

*Dacrydium* growing in *Sphagnum* moss. At Garaina, Howcroft (1970) found it growing in acid pockets in light riverine forest in deep shade at c. 1000 m altitude. Importations from the Cyclops Mountains (Fig. 93) near Jayapura in West Guinea have been collected in wet and shady places growing in the cracks and crevices of rocks at c. 200 m altitude (van der Graaf 1972, Cribb, pers. obs.).

Howcroft (1970) discusses the variability of *P. violascens* and notes that specimens from a population near Garaina in Papua New Guinea showed variation in the colour and shape of all the floral segments. He comments that a slide of one plant from this population was identified as *P. wentworthianum* by one of the authors of that species. He further suggests that it is a widely held view in New Guinea that both *P. wentworthianum* and *P. bougainvilleanum* are conspecific with *P. violascens*. Koopowitz (1995) has reduced *P. bougainvilleanum* to the status of a variety of *P. violascens*. I am inclined to keep them separate because of their widely separated distributions.

Var. *gautierense* was described by J.J. Smith in 1915 based on a Gjellerup collection from 900 m altitude in the Gautier Mountains of west New Guinea. I have examined J.J. Smith's unpublished drawings of the type which fall well within the range of variation of the species. Var. *gautierense* is therefore reduced here to the synonymy of *P. violascens*.

**DESCRIPTION.** A terrestrial or rarely epiphytic herb. Leaves 4–6, elliptic to oblong-elliptic, minutely tridenticulate at apex, obtuse, 8–22 cm long, 2.3–4 cm wide, greyish green, mottled with darker green above. Inflorescence 1-flowered; peduncle 20–30 cm long, purple, pubescent; bract elliptic-lanceolate to elliptic-ovate, acute, 1.5–2.4 cm long, ciliate, pubescent. Flowers 1 (rarely 2), 6–7.5 cm across; dorsal sepal white veined with green; synsepal green with darker veins; petals white or greenish white, heavily flushed with purple on apical three-quarters; lip green to ochre; staminode green with darker veins; pedicel and ovary 4–6.8 cm long, green with purple pubescence. Dorsal sepal broadly ovate, subacute, 2.7–3.2 cm long, 2.9–3 cm wide, pubescent on outer surface. Synsepal ovate, subacute, 2–2.6 cm long, 1.5–1.6 cm wide, pubescent on outer surface. Petals deflexed at 45°, obliquely oblong, obtuse, 3.5–4.4 cm long, 1.5–1.8 cm wide, minutely ciliate. Lip 3.8–5 cm long, 2 cm wide, deeply saccate, sparsely ciliate on apical margin. Staminode semicircular, truncate, shortly apiculate, 7.5 mm long, 14 mm wide, pubescent; lateral apical teeth blunt or obscure.  $2n = 38$ . (PLATE 57 & FIGS. 93–95).

**DISTRIBUTION.** New Guinea and adjacent islands near coast; 200–1200 m altitude. (MAP 58).



Fig. 95. Close-up of a flower of *Paphiopedilum violascens*, Irian Jaya. (Photo.: P. Cribb)