

*forma aureum* (Cribb) Cribb in J.J. Wood, *Orchids of Borneo* 3: 119 (1997).

*P. lowii* var. *aureum* Cribb in *Orchid Review* 98: 109, fig. 74 (1990). Type: Sarawak, Yii Puan Ching (holotype K!).

Characterised by its yellow flowers. (FIG. 48).

DISTRIBUTION. Borneo: Sarawak only.



Fig. 48. *Paphiopedilum lowii* forma *aureum* from Bakun, Sarawak. (Photo.: Yii Puan Ching)

### 23. PAPHIOPEDILUM PARISHII

*Paphiopedilum parishii* was named in honour of the Rev. Charles Parish, a military chaplain stationed at Moulmein in Burma. He discovered it there in 1859 and the type, and his wife's original watercolour of this beautiful orchid, are in the collection of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. Like most of his discoveries, it was described by H.G. Reichenbach, who in 1869 named it *Cypripedium parishii*.

Its apple-green and black flowers make it a most distinctive species, one of the most easily recognised in the genus. Its closest allies are *P. dianthum*, which has morphologically similar but glabrous flowers, and *P. lowii* and *P. haynaldianum*, from both of which it is readily distinguished by its tapering green and black petals with a few black raised marginal warts and by its obovate staminode lacking incurved lateral apical lobes.

The range of *P. parishii* extends from eastern Burma and extreme south-western Yunnan to western and northern Thailand (Mark 1987). In the rest of southern Yunnan, Guizhou and Guangxi in south-west China it is replaced by the vicariant *P. dianthum*.

Voraurai (1974) reported it as growing in northern Thailand at about 1350 m on moss covered branches of *Terminalia alata* trees, 1.5–5 m above the ground. It flowers there in June and July. Birk (1983) also reports that it grows in thick mosses on boulders in deep shade.