

Jim COOTES

A New *Dendrochilum* Species from the Philippines

Abstract: A new species of *Dendrochilum*, from the Philippines, *Dendrochilum ravanii* is here described.

A recent trip to the Philippines, in February 2010, included a visit to my good friend Mr. RAVAN SCHNEIDER, on the island of Mindoro. A walk around his garden, revealed a *Dendrochilum* species, which I did not recognise. A number of inflorescences and pseudobulbs were preserved in alcohol for further study back in Australia. A search of the relevant literature could not find any species which matched Mr. SCHNEIDER's plant. I am therefore naming this plant as a new species.

***Dendrochilum ravanii* COOTES sp. nov.**

Affinis *Dendrochilo unicalloso* L.O. WMS., sed sepalis lanceolato habens media costa distincto, et flore segmento recurvo leviter. Midlobo ovato, media costa praesentia; differt.

Holotype: NSW863058 RAVAN SCHNEIDER, Feb. 2010. Further material examined NSW863059.

Dendrochilum ravanii is a member of section *Platyclinis* (BENTHAM) PFITZER.

Plant Description:

Growth habit: upright; sympodial; epiphytic. **Pseudobulbs:** clustered on a short, branching rhizome; narrow-

ly ovate, to 3.6 cm long by 8 mm in diameter; there are numerous short, bristle-like fibres basally ca. 1 cm long; unifoliate. **Leaves:** lanceolate, moderately leathery, to 11 cm long by 1.5 cm wide; distinct rib down centre; petiole channelled, to 3 cm long by 1.5 mm wide. **Inflorescences:** synanthous; race-

mose; peduncle curving slightly, terete, 12 cm long; rachis curving to pendent with ca. 50 alternating flowers, which are ca. 2 mm apart and 8.5 mm wide. The complete inflorescence can reach lengths of 29 cm. Flowers start opening from the basal end of the inflorescence. **Flower colour:** sepals and petals are translucent green; the labellum is green with a reddish-brown blotches on the mid lobe. **Dorsal sepal:** narrowly lanceolate, acute, distinct ridge down centre, outer portion slightly recurved, 4.5 mm long by 1.5 mm wide. **Petals:** lanceolate, acute, outer portion slightly recurved, 4.5 mm long by 1.8 mm wide. **Lateral sepals:** narrowly lanceolate, acute, distinct ridge down centre, 5 mm long by 1.5 mm wide. **Labellum:** three lobed; side lobes oblong, apex pointed; mid lobe ovate with a distinct ridge down centre, apex acuminate; overall 3 mm long by 1.5 mm wide. **Column:** short, with two short arms near the apex. **Pedicel and Ovary:** tapering, to 3 mm long by 0.7 mm in diameter.

Habitat and Distribution: *Dendrochilum ravanii* is endemic to the Philippi-





nes, and is found at elevations of 800 metres in the mountains of northern Mindoro.

Etymology: Named for Mr. Ravan SCHNEIDER who lives on the island of Mindoro in the Philippines. He has done a great deal to add to our knowledge of the orchids of the Philippines and Southeast Asia in general.

Comparison: *Dendrochilum ravanii* is related to *Dchlm. unicallosum* L.O. WILLIAMS but differs from that species in the differently shaped floral segments which have a distinct rib running lengthwise centrally on the outer surface. The labellum also has this feature on the upper surface.

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References:

A list is available from the editorial staff, see page 90.

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