

A new species record of *Hylophila* (Orchidaceae) for Thailand

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ABSTRACT. *Hylophila mollis* Lindl. is newly recorded for Thailand. A key to the two Thai species of *Hylophila*, a description and illustrations are provided.

KEY WORDS: *Hylophila mollis*, new record, orchid, taxonomy, peninsular Thailand.

INTRODUCTION

Hylophila Lindl. is a small orchid genus with about ten species, belonging to the subtribe Goodyerinae (tribe Cranichideae, subfamily Orchidoideae; Pridgeon *et al.*, 2003). It is mainly distributed in the Malesian region, extending to peninsular Thailand, the Philippines and the Pacific Islands (Pridgeon *et al.*, 2003; Pedersen *et al.*, 2011). The genus is very similar to *Goodyera* R.Br. in general appearance, however, the former differs in the hypochile forming a subglobose sac (Pridgeon *et al.*, 2003). The only species of *Hylophila* previously reported from Thailand is *H. lanceolata* (Blume) Miq. (Seidenfaden, 1978, as *Dicerostylis lanceolata* Blume; Seidenfaden & Wood, 1998; Comber, 2001; Pedersen, 2011). During botanical surveys in Ton Nga Chang wildlife sanctuary, Songkhla province, southern part of Thailand, *Hylophila mollis* Lindl. was discovered, which is a new record for the country. The description and illustration below are based on the Thai specimens cited alone.

DESCRIPTION

Hylophila mollis Lindl., Gen. Sp. Orchid. Pl.: 490. 1840; Seidenf. & J.J. Wood, Orchids Peninsular Malaysia Singapore: 57. 1992; J.B. Comber, Orchids Sumatra: 67. 2001. Type: Singapore, Wallich 7396 (holotype **K-W** 001127285, photo seen); isotype **K-LINDL**). Figs. 1 & 2.

Terrestrial, rhizomatous herbs; the creeping stem-like rhizome rooting from its nodes, succulent, green, glabrous. *Flowering* shoots 40–60 cm tall, erect, green; lower part of stem 5–8 mm in diameter. *Leaves* 5–10, pale green; lamina oblong to elliptic, acute to acuminate, 8–9 × 2.2–3 cm; petiole (including sheaths) 3–3.5 cm long. *Inflorescence* glandular-pubescent; rachis 20–25 cm long, 1.5–3 mm diam., 20- to many-flowered; bracts pubescent, linear to lanceolate, acute, 7–8 × 1–1.2 mm. *Flowers* pale green to greenish-white, not opening widely. *Sepals* glandular-pubescent on the dorsal side, boat-shaped, ovate, obtuse; dorsal sepal broadly ovate, 3.2–3.5 × 1–1.1 mm; lateral sepal obliquely ovate, 3–3.4 × 2.3–2.5 mm. *Petals* forming a hood with the dorsal sepal, obliquely rhomboid, obtuse, 1-veined, 3–3.1 × 1.4–1.5 mm, entire. *Labellum* basally adnate to the column, ca 3 mm long, differentiated into hypochile and epichile; hypochile saccate, bilobed, bearing internal appendages two on each side, the appendages digitate-dentiform; epichile narrowly lanceolate to triangular, acuminate, margin entire. *Column* straight, 2–2.2 mm long; stigma bilobed, flat, lacking digitate appendages in front of the stigma lobes; rostellum linear-triangular, bifid; operculum lanceolate, acuminate, recurved in front, ca 1.8–2 mm long, ca 1.3–1.5 mm wide; pollinia 2, stipe ca 1.2–1.4 mm long. *Ovary* glandular-pubescent, ca 6–6.3 × 1.5–1.8 mm. *Capsule* suberect, sessile, glandular-pubescent, cylindrical to fusiform, 6.5–7 mm long, 1.7–2 mm in diameter. *Seed* not seen.

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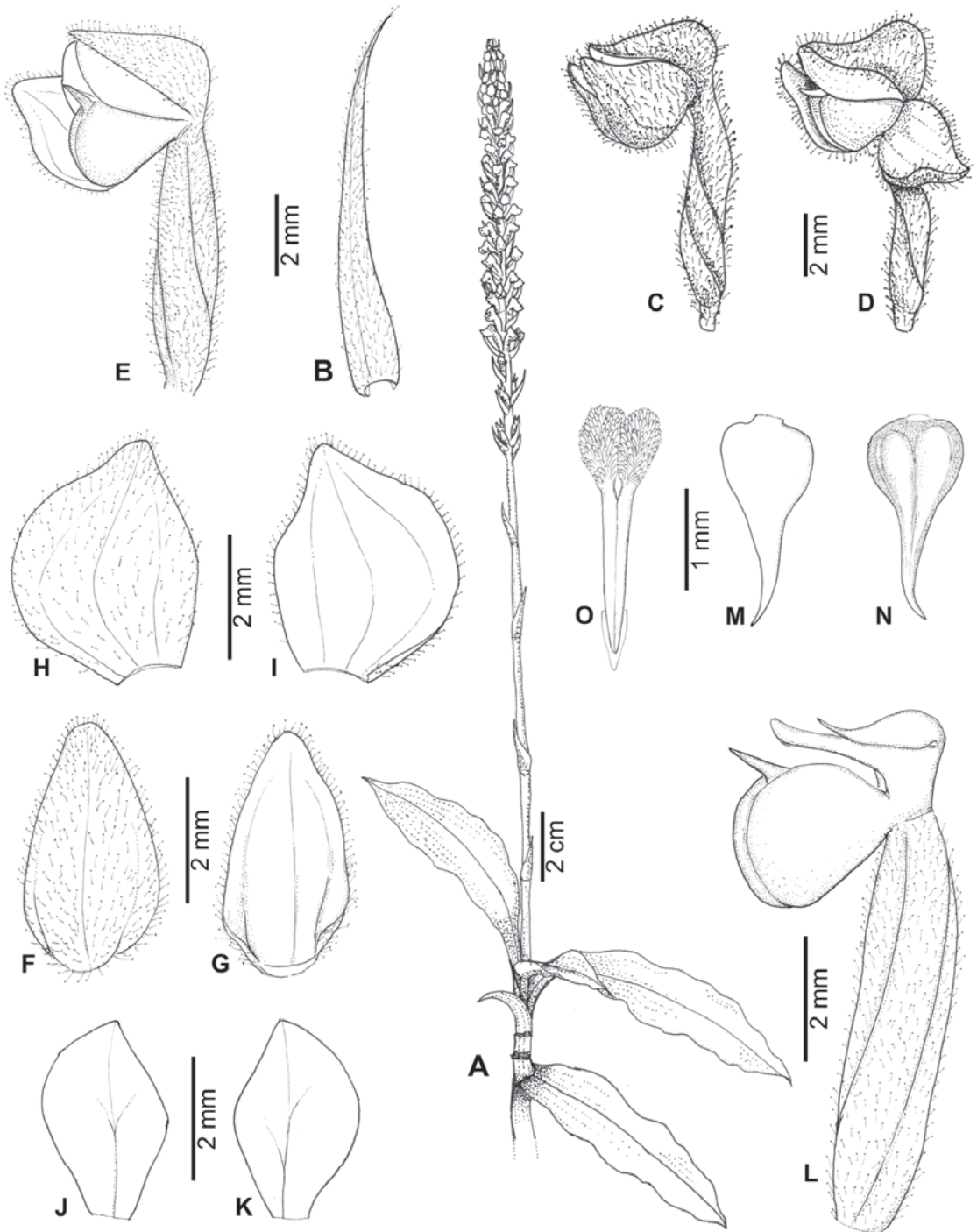


Figure 1. *Hylophila mollis* Lindl. A. Habit; B–C. Flowers in side view; D. Flower (lateral sepal removed); E–G. Dorsal sepals; H–I. Lateral sepals; J–K. Petals; L. Column and labellum in side view; M–N. Operculum; O. Pollinarium. All from *Rojchana-umpawan* 244 (PSU). Drawn by P. Rojchana-umpawan

Thailand.— PENINSULAR: Songkhla [Ton Nga Chang waterfall, 06°56'43.62" N, 100°13'09.48"E, 450–700 m alt, 24 May 2014, *Rojchana-umpawan* 179 (PSU, spirit); 1 Feb. 2015, *Rojchana-umpawan* 244 (PSU, spirit)].

Distribution.— Thailand, Peninsular Malaysia, Sumatra, Java, Borneo.

Ecology.— Evergreen forest, sometimes along streams. Flowering and fruiting recorded in February to May.

Notes.— *Hylophila mollis* differs from *H. lanceolata* in having smaller pale green flowers; shorter hypochile and lacking the appendages in front of the stigma lobes. A key to distinguish these two species is given below:



Figure 2. *Hylophila mollis* Lindl.: A. Habit and habitat; B. Inflorescence; C. Part of inflorescence; D–E. Flowers. Photographed by S. Chantanaorrapint.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF HYLOPHILA IN THAILAND

1. Flower reddish-green, hypochile linear-subulate, column with a pair of subspherical appendages in front of the stigma lobes **H. lanceolata**
1. Flower pale green-and-white, hypochile narrowly lanceolate-triangular, column lacking a pair of subspherical appendages in front of the stigma lobes **H. mollis**

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