

## Primula Davisii, a New Species from Turkey

WILLIAM WRIGHT SMITH

This interesting new member of the small section Floribundae was collected in August 1954 by P. H. Davis and O. Polunin in that part of Kurdistan belonging to Turkey. It grows in shady crevices in limestone cliffs at an altitude of 1900 to 2000 metres. The flowering stage was almost past but a few flowers, although somewhat dried, have been available for dissection and measurement. It was possible, however, to secure a fair amount of seed and every endeavour will be made to raise the plant in cultivation. Amongst the species of the section it can well be considered to be the dwarfiest member. Its affinity appears to lie to a considerable extent with *P. Gaubeana* which, however, is very much taller. Kinship can also be claimed with *P. floribunda* and *P. Bornmuelleri*. The diagnosis is as follows:—

### *Primula Davisii* W. W. Sm. sp. nov.

Inter species sectionis Floribundarum haec foliis nec farinosis nec hirsutis nec lanatis, sed minute glanduloso-pubescentibus, scapo brevi 1-3-floro distinguitur; affinitas est fortasse cum *P. Gaubeana* Bornm. quae habitu multo altiore, verticillis superpositis gaudet; quoad faciem ad *P. Bornmuelleri* Pax spectat; a *P. floribunda* Wall. et *P. Laceyi* Watt longe divergit.

*Planta* parva perennis efarinosa, in fissuris crescens, rhizomate elongato gracili praedita. *Folia* numero 3-12; lamina petiolo incluso 2-4.5 cm. longa, 1-1.4 cm. lata, oblanceolata vel nunc obovata apice acuta vel subrotundata, basi in petiolum alatum vix discretum sensim angustata, crebre denticulata, textura membranacea, minute glanduloso-pubescentibus; petiolus laminam subaequans. *Scapus* folia paulo superans, subrigidus, 1-3-florus, minute glandulosus; bractee 3-4 verticillatae, foliis similes sed minores; pedicelli 5-7 mm. longi. *Calyx* 7-9 mm. longus, textura firmus, persistens, in lobos lanceolatos acutos ad tres partes fissus. *Corolla* flava, exannulata, heteromorphica; tubus 10-15 mm. longus, cylindricus, supra insertionem staminum paulo ampliatus; limbus (complanatus) 10-15 mm. latus, lobis 4-6 mm. longis oblongo-obovatis obtusis paulo retusis. *Stamina* antheris 1.5 mm. longis inserta paulo infra medium tubum in floribus longistylis, prope apicem in floribus brevistylis. *Stylus* (longus) ad tres partes tubi vel paulo ultra attingens; stylus (brevis) ad medium tubum. *Semina* numerosa, 0.5 mm. longa, ovato-rhomboidea, quadrato-angularia, nunc apiculata, minute vesiculata, aureo-brunnea.

TURKEY. Prov. Hakkâri: Cilo Dağ, in Diz Deresi above Dezi, 1900-2000 m., on limestone (dolomitic?) cliffs in more or less shady crevices of sloping and nearly vertical rock, scape always 1-3-flowered, flowers (dead) apparently yellow, seeds numerous, 6 Aug. 1954, P. H. Davis & O. Polunin (Davis 23879).