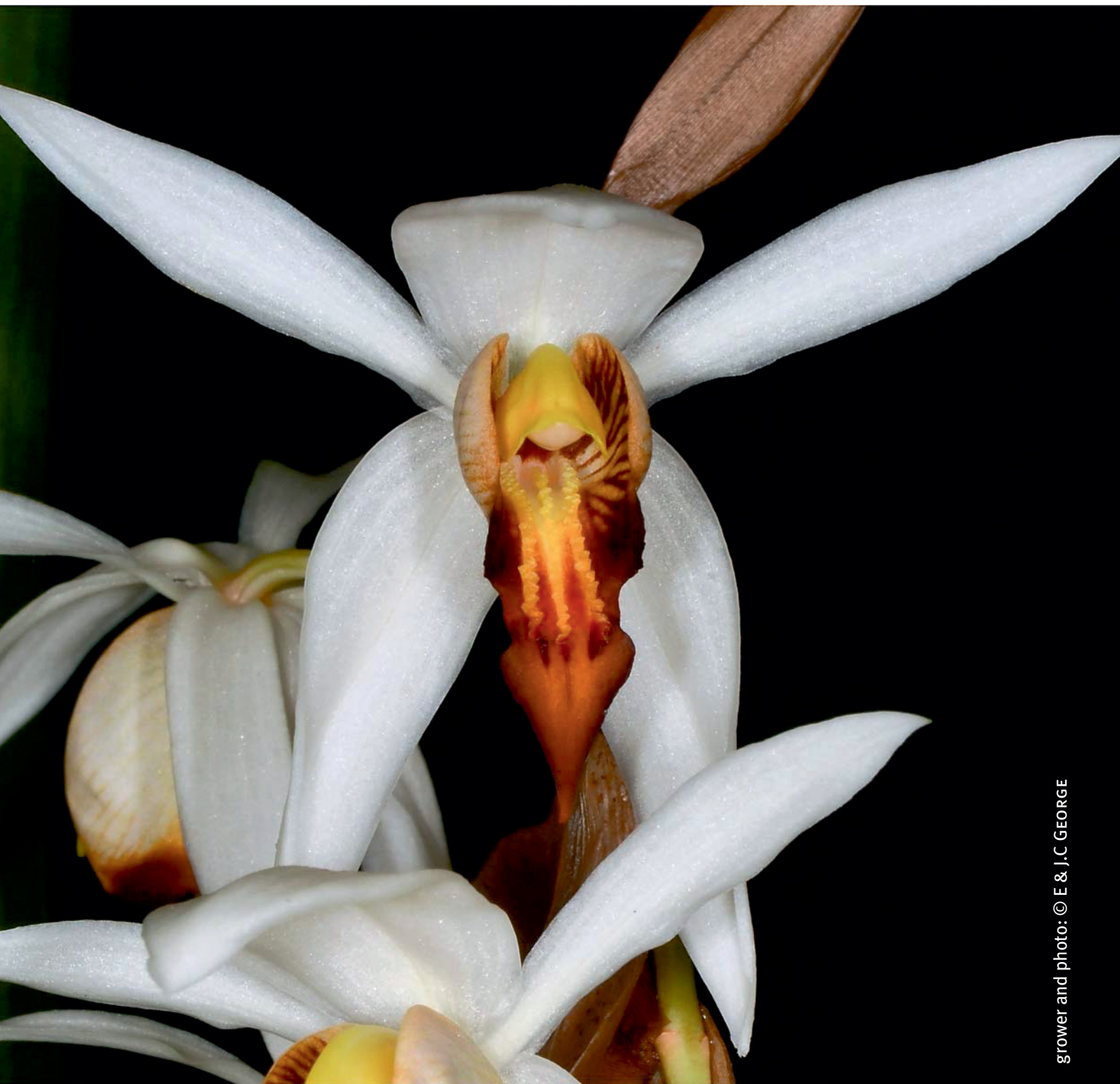


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Content:

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***Coelogyne pseudoviscosa*,
a new *Coelogyne* species from Laos** _____ **page 3**

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Summary: A new species of *Coelogyne* is described as *Coelogyne pseudoviscosa*

Keywords: ; *Coelogyne pseudoviscosa*; new species; Laos

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Coelogyne pseudoviscosa
Sideview

cies shows that they are different: the pseudobulbs are pyriform laterally compressed for *Coelogyne pseudoviscosa* instead of ovoid for *C. viscosa*, stronger, closer to each others; the leaves are lanceolate, coriaceous, wider and shorter. The inflorescence is not proteranthous but synanthous, enclosed at base in the green and not brown scales of the new growth, the peduncle is longer, the rachis bears up to 10 flowers, with 1 sterile bract below the first one, the bracts much densely veined and dark spotted. The median sepal is elliptic instead of lanceolate, the petals narrowly elliptic instead of linear-lanceolate. The lip is ochre-coloured with a red-brown mid-lobe, the hypochile is longer, the lateral lobes semi-orbicular with a round dented free part, the midlobe with a quadrangular claw at base and a sharp triangular apex bent at right angle downwards, the keels higher and thicker, more densely undulating. The bright yellow column is widening from its very base, its hood broadly winged; the longer bell-shaped anther almost entirely hiding the rostellum. The ovary is not viscosa, proportionally shorter, pale green instead of pink, the fruit body is pyriform instead of ovoid-oblong. In culture the new species regularly flowers much later than *C. viscosa*, the flowers have a strong rather unpleasant smell of musk.

Coelogyne pseudoviscosa Elis.
GEORGE, J.-Cl. GEORGE & Pongpol
RAKTHAI, sp. nov. (section *Flaccidae*)

Typus: Laos: Phou Khao Khouay, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew cult. 1967-35905 (leg. A. D. KERR). Holotype K (spirit collection 76608.000).

Description:

Roots thin, forming a flat mat when growing as a lithophyte in nature. Pseudobulbs bifoliate, growing close to each others in a row, pyriform, 7-9 x 4 cm at base, 1.5 cm near apex, slightly compressed, grooved with aged, yellowish green. Leaves erect, coriaceous, 20-37 x 1.7-

Coelogyne pseudoviscosa, a new *Coelogyne* species from Laos

Thanks to Internet and digital photography more and more species in situ are now displayed to orchid lovers anywhere in the world, some of them still undescribed at that moment. Thus we discovered pictures of *Coelogyne pachystachya* and *Coelogyne puhinrongklaensis* on Thai trekking sites some 5 years before their description, the first ones of the species we describe today still earlier, in 2002. More photos of that species have been published since, it now seems to be rather commonly cultivated in Thailand. The orchid sellers call it "Ueang Tian Bai Kap Laos", literally meaning "narrow-leaved *Coelogyne* from Laos"; it is also the vernacular name of *Coelogyne viscosa* in Laos. In England a plant with similar flowers is cul-

tivated at the Royal Botanical Garden of Kew, as *Coelogyne viscosa* collected in Laos in 1967. At last our plant labeled "*Coelogyne* aff. *viscosa* ex Laos" has just flowered for the first time: its flowers are the same as those of the species cultivated in Thailand and England. Despite its long narrow leaves, it happens to be an undescribed species that we choose to name *Coelogyne pseudoviscosa* referring to the similarity with *C. viscosa*.

As far as now *C. viscosa* and its synonym *C. graminifolia* (SEIDENFADEN G., 1975), were the only known *Coelogyne* species to possess such bifoliate pseudobulbs with long narrow leaves, it probably explains why the new species has not been described before. A closer comparison of both spe-



Coelogyne pseudoviscosa
Spike

lateral oblique, slightly kneeled, 3.5 x 1.1 cm; petals spreading upwards, narrowly elliptic, 3.1 x 0.7 cm; lip 2.8 x 2.3 cm when spread, 3-lobed, side-lobes erect, 1.8 x 2.3 cm, broadly orbicular, front margin slightly dented, free part 0.3 cm long, mid-lobe 1.15 x 0.7 cm with a quadrangular claw at base, 0.35 x 0.55 cm, and a triangular apex 0.7 x 0.6 cm bending downwards almost at right angle; 3 parallel keels, running from the base of the lip to the end of the mid-lobe claw, equal, fleshy with a strongly undulated margin; column slightly arching, widening from base, broadly winged, 1.9 x 0.25 at base and 1 cm at apex, anther bell-shaped 0.4 x 0.5 cm, almost entirely hiding the rostellum, pollinia 1.5 x 1 mm; ovary 0.9 cm, pedicel 1.2 cm; Capsule pyriform 2.4 x 0.8 cm.

Distribution and ecology: Laos: growing as a lithophyte in full sun, on top

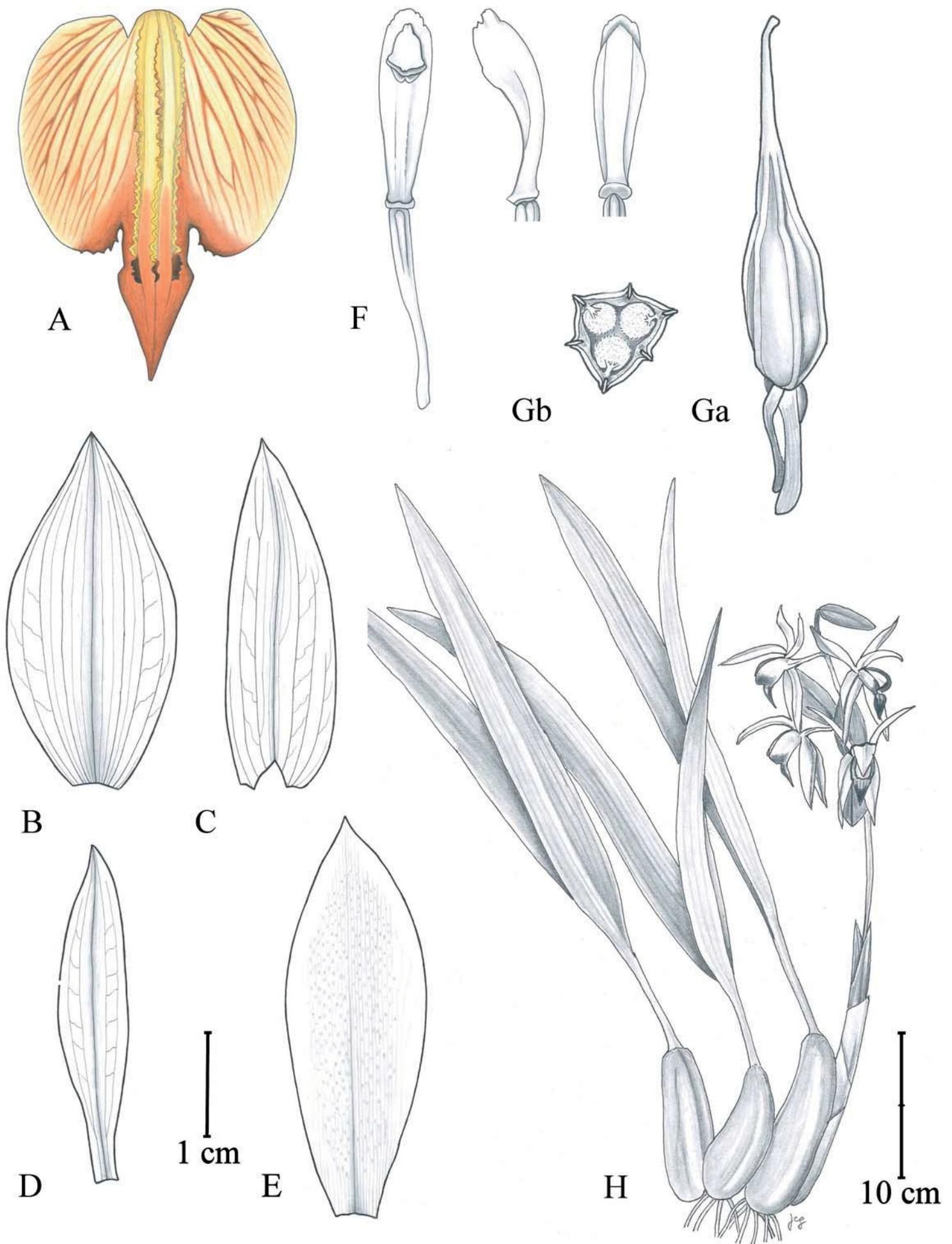
2.5 cm, slightly rugose above, smooth below, 5-7 nerves, the median prominent below, petiole grooved, 3-6 cm.

Inflorescence synanthous, enclosed at base in the green scales of the young growth and the leaves, erect, peduncle flat, 19 x 0.4 cm, rachis terete, 7 cm, 1 sterile bract 1 cm below the first flower, 4 flowers (up to 10) opened simultaneously, internodes curved, 1.5 cm long, floral bracts elliptic, 4 x 1.9 cm, with many fine nerves and scattered dark spots.

Flowers about 6 cm across opening simultaneously widely, sepals and petals pure white, lip ochre-coloured, inner part of side-lobes veined red-brown, mid-lobe deep red-brown; keels yellow with a dark brown apex, column golden yellow bordered with brown at base, anther white; sepals many nerved midrib prominent below, elliptic acute, the median almost parallel to the column, 3.5 x 1.6 cm, the



plant habit Pongpol



C. pseudoviscosa drawings: **A** - labellum **B** - median sepal **C** - lateral sepal **D** - petal **E** - floral bract
F - Column left to right: front, side, back **Ga** - seed pod at 4,5 months **Gb** - seed pod cross section **H** - plant habit
 Scale bar: 1 cm (A, B, C, D, E, F, G) 10 cm (H) Drawing: © J.-Cl. GEORGE



lip close-up
grower and photo:
© Nison RUANGSRISARAN

of a mesa-like mountain in Phou Khao Khouay National Bio-Diversity Conservation Area, Vientiane, at an elevation of about 500 m. Flowering: April, May. Our plant is cultivated in full light in the warm green-house, allowing to dry between the watering, with a drier rest when the pseudobulbs are adult until the new growth appears. Acknowledgments The authors thank André SCHUITEMAN, Sompong SRISATTAYASATHIAN and Nisan RUANGSRISARAN for sharing informations and photos about the new species.

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photo: © P. RAKTHAI

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