

NOTES ON *LIPARIS UDAII* S. MISRA (ORCHIDACEAE) FROM ODISHA, INDIA

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Abstract

Morphological circumscription of *Liparis udaii* S. Misra is extended as *charact. emend.* following observation in the type specimens under cultivation.

Introduction

LIPARIS UDAII S. Misra, a terrestrial orchid, was described (Misra, 2009) from the Sundargarh district of Odisha. It may be mentioned that the flowers of plant designated as holotype, had almost wilted during transit from the field; and as a result the true shape could not be depicted in the figures provided along with the protologue. Out of four plant specimens collected originally, only one specimen was used in making a herbarium sheet (the holotype); and the rest were grown in the orchidarium of the Regional Plant Resource Centre (RPRC), Bhubaneswar.

The plants under cultivation remained elusive for some time until August–September 2014, when two of them flowered. Further critical study of the fresh flowers revealed several additional characters of the new species, like three leaves; taller inflorescence; strongly decurved lateral sepals with a brown band at the outer margins; 3-veined petals *etc.* Hence, it was felt to revise the full description of *Liparis udaii* adding with newly observed characters in the present paper. Accordingly, morphological description and illustrations for the new species are provided below to accommodate these additional features and is aimed to emend the characters of the species.

Liparis udaii S. Misra, J. Orchid Soc. India 23 (1-2): 87-89. 2009; Misra 2014: 114-115. *emend.* S. Misra

Species Description

Terrestrial, cormous, small herbs, with the *scape* 14-52 cm tall; old *corm* narrowly and obliquely ovoid, greenish white, 12-25x7-12 mm. *Leaves* 2-3, alternate, narrowly elliptic-lanceolate, acute, plicate, prominently 5-veined, with finer veins among them, 9-16x2.4-6 cm. *Inflorescence* terminal, erect. *Peduncle* 7-17 cm long, 1.5-2.75 mm thick, quadrangular in section. *Raceme* 11-27 cm long, 7-40 flowered, with 3-8 sterile bracts. *Floral bracts*

lanceolate, acuminate, oblique or not, 1-veined, unequal, *ca.* 7.5x2 mm. *Flowers* resupinate, *ca.* 10x9 mm. *Sepals* and *petals* spreading. *Dorsal sepal* strongly reflexed, oblong-lanceolate, acute, 3-veined, margins recurved, 5.5-8x1.6-2.5 mm. *Lateral sepals* strongly recurved about the middle and placed behind the lip, obliquely oval, obtuse, 5-veined, 4.5-6x2.6-4 mm, lemon-green with a light brown broad margin. *Petals* reflexed and stretched forward, linear, obtuse; base narrowed and oblique, 2-3-veined, *ca.* 7.5x1 mm, light brown. *Lip* adnate to the base of column, recurved from about the middle, quadrate-suborbicular, dark purple, 3.5-4.7x4-5 mm, apex truncate, retuse or apiculate, edges entire but for some feeble eroseness at the apex; base distinctly two-auricular; auricles straight, stretched backwards, apices rounded, base indented, *ca.* 1-1.2x0.5-0.6 mm; lamina contracted abruptly into a narrow claw; base of lip with a flap-like bi-lobed callus with a broad sinus in between the lobules. *Column* erect, winged and incurved at apex, lemon-green. *Stigma* placed below the wings. *Rostellum* minute, two-partite. *Anther* broadly ovate, 0.9-1.1x0.75-1 mm. *Pollinia* four in two co-lateral pairs; each pair hemi-obovate to pear-shaped, compressed, light yellow, 0.7-0.9x0.4-0.5 mm, lacking caudicle, stipe or viscidium (Figs. 1-2).

Flowering

August (last wk) to October; expanding centripetally with 3-4 flowers at a time; each flower lasts for 3-4 days. The scape increases in length during flowering.

Specimens Examined

S. Misra 2495, isotype (it should indeed have borne the same field number *i.e.*, S. Misra 2494 as that of the holotype); S. Misra 2496, paratype (in cultivation at RPRC).

The herbarium sheet made for the holotype is not traceable. For this reason, the isotype S. Misra 2495

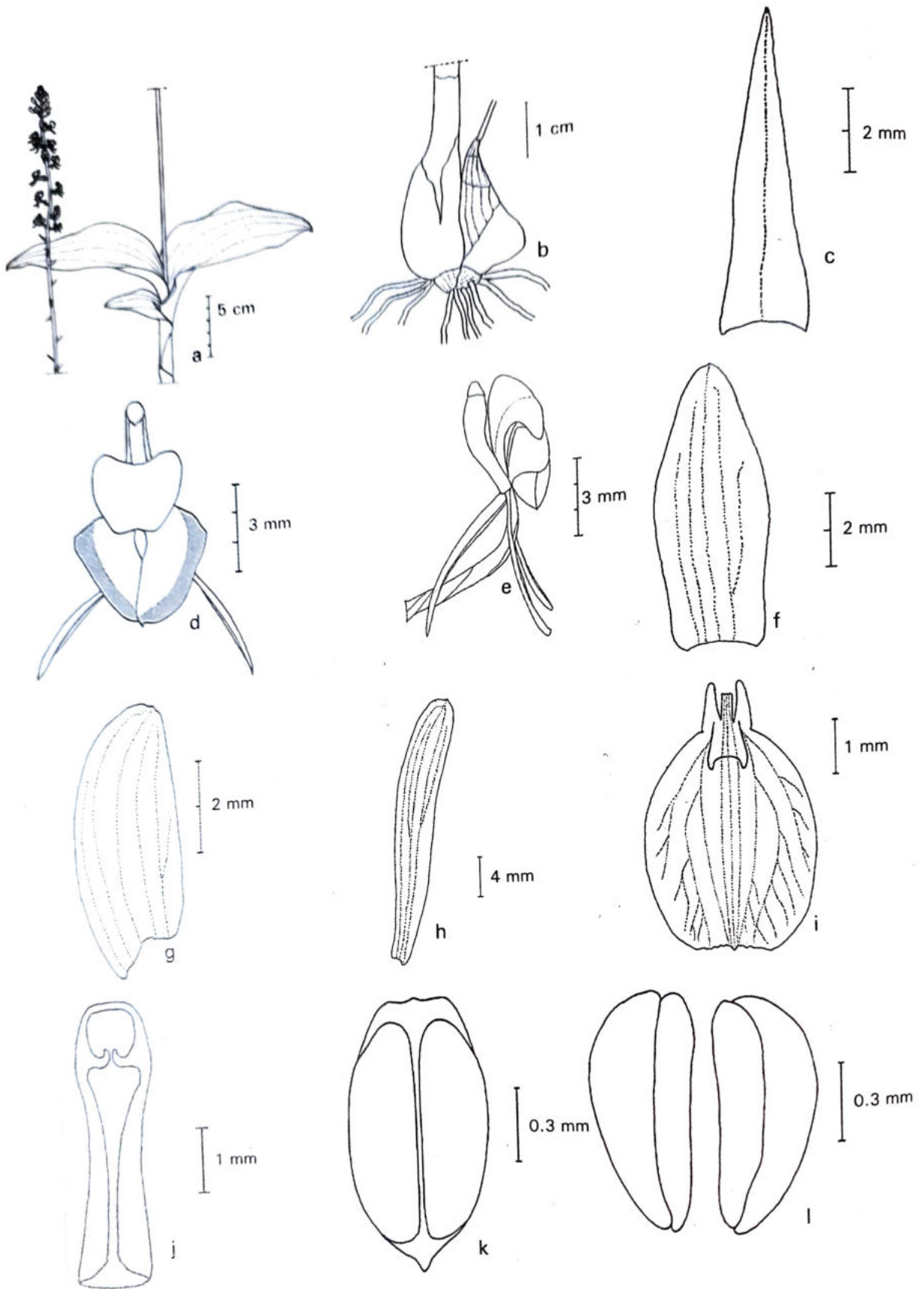


Fig. 1. *Liparis udaii* S. Misra a, Aerial part of plant in flowers; b, corolla; note also the one from previous year; c, Floral bract; d - e, Flowers in front and side view; f, Dorsal sepal; g, Lateral sepal; h, Petal; i, Lip; j, Column; k, Operculum; l, Pollinia. (After S. Misra 2496, paratype; drawing and inking: S. Misra).



Fig. 2 a-b. *Liparis udaii*.

is now designated as the lectotype *i.e.*, *S. Misra* 2495, lectotype CAL (Art. 9.12 ICN - 2012).

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References

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