

# PINALIA TAUNGGYIENSIS (ORCHIDACEAE), A NEW SPECIES FROM MYANMAR

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**Abstract.** A new species of *Pinalia*, *P. taunggyiensis*, is described and illustrated based on a single collection from Myanmar.

**Keywords:** *Eria*, *Pinalia*, Orchidaceae, Myanmar, Thailand

The genus *Pinalia* Lindl. (Orchidaceae) contains about 210 species (Ng et al., 2018), distributed from Sri Lanka and India to Tahiti. Many of its species were formerly placed in a broadly construed *Eria* Lindl. For the most part its species are epiphytic herbs with ovoid to slender pseudobulbs that generally bear two to six leaves near the apex, inflorescences usually emerge from nodes in the upper half of the pseudobulbs and are quite often pubescent, floral bracts may be small to relatively large and showy, the flowers are glabrous to pubescent, varying from small to modest (sepals 1.5–12.0 mm long) in size, the lateral sepals form a mentum with the column foot, the labellum is usually variously ornamented with keels and/or calli, and the column bears eight pollinia.

During our studies on the orchid flora of Myanmar, we were unable to identify a species of *Pinalia* despite comparison with taxa from nearby Southeast Asian nations. It is here described as a new species.

***Pinalia taunggyiensis*** Ormerod & Kurzweil, *sp. nov.* Fig. 1. TYPE: MYANMAR. Shan State, Taunggyi, 1370 m, 26 April 1939, *F. G. Dickason* 8282 (Holotype: AMES).

Similar to *Pinalia lineoligera* (Rchb.f.) Ormerod in habit, but the inflorescence with ovate-elliptic (vs. ligulate-lanceolate) floral bracts, and the labellum epichile with radiating, irregular low and partly verrucose lamellae (vs. glabrous with a low medial keel).

Lithophytic herb. *Rhizome* very short, creeping. *Roots* slender. *Pseudobulbs* subcylindric, erect, uninodal, probably 2- to 3-leaved apically, 15–45 mm long, 6–8 mm thick. *Leaves* not developed at time of collection. *Inflorescence* emerging with the developing pseudobulb and leaves (synanthous), erect, 55–60 mm long; peduncle 40–50 mm

long; rachis 3-flowered, 10–15 mm long; floral bracts ovate-elliptic, subacuminate, lemon colored, 5- to 7-veined, to 12 mm long, 5 mm wide. *Flowers* creamy white, the labellum lemon-tipped. *Pedicel with ovary* narrowly clavate, laxly pubescent, 9–10 mm long. *Dorsal sepal* oblong-lanceolate, obtuse, 5-veined, 9.8–9.9 mm long, 2.8 mm wide. *Lateral sepals* oblong-lanceolate, acute, 7-veined, 8 mm long, 5.5 mm wide, forming with the column foot an obtuse, 3-mm-long mentum. *Petals* oblong-lanceolate, acute, 5-veined, 9 mm long, 2.85 mm wide. *Labellum* trilobed, 7 mm long, 4.2 mm wide; hypochile broadly obtriangular, 4 mm long, 4.2 mm wide, lateral lobes obliquely oblong-elliptic, obtuse, ca. 2.5 × 1.5 mm; epichile ovate-suborbicular, subacute, 3 × 3 mm; 3 keels on the hypochile, lamellate, the 2 lateral ones highest, obliquely truncate, lamellae on the epichile 3–4, parallel, low, thin, irregularly dentate, with radiating, sparsely verrucose veins. *Column* semiterete, ca. 2.9 mm long; column foot ca. 3 mm long.

**Distribution:** Myanmar.

**Habitat:** unknown, found on rocks, 1370 m.

**Etymology:** named after Taunggyi, the type locality.

This species is most similar to *Pinalia lineoligera* (Rchb.f.) Ormerod from Myanmar and Thailand, but it differs in having much broader (not narrow) floral bracts and in flowers having a labellum epichile with low, radiating, irregular, partly verrucose lamellae (vs. being glabrous with a low central keel).

Two other species with a similar aspect to *Pinalia taunggyiensis* are *P. annapurnensis* (L.R. Shakya & M.R. Shreshta) Schuiteman et al. from Nepal, and *P. leucantha* Kuntze (*Eria alba* Lindl.) from India, Nepal, and Bhutan. However, both these taxa have smaller (less than 5 mm long) floral bracts, and neither has the radiating irregular lamellae on the labellum epichile.

## LITERATURE CITED

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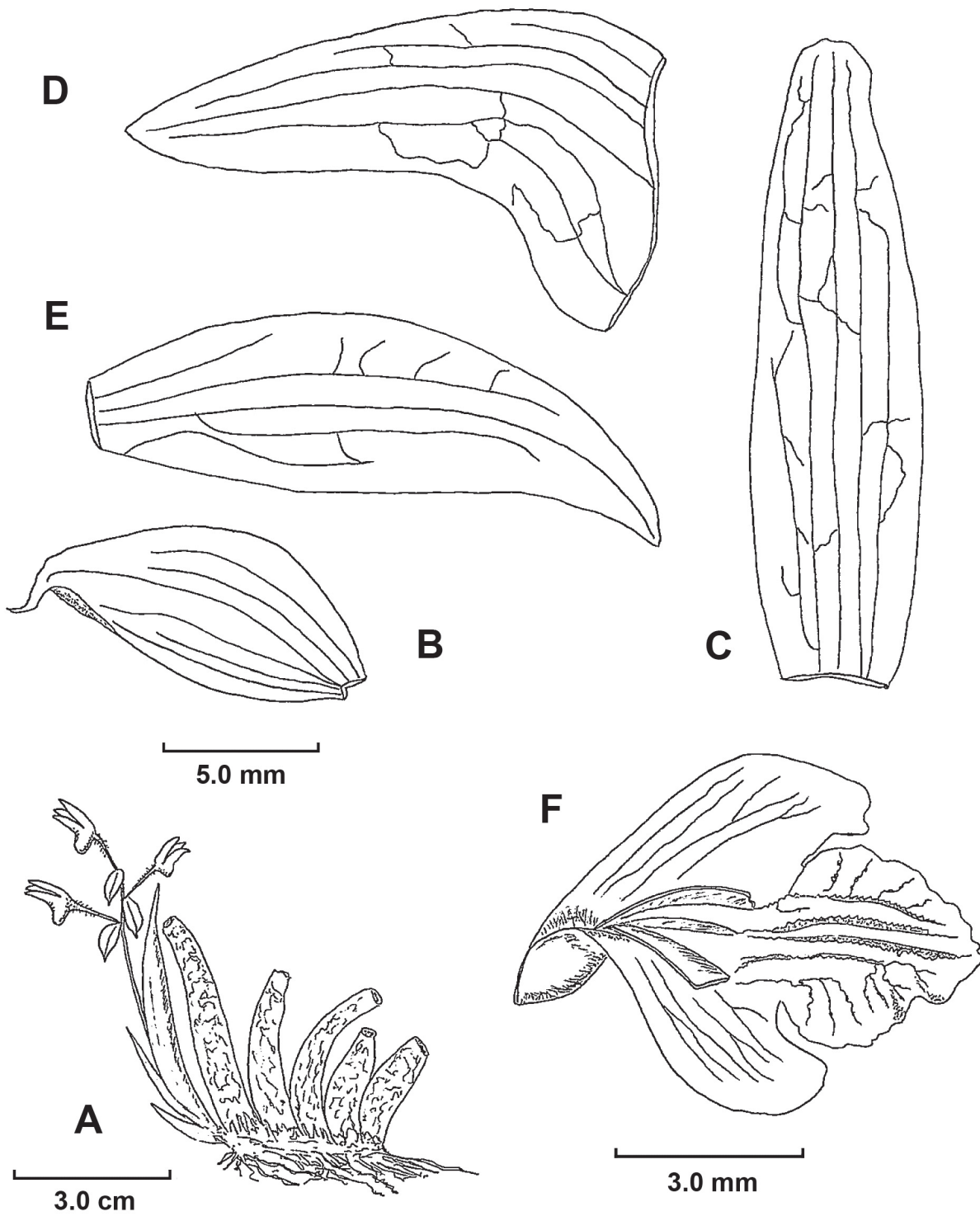


FIGURE 1. *Pinalia taunggyiensis* Ormerod & Kurzweil. A, plant; B, floral bract; C, dorsal sepal; D, lateral sepal; E, petal; F, labellum. Drawn by P. Ormerod from holotype.