

Slipper orchid of Phu Quoc

Ly Tho¹, Nguyen Vu Khoi²; Luu Duc Tuan³

Vietnamese name: Lan Vân Hải

Scientific name: *Paphiopedilum callosum* (Reichb.f.) Stein

1. Description

Description of species based on the specimen and photo taken in the field:

- Perennial grounded herb (Hoa lan), no trunk;
- Thick leaves, V-shaped tip, length 10-20 cm;
- Long inflorescence of 20-40 cm, brown hairs;
- Large flower, one hairy petal; round upper sepal, 4-8 cm, pinkish, green edge, curled hairy edges; connected rear sepals, green striped; sigma shape petals, curled down, hairy-edged with 4-5 red wards, brown hairs; exposed labellum, slipper-shaped, red brown;
- Flowering (in the wild) from April to June;

2. Identification

- Based on the description, collected specimen and photos taken in the field; and
- Based on the key of classification of Orchidaceae of Pham Hoang Ho, Flora of Viet Nam, Volume 3, page 760, Tre Publication, 2000; and
- Based on the key classification (pages 85-88), images and description (pages 230-236) of Slipper Orchids of Vietnam (Averyanov et al.), published by Compass Press Limited, 2003.

The species is identified as:

Paphiopedilum callosum (Reichb.f.) Stein, of Cypripediodeae

3. Distribution

- In Vietnam, previously recorded in the following provinces: Gia Lai, Lam Dong, Quang Nam, Quang Tri- Thua Thien-Hue (Leonid Averyanov *et al.*, 2003);
- This specimen recorded in the wild on Phu Quoc island in the following location:
 - + Ham Ninh mountainous range of Phu Quoc National Park;
 - + Coordinates: 10⁰22'N – 104⁰00'E, Altitude 313 metres (asl);
 - + Direction of slope: West, Degree of slope > 45⁰, exposed granite stone occupies 50-60% of the ground;
 - + Tropical broad-leaved forest, extending almost to the summit (Forest status IIB and in transition to IIIA₂ status, according to “forest production” classification of FIPI). Dominant species: *Diospyros* spp, *Callophylum dryobalanoides* Pierre, *Xerospermum noronhianum* (Bl.) Bl., *Ficus* sp. Canopy 0,8, average diameter at chest height = D_{1.3}: 20 – 25 c, average height of this forest layer 18 -20 m; middle forest layer includes species of *Knema globularia* (Lamk.) Warb. *Memecylon* spp (S_m), *Sizigium jambos* (L.) Alston. Average diameter at chest height D_{1.3}: 5 -10 cm, average height of forest plants 7 – 10 m; vegetation cover includes *Dracaena cochinchinensis* (Lour.) Merr, (*Rinorea anguifera* (Lour.) O.Ktze, *Cleistanthus sumatranus* (Miq.) Muell. Ground covered in undecomposed layer of leaf litter.

¹ WAR's consultant

² WAR's PhuQuoc Project manager

³ PhuQuoc National Park's ranger

The new Phu Quoc site should now be marked on the species distribution map for *Paphiopedilum callosum* in Vietnam.

4. Conservation status:

Decree 32/2006/N_-CP: **IA**⁴

IUCN red book: **Endangered (EN)**



⁴ IA, Species listed in this appendix are protected from exploitation in the wild for any purposes relating to trade