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A new record of Cleisostoma (Orchidaceae) from China

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Abstract: Cleisostoma Bl. is an orchid genus with approximately 100 accepted species widely distributed in tropical and subtropical areas. There are about 16 species in China (4 endemic) before. Cleisostoma aspersum (Rchb. f.) Garay, so far known only from Yunnan, is reported from China. A detailed description and photos are provided. This species is easily distinguished from its relatives by bilobulate leaves, fat and obtuse midlobe of the lip, conical rostellum with an oblique apex, and beaked operculum. It is similar to Cleisostoma discolor Lindl. in floral morphology, but the latter differs by having a lip with thin spathulate truncate midlobe, with erose front edge.

Key words: Cleisostoma; Cleisostoma aspersum; Orchidaceae; new record; China

中国隔距兰属(兰科)一新记录

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摘要:隔距兰属(Cleisostoma Bl.)是兰科植物中较大的一个属约有100种广泛分布于热带、亚热带地区。中国约有16种其中4种为特有。该文报道了该属一中国新记录——二齿叶隔距兰[Cleisostoma aspersum (Rchb.

f.) Garay]并提供描述和照片,目前该种仅见于云南。与近缘种类相比,本种具有以下鉴别特征:叶齿状二裂;唇瓣中裂片肥厚,前缘钝;蕊喙圆锥状,先端歪斜;药帽喙状等。在花部形态上,该种与 *Cleisostoma discolor* Lindl. 相似,然而后者的唇瓣中裂片明显较薄,匙状方形,并且具有啮齿状边缘,易于区别。

关键词:隔距兰属;二齿叶隔距兰;兰科;新记录;中国

Cleisostoma Bl. was established by Blume (1825). This is a large genus with about 100 species and also a highly variable and heterogeneous group after clarification of much synonymy and after moving many species to some new and old genera , where fur-

ther separations may be expected (Seidenfaden ,1992; Seidenfaden *et al.* ,1992). It is widespread from Sri Lanka ,India ,SE Asia ,Malaysia ,Indonesia , Philippines ,New Guinea ,and Pacific Islands to Australia (Pearce *et al.* 2002). There were about 16 species in

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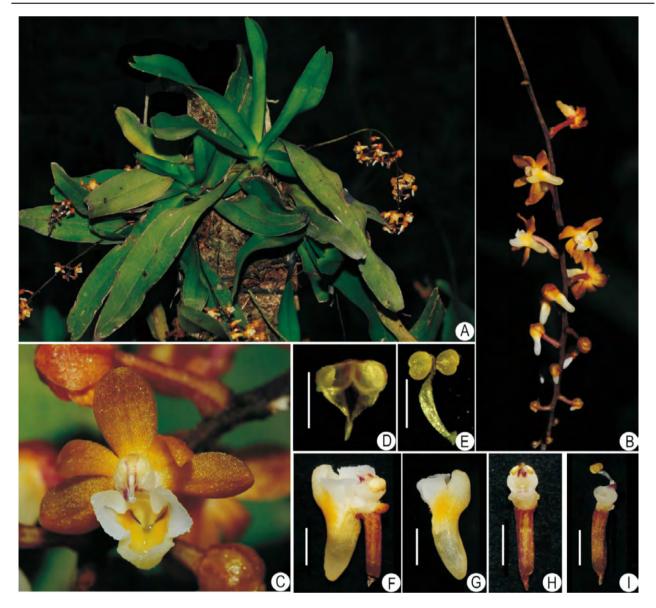


Fig. 1 Cleisostoma aspersum (Rchb. f.) Garay A. Habitat; B. Inflorescence; C. Front view of a single flower; D. Operculum;
 E. Pollinarium; F. Lateral view of column and lip; G. Lateral view of lip; H. Front view of column with anther in situ;
 I. Lateral view of column with anther ex situ. (D-E. Bar = 1 mm; F-I. Bar = 2 mm).

China (4 endemic) and 12 in Yunnan ,China (Su, 2000; Chen *et al.* 2009) before.

During a field tour in Yunnan Province in 2012, an orchid species was collected and introduced in the nursery of South China Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences. In August, 2013, the species bloomed. After extensive morphological comparison, it was identified as *Cleisostoma aspersum* (Rchb. f.) Garay. Subsequently, the identity was confirmed in consultation with relevant literatures (Reichenbach, 1865; Hooker, 1890; King et al., 1898; Garay, 1972; Seidenfaden, 1975; Seidenfaden, 1992; Pearce et al., 2002;

Lucksom 2007) and type materials. A thorough scrutiny of literature revealed that this species was a new record to the Chinese orchid flora (Chen *et al.*, 1998; Su 2000; Chen *et al.* 2009) and here reported.

Cleisostoma aspersum (Rchb. f.) Garay in Bot. Mus. Leafl. 23 (4):164. 1972. ——Sarcanthus aspersus Rchb. f., Hamburger Garten-Blumenzeitung 21:297. 1865. Type: Myanmar, Moulmein, Veitch 39 (W, photo!).

——Cleisostoma bicuspidatum Hook. f. ,Fl. Brit. India 6 (1):75. 1890. ——Stereochillus bicuspidatum (Hook. f.) King & Pantl. in Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Calcutta 8:236. t. 314. 1898. Type: India ,Khasia Hills *Mann* 56 (K.photo!).

Cleisostoma aspersum (Rchb. f) Garay (Fig. 1)

A miniature to small sized epiphytic plant 10 - 20 cm tall. Stem short ,1 -5 cm long ,branched with numerous roots at base covered by leaf sheaths; sheaths overlapping. Leaves 7 - 9 , coriaceous , linear-oblong , sharply and obliquely bi-lobed at apex $\beta - 15$ cm long, 0.8 - 1.5 cm wide the lobules often erose pale-green to dark green sheathing at base. Inflorescence 2 - 3, axillary from base of leaf sheaths 10 - 20 cm long, shortly branched peduncle slender glabrous dark-purple 5 - 12 cm long; floral bracts ovate-lanceolate subacute 1 - 1.5 mm long distantly placed; rachis 3 - 10cm long; pedicel and ovary glabrous ribbed 3.5 - 5mm long. Flowers 6.5 - 8 mm across spreading or reflexed; Sepals and petals brownish , with rose markings along midribs; dorsal sepal ovate 3.5 - 4 mm long 2 -2.5 mm wide obtuse; lateral sepals broadly elliptic 3. 8-4 mm long 2-2.5 mm wide recurved. Petals oblong-obovate oblique 3.8 - 3.9 mm long 1.6 - 1.8mm wide obtuse. Lip adnate to the column 3-lobed, ca. 3 mm long ,produced to a prominent spur at base , infundibulate ,fleshy ,white ,speckled or flushed with rose and yellow; spur ca. 4 mm long ,cylindric ,parallel to the ovary; lateral lobes truncate erose at edges; midlobe broadly ovate , concave , curving upwards , acute , base with 2 cushion-like calli occluding the entrance to the spur. Column short ca. 1.5 mm long white; rostellum large decurved and slightly hooked at apex. Operculum cordate depressed and beaked at apex 1.5 - 1. 8 mm long. Pollinia 4 ,orbicular ,compressed attached by pairs; stipes ca. 1.5 mm long thickened at the middle and tapered at apex and also at base; gland small, oval. Flowering in July - August.

Distribution: Sikkim Himalayas , NE India , Bhutan , Nepal , Myanmar , Thailand and Vietnam. New re-

cord to China.

China: Yunnan) ,Wenshan Zhuang and Miao Autonomous Prefecture ,Epiphytic on the trunk in humid sparse woods ,tropical rain forest ,alt. 1 020 m. 12 Feb. 2012 *L. Li* 158 (IBSC).

It is similar to *Cleisostoma discolor* Lindl. ,but differs by having a lip with fat midlobe directed upwards, without erose front edge.

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