

## 17. PAPHIOPEDILUM GLANDULIFERUM

This species was, rather surprisingly, amongst the earliest described of the tropical Asiatic slipper orchids. Blume (1848) based his description on a Zippelius collection from Dutch New Guinea, naming it for its gland-bearing petals. Both Veitch (1889) and Stein (1892) considered this to be conspecific with *Cypripedium praestans* which was described in 1886 by H.G. Reichenbach and based on a cultivated plant sent from New Guinea by the collectors of the Belgian nurseryman Jean Linden. Reichenbach's name has, unfortunately, been widely used subsequently while Blume's name has sunk into obscurity. This is in large part due to the influential work of Pfitzer (1903) who distinguished *P. glanduliferum* from *P. praestans* on the basis of the triangular apex of the staminode of the former. Sufficient material has been examined in this study to show that staminode shape in this species is variable and that the differences in staminode shape between the types are not taxonomically significant.

Similarly, *P. gardineri*, based on a drawing in Guillemard's *The Cruise of the Marchesa* of a plant seen on Jobi Island off the west New Guinea coast, can also be considered conspecific with *P. glanduliferum*. Kennedy (1979) recently attempted to resurrect the name *P. gardineri* but examination of the photograph accompanying his article shows it to be a plant of *P. wilhelminae*. Kennedy's plant, flowered by Ray Rands, originated from the Wissel Lakes region of west New Guinea between 1700 and 1800 m elevation and not from Jobi Island.

Variations in flower colour and petal attitude of *P. glanduliferum* are described by van Bodegom (1973) in his detailed account of the species (as *P. praestans*) in west New Guinea and its offshore islands.



Fig. 37. *Paphiopedilum glanduliferum*, flowering in cultivation. (Photo.: R.B.G., Kew)