

one of his dealers in Singapore who, it transpired, had received plants by contacting Searight's bearers. On 15 September, Sander put 179 plants up for sale at Messrs. Protheroe & Morris. By the end of the year large numbers of plants were being collected and introduced into cultivation.

An excellent account of the natural habitat and range of *P. fairrieianum* has been given by U.C. Pradhan (1978). It is found in Bhutan adjacent to Arunchal Pradesh (part of Assam in the sense of Tronson) and Sikkim, having been discovered in the east as late as 1963 by K.C. Pradhan who found it growing on steep cliffs at 1530 m above the Rangit River.

It has been found growing on outcrops of crystalline limestone on sheltered grassy slopes, on rocks in oak forest, on open gneiss ledges amongst grasses with good drainage and in dolomitic gravel on ledges above rivers and streams at altitudes between 1400 m and 2200 m. the region it grows in is affected by the monsoon with abundant rain from May until August. From September onwards the region is cool and dry with night temperatures scarcely exceeding 10°C (50°F). It flowers in the wild from October until January.



Fig. 83. *Paphiopedilum fairrieianum*, close-up of flower in cultivation. (Photo.: P. Cribb)