

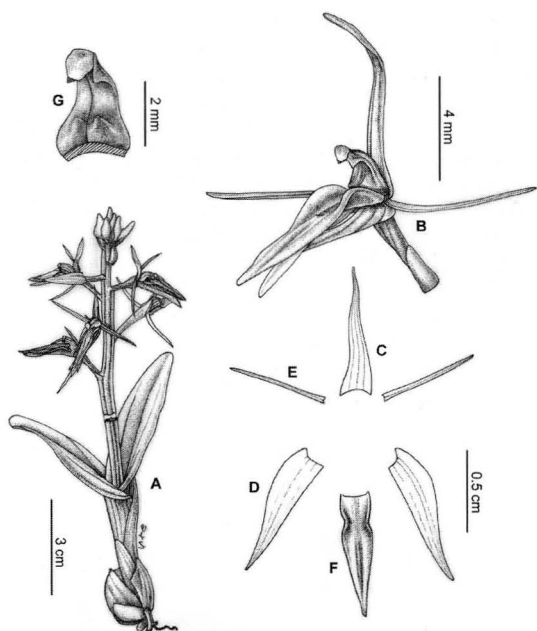
***Liparis cheniana*** X.H. Jin, *sp. nova* (Figs. 1–3)

*A specie proxima Liparide rostratae Rchb.f. lanceolato labio et crista e basi ad apicem differt.*

TYPE: China. Xizang (Tibet), Chayu County, Ridong Village, 3700 m, in alpine grassland of Gaoligongshan Mts., 10.VII.2008 DLJ-ET (*Dulongjiang River Expedition Team*) 3470 (holotype PE).

ETYMOLOGY: The specific epithet honors Singchi Chen, who focuses his life on the taxonomy of Orchidaceae and Liliaceae in China.

Terrestrial. Pseudobulb ellipsoid or ovoid, 0.8–1 cm in diam. Plant 10–15 cm tall, with several membranous sheaths basally. Leaves 2, lamina elliptic-lanceolate, acute,  $2.5\text{--}3 \times 0.8\text{--}1.2$  cm, base narrow into sheathed petiole. Inflorescence 8- to 15-flowered. Bracts ovate, 1–2 mm long. Flowers white flushed with pale purple veins; ovary and pedicel 0.7–1 cm long; dorsal sepal linear-lanceolate, erect,  $0.7 \times 0.15$  cm,



**Fig. 1.** *Liparis cheniana* (from the holotype, drawn by Sun Yingbao). — **A:** Plant. — **B:** Lateral view of flower. — **C:** Dorsal sepal. — **D:** Petal. — **E:** Lateral sepal. — **F:** Lip. — **G:** Column.



**Fig. 3.** Close-up of flowers of *Liparis cheniana* (photo by X. H. Jin).

3-veined; lateral sepals parallel under the lip, oblique, linear-lanceolate,  $0.6 \times 0.1$  cm, 3-veined; petals linear, extending greatly,  $0.6 \times 0.05$  cm, 1-veined; lip lanceolate, white, disc purple, acuminate, the margins of the basal part erect and thickened, a ridge ranging from the base to tip,



**Fig. 2.** Habitat of *Liparis cheniana* (photo by X. H. Jin).

$0.7 \times 0.2$  cm. Column curved, pale pink, 0.3 cm long, adaxial side with a pair of triangular wings, base swollen with two conical calli. Pollinia four in two pairs, yellow; anther-cap elliptic, truncate in front.

*Liparis cheniana* is distinct but closely similar to *L. rostrata* by sharing the same column structure, i.e. a column with two conical calli at the base. However, *L. cheniana* is easily distinguished from *L. rostrata* by its lanceolate lip with a fleshy middle vein ranging from the base to the tip, and the fleshy margin of the basal part of the lip, whereas *L. rostrata* is characterized by a very broadly obcordate, yellow green and ecallose lip (Seidenfaden 1976, Chen 1999, Bose & Bhattacharjee 1999).

*Liparis cheniana* is known from only one site, with an area of occupancy estimated to be less than 10 km<sup>2</sup> and less than 500 individuals. Its habitat is greatly affected by stock raising.