

**X. TWO ORCHID GENERA NEW TO SUMATRA (ORCHIDACEAE)**

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## SUMMARY

Species of the orchid genera *Kuhlhasseltia* and *Orchipedum* are recorded from Sumatra for the first time.

## INTRODUCTION

The subtribe *Orchidaceae-Goodyerinae* is well represented in Malesia, with about 25 genera and hundreds of species. They are almost exclusively terrestrial plants with inconspicuous flowers, usually growing in deep shade in undisturbed forests. Many seem to prefer sloping terrain with seeping water. Some have very beautiful foliage and are occasionally (often with difficulty) cultivated, being popularly known as Jewel Orchids, e.g. species of the genera *Anoectochilus*, *Dossinia*, *Goodyera*, *Ludisia*, and *Macodes*. The great majority of the other *Goodyerinae* either have uniformly green or cryptic dark brown foliage.

Although the genera of the *Goodyerinae* are reasonably distinct, it is often necessary to analyse a flower before a reliable identification can be made. As a result they are frequently left unidentified, or, worse, they are incorrectly referred to genera of which the name is more or less familiar, such as *Anoectochilus* and *Goodyera*.

While going through the unidentified and misidentified *Goodyerinae* in the Rijksherbarium, several interesting discoveries were made. Two of these are discussed below.

***Kuhlhasseltia* cf. *javanica* J.J. Smith**

Sumatra, Aceh, Upper Mamas River valley, 1400–1700 m (*De Wilde & De Wilde-Duyffes 18264*, June 1979).

The genus *Kuhlhasseltia*, although widely distributed from Peninsular Malaysia to New Guinea with about 7 species, is rarely collected. This appears to be the first record from Sumatra.

***Orchipedum plantaginifolium* Breda**

Sumatra, Aceh, Lau Alas valley, 200–400 m (*De Wilde & De Wilde-Duyffes 12759*, June 1972).

Vegetatively this remarkable species, the only one in the genus, is among the largest *Goodyerinae*; it is not easily overlooked and must therefore be a very rare plant, as it has been collected only four times before: twice in Java and twice in Peninsular Malaysia, the last time in 1938 (fide Seidenfaden & Wood, 1992).

## REFERENCE

Seidenfaden, G. & J.J. Wood. 1992. The orchids of Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore: 79. Fredensborg.

## *Orchid Monographs*

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