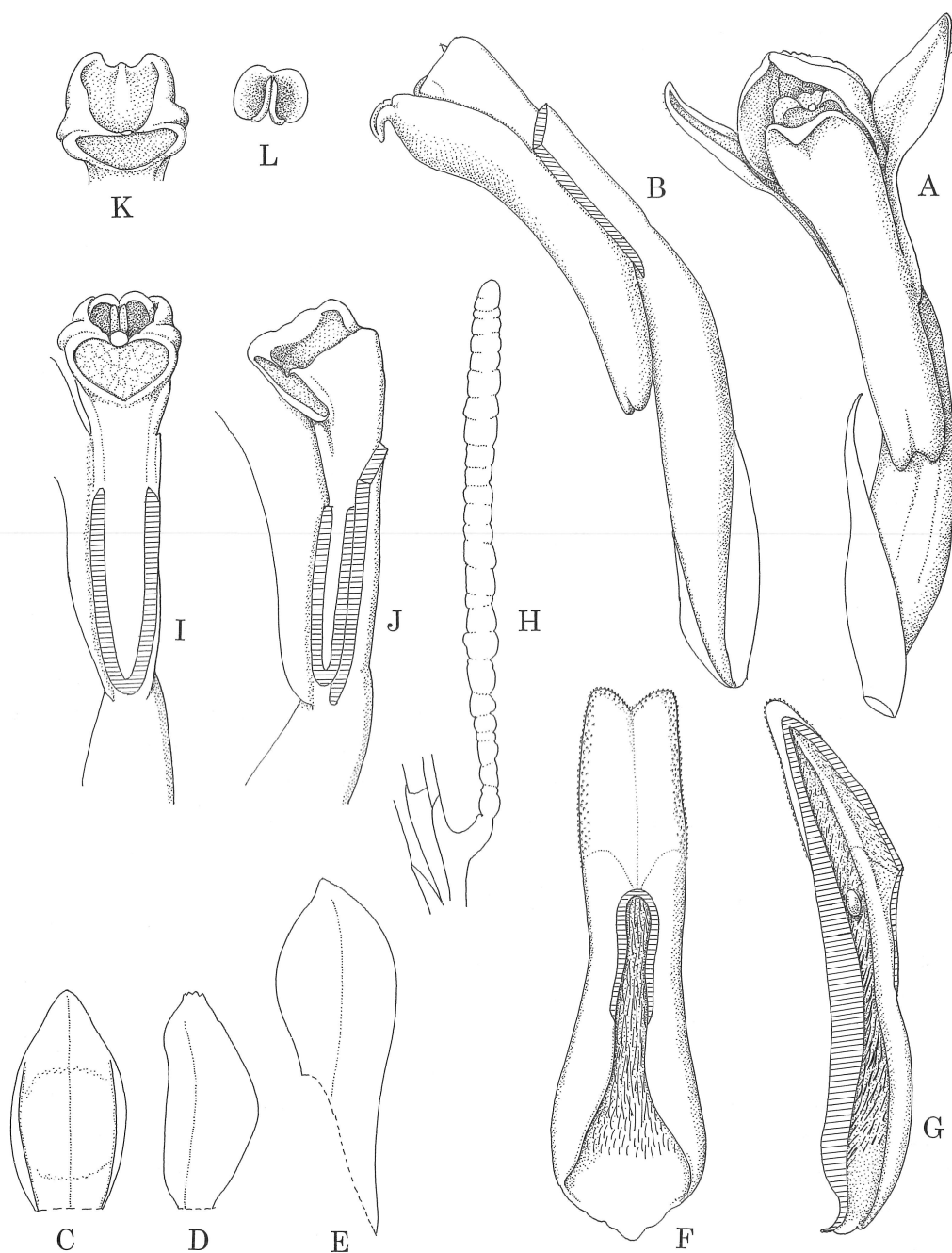


Fig. 1. Flower of *Pachyplectron aphyllum*.

A, flower from front, $\times 5$. B, flower from side, sepals and petals removed, $\times 5$. C, dorsal sepal, spread out, $\times 5$. D, petal, spread out, $\times 5$. E, lateral sepal, spread out, $\times 5$. F, lip from above, natural position, $\times 6$. G, section through lip, $\times 6$. H, hair in lip, $\times 145$. I, column, ventral view, $\times 6.5$. J, column from side, $\times 6.5$. K, top of column from above, $\times 6.5$. L, anther cap, inside view, $\times 6.5$.

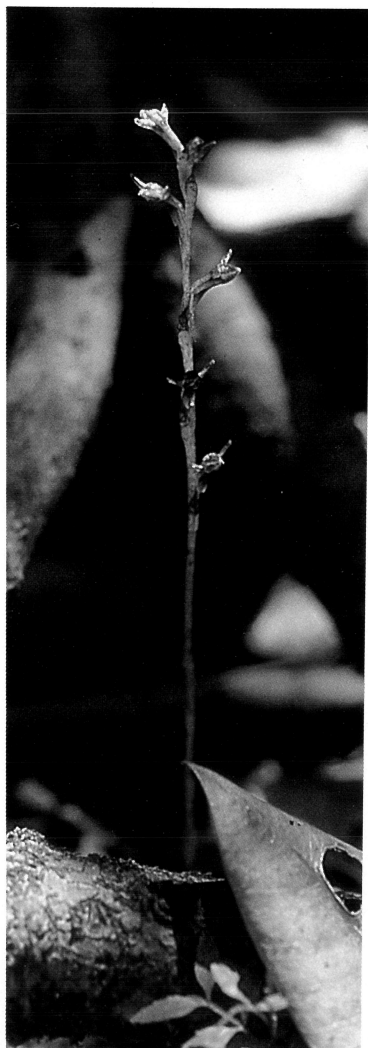


Fig. 2. *Pachyplectron aphyllum*,
plant in habitat.

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摘 要

Pachyplectron 属はニューカレドニア特産で、2 種が知られていた。昨年バヌアツの山地植物相調査のうちに同島を経由し、リビエール・ブルー自然公園内の森林内の植物を採集した。その際にこの属第 3 番目の種を発見したので、ここに発表する。この植物は *P. arifolium* に近縁であるが、普通葉がない腐生種で、花卉（側弁）の先が平たく、平たい部分には微細な刻みがあること、唇弁の先がほぼ三角形で尖っていることから新種と判断した。

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