

nature in Thailand. He has also cited instances in the past of the undesirable results of the introduction of foreign species of aquatic animals which became harmful pests to the host countries.

Since there are no less than 227 species of crabs, many of which are noted for their food value and eating quality, found everywhere in Thai waters, the importation of the Chinese mitten crab is therefore truly futile, and, in order to prevent the spreading of the animal of destructive nature, the introduction of this foreign crab into Thailand should henceforth be strictly prohibited.

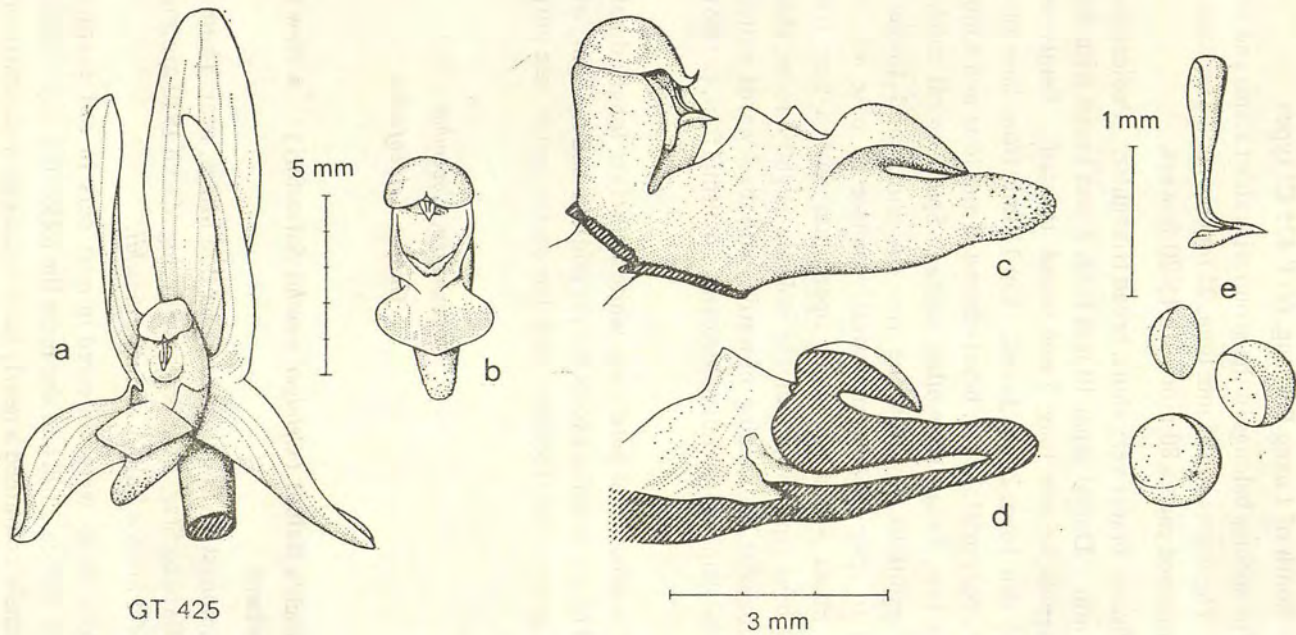
Jinda Thiemmedh.

III. A new *Pomatocalpa* (Orchidaceae) from Laos.

Among the orchids collected near Luang Prabang in 1957 (see *Seidenfaden*: On a small collection of orchids from Laos, Nat.Hist.Bull.Siam Soc. Vol. 21, 1966) there was a sterile plant of the *Vanda-Arachnis* group which was taken alive to Copenhagen where we have kept it for more than ten years without it showing any sign of flowering until in the summer of 1969 it produced an inflorescence which flowered for several months. On inspection it proved to be a true *Pomatocalpa* i.a. on account of the bifid tongue on the backwall deep in the entrance to the spur, and the shape of the stipes and pollinia. In the size and shape of the flowers and in the colouring it is quite different from the other species within the genus known to me. Some 35-40 species have been described in this genus but I have not found any description fitting the Laotian plant. Although it is necessary to be careful in connection with this genus because many entities were originally described under the names of *Cleisostoma*, *Saccolabium* etc., I feel pretty sure that we have here a new species, which I will describe as follows:

Pomatocalpa laoticum n. sp.

Ab aliis speciebus generis floribus majoribus, sepalo dorsali ita circiter 10 mm longo, ut calcari conico porro directo praesertim diversa. Flores albi, sepalis et petalis striis longitudinalibus purpureis ornatis.



GT 425

Figure 1. *Pomatocalpa laoticum* Seidenf. n. sp.

a. flower, front view; b. column and lip from above; c. column and lip, side view; d. lip, cut; e. pollinis and stipes.

LAOS: South of Luang Prabang, (GT 425 C! type)

The species belongs in the group with short stems and very close leaves. The leaves to 185 mm long, 25 mm broad. The scape 60 mm, the unbranched rachis 80 mm with 15-20 flowers.

Flower bracts very short, broad triangular. Pedicel plus ovary about 3 mm. Dorsal sepal 10 mm long, 3 mm broad with five veins, lateral sepals 5-6 mm long, 2 mm broad, twisted. Petals vertically upright 8 mm long, 2 mm broad. Lip 11 mm from base of column to tip of spur; midlobe fat, heart-shaped, 2 mm long and 3 mm broad; sidelobes low, broad triangular, acute. Spur conical thick-walled, slightly papillous towards the tip. A thin, bifid tongue at the entrance to spur on the back wall, connate to base of sidelobes. Column about 3 mm high, fat; operculum with a tiny triangular, upwards bent tip. Stipes of the pollinia slightly more than 1 mm long, somewhat broadening upwards, with backwards rolled edges; disc arrow-shaped, protruding forwards. Pollinia four, in two unequal pairs.

The sepals and petals are white with two longitudinal purple lines. The lip is white except for the midlobe and the spur, which are sulphur yellow; the sidelobes each has on the inside one purple line. (Fig. 1).

Copenhagen, November 1969

Gunnar Seidenfaden.

IV. Finsch's Bulbul (*Criniger finschii* Salvadori): A New Bird for Thailand

Amongst birds collected at La Boo Mines, near Thum Thaloo village, Banang Star, Yala province during March 1970 are a male and female of Finsch's Bulbul, *Criniger finschii*.

Both birds were collected in mist nets in hill evergreen, the female on March 23rd. and the male the following day. The oviduct of the female contained a nearly hard white egg with scattered brown spots.