

AN ORCHID NOVELTY FROM FIJI

BY

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DURING THE COURSE of identifying an interesting collection of orchids recently gathered in Fiji by Mr. William Greenwood of Lautoka, Viti Levu and sent to Dr. A. C. Smith of the Arnold Arboretum, I detected the following novelty.

In a genus which is characterized by a close similarity of the flower-parts, the principal means of specific separation appears to rest on vegetative characters.

Pseuderia Smithiana *C. Schweinfurth* var. **amplifolia** *C. Schweinfurth* var. *nov.*

Herba foliis ovato-lanceolatis vel oblongo-lanceolatis cum basi lata valde obliqua a specie praecipue differt.

Plant differing from the type chiefly in the form and proportions of the leaves. Leaves ovate-lanceolate or oblong-lanceolate, long-acuminate, very oblique at the broad sessile base, up to 13.2 cm. long and 4.3 cm. wide near the base. Bracts as in the type. Sepals and petals yellowish green with streaks and spots of reddish brown.

The ovate-lanceolate leaves with their very asymmetric broad basal portion give to this plant an appearance very dissimilar to that of the typical form which has narrowly lanceolate or oblong-lanceolate leaves with a narrowly cuneate base and a maximum width of 2.4 cm. The flowers of the species are said to be yellow or cream-color with red or purple spots.

FIJI: Viti Levu, Lautoka, Mt. Evans, at about 1100 meters altitude, climbing up trunks of trees to 15 feet with horizontal or slightly dependent shoots 1-1.5 feet long, October 25, 1942, *William Greenwood 661 D* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 61891); Vanua Levu, Thak-

aundrove, Maravu, near Salt Lake, at 0-450 meters altitude, scrambling over branches and trunks of trees in open forest, January 17-23, 1941, *O. Degener & E. Ordonez 14171*; Vanua Levu, Thakaundrove, Savu Savu Bay region, Uluinabathi Mt., at 0-400 meters altitude, sprawling branching herb, on shrubby ledges, December 26, 1940-January 10, 1941, *Degener & Ordonez 13943*. (This collection is in an advanced stage lacking good flowers and consequently is placed here with some hesitation).



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