

# Paphiopedilum kolopakingii Fowlie 1984

## Kolopaking's Paphiopedilum

**Etymology:** Named after A. Kolopaking, owner of Simanis Orchids in East Java, Indonesia, who first flowered the plants in cultivation.<sup>7</sup>

**SUBGENUS** Polyantha **SECTION** Mastigopetalum<sup>3</sup>



## Synonyms

*Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* f. *katherinae* Koop. 2007; *Paphiopedilum topperi* G.J.Braem & H.Mohr 1988<sup>3</sup>

## Description

A large sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial orchid found in central Kalimantan of Borneo on steep slopes in hill and lower montane forests clustered among rocks over steep river gorges at elevations of 600 to 1100 meters with 8 to 10, strap-shaped, obtuse, clear green leaves that blooms in the spring on a stout, arching, 6 to 14 flowered, 16 to 28" [40 to 70 cm] long, densely pubescent, purple, terete inflorescence with elliptic-

lanceolate, acuminate, purple striped floral bracts. This species holds the distinction of having the most flowers open at once in the genus.<sup>3</sup> *Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* is endemic to Borneo (central Kalimantan). It grows on steep slopes in hill and lower montane forests clustered among rocks over steep river gorges at elevations of 600 to 1100 meters. It is a large sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial species with 8 to 10, strap-shaped, obtuse, clear green, 20–80 cm long, 5–12 cm wide leaves. Kolopaking's Paphiopedilum blooms in the spring on

a stout, arching, 6 to 14 flowered, 40 to 70 cm long, densely pubescent, purple, terete inflorescence with elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, purple striped floral bracts. The flowers are 6-10 cm in diameter, sepals whitish with dark red-brown or dark brown venation; petals green, veined with red or brown; lip olive-green to ochre with darker veins; staminode yellow.<sup>7</sup>

## Range and Habitat

Central Borneo. Plants are found only in central Kalimantan (Indonesian Borneo) near the headwaters of the Barito River. They grow on rocky cliffs over gorges at 1950-2150 ft. (600-650 m). Source: Charles Baker.<sup>4</sup> Elevation: sea level -1400 m. Peak Flowering in the Wild: January-March. Ecology: granite, serpentine, and limestone boulders.<sup>7</sup>



## F-1 Hybrids and Progeny

Of the 70 F-1 hybrids, 43 are Primaries with other species of *Paphiopedilum*. The most awarded grex is Paph Bel Royal, a primary with *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*. Bel Royal has 37 AOS awards and an additional 27 from other countries. It has produced 8 F-1 hybrids. The first cross of *Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* wasn't made until 1994, a late entry. With only 95 progeny and only 26 in a second generation, the species does not seem overly fertile.



*Paphiopedilum* Bel Royal AM/AOS  
(*rothschildianum* x *kolopakingii*)



*Paphiopedilum* Temptation FCC/AOS  
(*kolopakingii* x *philippinense*)



Paphiopedilum Kolosand FCC/AOS  
(kolopakingii x sanderianum)



Paphiopedilum Crouching Tiger AM/AOS  
(Philippinense x Bel Royal)



Paphiopedilum Puppentanz AM/AOS  
(haynaldianum x kolopakingii)

## Awards

*Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* has 21 AOS awards including 1 FCC, 9 AM, 3 CHM, 1 CCE, 1 CCM and 6 HCC. It progeny have 219 awards in 2 generations.

## Culture

### Light:

*Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* like bright sunshine without access to direct sunlight, so during the midday solstice they must be placed behind a curtain or in the shade of other plants.

**Temperature:** This orchid needs the following temperature regime: day temperature at 18-25 ° C with night reduction to 16-20 ° C. For successful cultivation at home, the night temperature of the content should always be 3 ° C lower than the daily one.

### **Humidity:**

The humidity of 50-70% will be enough for normal growth and development of the plant. However, at temperatures above 27 ° C, it is desirable to increase the air humidity to at least 70%, since too dry air adversely affects the roots and leaves of the plant. A lot of fresh air and sufficient air circulation are recommended.

### **Substrate, growing media and repotting:**

*Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* are grown only in the pot. A mixture of bark of coniferous trees with peat is best suited as a substrate. In addition, it is strongly recommended to add lime to the substrate. Practically not exhausted sources of lime are seashells, which can be thoroughly washed from salt, crushed and poured into the substrate.

Repotting is necessary annually. The best time for this is spring - the beginning of a new growth. A very important point here is the height of planting. If this orchid is planted incorrectly, for example, too high, the orchid's roots will hang in the air and stop growing. The substrate should cover the upper red-and-white part of the plant for 1-2 fingers, and in no case should it be tamped down, because if the substrate is too dense, the orchid can simply suffocate. When planting, you must take care of a thick layer of drainage to protect the orchid from stagnant water inside the pot.

### **Watering:**

*Kolopaking's Paphiopedilum* needs frequent and abundant watering throughout the year. Excess water during irrigation should flow freely from the pot, since stagnation of water both inside the pot and in its pan can very quickly lead to rotting of the roots and the lower part of the plant. The substrate between waterings should dry well, but not dry completely. After watering, water from the leaves must be removed with a tissue or tissue. Spraying the outer part of the plant at home will not lead to anything good, since the structure of its leaves resembles a funnel, and water constantly accumulates in the core of the plant, which can very quickly lead to rotting of both peduncles and the core itself.

### **Fertilizer:**

Throughout the year, this orchid is fertilized once every two weeks in the spring and summer, once every 4 weeks in the fall and winter. Fertilizer should be applied to the plant with 30-10-10 fertilizer, diluted, ¼ teaspoon per week in summer and once a month in winter. Each month to flush the water once to prevent the salt from standing in the pot.

### **Rest period:**

*Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* does not need a rest period to stimulate flowering nor in winter, so the given condition should be maintained throughout the year.<sup>7</sup>

**References**

**Aldridge, Peggy. 2008.** *An Illustrated Dictionary of Orchid Genera.* Selby Botanical Garden Press.

<sup>1</sup>**la Croix, Isobyl. 2008.** *The New Encyclopedia of Orchids.* Timber Press

<sup>3</sup>Jay Pfahl's IOSPE at [www.orchidspecies.com](http://www.orchidspecies.com)

<sup>4</sup>OrchidWiz.Database X5.3

<sup>5</sup>**Chase MW. 2006.** Cyripedioideae. In: Pridgeon AM, Cribb PJ, Chase MW, Rasmussen F, eds. *Genera Orchidacearum, Vol. 1.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 153-161.

<sup>6</sup><https://travaldo.blogspot.com/care-and-culture.html>

<sup>7</sup><http://slipperorchids.info/paphdatasheets/cochlopetalum/primulinum/index.html>

<http://apps.kew.org/wcsp/qsearch.do>

<https://secure.aos.org/aqplus/SearchAwards.aspx>