

18. PAPHIOPEDILUM WILHELMINIAE

Paphiopedilum wilhelminiae differs from *P. glanduliferum* in being a smaller plant with the growths borne on short but obvious rhizomes, and in its smaller flowers with petals which lack obvious marginal warts or have very few of them and have a subquadrate blunt staminode.

It was discovered by the Australian collector Len Brass in December 1938 in the Baliem Valley in the Snow Mountains (Jayawijaya Range) of West New Guinea (now Irian Jaya) on the third Richard Archbold Expedition to west New Guinea. L.O. Williams described it in 1942, naming it in honour of Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands. He recognised its affinity with *P. glanduliferum* but did not compare it with *P. praestans*, although it is possible that he also considered the latter a synonym of *P. glanduliferum*.

Plants of *P. wilhelminiae* have been introduced into cultivation in recent years as either *P. "bodegomii"*, a name never validly published or, mistakenly, as *P. gardineri* as a result of an article by George Kennedy (1979).



Fig. 38. *Paphiopedilum wilhelminiae*, growing on a clay slope in grass and scrub at the type locality, Central Highlands, West Irian. (Photo.: P. Cribb)