



Fig. 9 (above). Close-up of flower of *Paphiopedilum malipoense*. (Photo.: P. Cribb)

Fig. 10 (left). *Paphiopedilum malipoense*. On rocky shelves of limestone bluffs, c. 1000 m. Ha Giang Prov., northern Vietnam. (Photo.: L.V. Averyanov)

done so much to make the genus popular in recent years, the other being *P. fowliei*. It is very close to *P. malipoense* in habit and floral morphology, differing slightly in petal attitude and most obviously in staminode coloration. The latter is white with green marking and venation in the centre towards the apex. Averyanov (in Averyanov *et al.* 1997) considers it best treated as a variety of *P. malipoense* with which it appears to be more or less sympatric, and I am inclined to agree with him. He found it in high shale and sandstone mountains of Pia Quac, Sam Sao, and Lung Ni Hug at between 1000 and 1150 m elevation. It commonly grows with other orchids such as *Calanthe triplicata*, and species of *Bulbophyllum*, *Dendrobium*, *Oberonia*, and *Eria*.

Averyanov (1998) has described *P. hiepui* which he compares with *P. malipoense* var. *jackii*. It is based upon a specimen collected by N.T. Hiep in Tuyen Quang District of northern Vietnam near the Chinese border, where it grows in evergreen primary forest in rock hollows on limestone at between 500 and 600 m elevation in the shade of canopy trees on the middle part of ridges facing north-east. The type flowered in cultivation in St Petersburg and is preserved in the Herbarium of the Komarov Institute there. It differs from *P. malipoense* and its var. *jackii* in having narrower longer sepals and petals and a smaller urceolate lip with a hook-shaped apex. However, it surprises me that Averyanov considers this distinct at specific rank when he has treated *P. jackii* as a variety of *P. malipoense*. It is closer to *jackii* than that is to typical *malipoense*. Furthermore narrower, longer segments can occasionally appear in