

ORCHIDEENJOURNAL

Publisher: V.D.O.F.
Vereinigung Deutscher Orchideenfreunde e.V.

Vol. 9 · 1
2021

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ISSN-Internet 2195-772X
May 5th 2021

***Bulbophyllum cophocropion* (Orchidaceae),
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Jaap J. VERMEULEN & André SCHUITEMAN

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Summary: A new lowland species of *Bulbophyllum* of section *Codonosiphon* from Papua New Guinea is described as ***Bulbophyllum cophocropion***.

Keywords: PNG, ***Bulbophyllum cophocropion***

Published by:

VDOF e.V.

Mittelcarthausen 2

58553 Halver

Germany

email: schetorchi@online.de

Editor in chief: Roland SCHETTLER

Date of Publication:

May 5th, 2021, 9 p.m. CET

Bulbophyllum cophocropion (Orchidaceae), a new species from Papua New Guinea

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During his travels on the island of New Guinea, Ed DE VOGEL of Leiden University made extensive scientific collections of orchids. These collections, along with those of others, yielded an immense amount of data which, together with information already published or stored in herbaria, was used for a project to assemble a well-informed first census of the New Guinea orchid flora. This was initially published on CD-ROM by ETI, Amsterdam, and the Nationaal Herbarium Nederland, and is now freely accessible on the website <http://www.orchidsnew-guinea.com/>

In 2003, the late Wayne K. HARRIS made a collection of living orchids in the Mount Bosavi area of Papua New Guinea (PNG) for the National Capital

Botanic Garden in Port Moresby. Several of his plants were shared with a Leiden team who were also in PNG at that time and these were later cultivated under the expert care of Art VOGEL. One of the orchids collected by Wayne HARRIS is the source of the new species described below. This species belongs to section *Codonosiphon*, which is one of the larger sections of *Bulbophyllum* with about 80 species. More than 95% of these are endemic in New Guinea. The species of this section have 1-flowered inflorescences, a pedicel node some distance from the floral bract, a slender, curved, transparent column with a basal swelling forming a short foot, and a relatively long lip, usually not much shorter than the sepals, which is often, but not always, rigidly attached to the column-

foot. Several species of sect. *Codonosiphon* have relatively large, attractive flowers and are well worth cultivating.

Bulbophyllum cophocropion
J.J. VERM. & SCHUIT., *spec. nov.*

Type: Papua New Guinea, Southern Highlands Province, Libano River, DE VOGEL et al. s.n. (leg. W.K. HARRIS 1735), L alc. 22768 (holotype L).

Diagnosis: Among species of section *Codonosiphon* with a creeping rhizome *B. cophocropion* is identified by the combination of distant, quadrangular pseudobulbs and distinctly downwards geniculate petals with a rounded apex. The only other medium-sized, creeping *Codonosiphon* with distant pseudobulbs is *B. rectilabre*

Bulbophyllum cophocropion J.J. VERM. & SCHUIT.



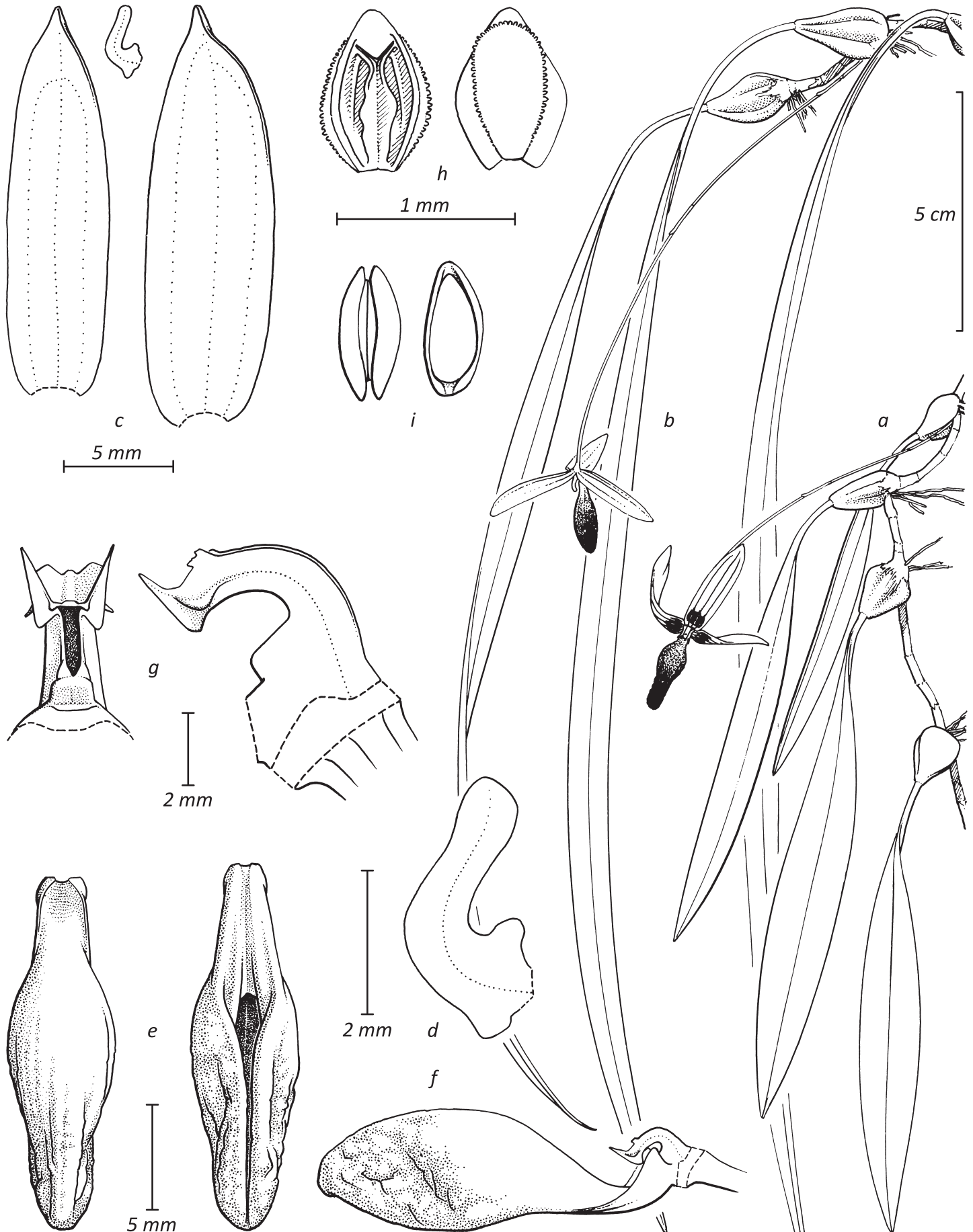
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Bulbophyllum cophocropion J.J. VERM. & SCHUIT.



Foto: © A. SCHUITEMAN

Bulbophyllum cophocropion J.J.VERM. & SCHUIT., a, b. Habit; c. Flower analysis, from left to right: median sepal, petal, lateral sepal; d. Petal; e. Lip, left: adaxial side, right: abaxial side; f. Column and lip, lateral view; g. Column, left: frontal view, right: lateral view; h. Anther, left: adaxial view, right: abaxial view; i. Pollinia, left: two pairs, right: a single pair. Drawn by © J.J. VERMEULEN, from L alc. 22768 (a, c–i) and COOTES s.n. (b).



J.J.Sm., which differs from *B. cophocropion* in its only slightly falcate, sub-acute petals and porrect stelidia, and in its lip which is distally only slightly concave on the abaxial side. Another species with somewhat similar flowers but close-set pseudobulbs is *B. trachyglossum* SCHLTR., which differs in only slightly downwards falcate, acute petals and the papillose adaxial side of the lip.

Description: Creeping or straggling, medium-sized epiphyte with spreading roots which sprout mainly below the pseudobulbs. Rhizome 1.8–3.0 mm diam., sections between pseudobulbs 1.8–3.5 cm long, rhizome scales persistent. Pseudobulbs distinct, (obliquely) erect, ovoid(-conical), 1.1–2.3 × 0.8–1.3 cm, distinctly but obtusely 4-angled with somewhat concave sides. Leaf: Petiole 1.3–5.0 cm long; blade elliptic, 7.3–41 × 0.8–1.8 cm, ratio length/width 8.0–45; acute. Inflorescence 10–15 cm long, 1-flowered. Peduncle 3.7–6.0 cm long, scales c. 2, sub-basal. Floral bracts 5.7–8.0 mm long, pedicel node 4.5–8.0 mm distant from the floral bract attachment. Flowers: Pedicel plus ovary 40–65 mm long. Median sepal spreading to reflexed, oblong to ovate, 17–20 × 5.0–5.4 mm, ratio length/width 3.1–3.8; acuminate, margins entire; glabrous, 3-veined. Lateral sepals as the median but slightly oblique, oblong to ovate-triangular, 19.2–20.5 × 5.0–6.6 mm, ratio length/width 3.1–3.9. Petals downwards geniculate, with the apical two thirds almost at right angles to the basal third, oblong with a widened base, 3.0–3.7 × c. 1.7 mm at the base, ratio length/width 1.7–2.2; rounded, margins entire; glabrous, distally slightly thickened, 1-veined. Lip porrect, elliptic, oblong towards base and apex, 17.5–18.2 × 4.5–5.8 mm, ratio length/width 3.1–3.9 (without spreading); rounded, margins obtusely auriculate close to the base, entire; glabrous, thick and of spongy structure; adaxially concave close to the base, distinctly convex elsewhere and swollen half-way along its length, bilaterally flattened and with coarsely rugose surface in the distal third; abaxially convex in the basal third of its length, else-

where deeply concave, with two longitudinal ridges in the cavity, in the apical half with the edges of the lip folded over the cavity and almost touching. Column including stelidia 3.5–3.7 mm long, curved, stigma narrow, distinctly protruding at its base, foot distally widened, without lateral teeth. Stelidia upwards falcate, narrowly triangular, 1.0–1.5 mm long, acute, lower margin with a large, patent, deltoid, obtuse tooth near the base, midvein near the base with a high, patent keel with rounded profile. Anther abaxially with a wide, rounded, papillose crest, front deltoid, obtuse, somewhat concave. Pollinia 4, rather flat; inner pair slightly shorter than the outer pair.

Colours: Leaves sometimes with a glaucous sheen on the adaxial surface. Sepals white, near the base with a large, transverse dark purple-red blotch almost spanning the width of the sepal, and with thin purple-red veins. Petals white proximally, blackish purple distally, vein red-purple. Lip white with small red-purple spots close to the base, dark red-purple distally, pink-purple in between. Column white.

Ecology: Tropical lowland rainforest with moderately open to closed canopy, on volcanic alluvium. Alt. 250 m.

Distribution: Papua New Guinea, Southern Highlands Province, Libano River (Type); Papua New Guinea, locality unknown (Cootes s.n., NSW; photographs without preserved material from Ron PARSONS, David BANKS).

Derivation of name. The name alludes to the sickle-shaped, obtuse petals: ‘κωφός’ (Gr.), ‘obtuse’, and ‘κρώπιον’ (Gr.), a sickle.

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