

THE WHEREABOUTS OF SCHLECHTER'S NEW GUINEA DUPLICATES OF LIPARIS

P. J. B. WOODS

DURING the night of 1-2 March 1943, the herbarium at Berlin and the bulk of its valuable botanical collections were destroyed by fire following an air raid. An assessment of the damage was made by Alston during September 1946 and the results published in a British Intelligence Objectives Sub-Committee Report (1946). Although this report acts as a useful guide, it could not do more than generalise at that time. Many specimens were on loan during the war and by this twist of fate remained safe. Alston states that the types of the Monocotyledons were saved by evacuation to Bleicherode but their subsequent fate is obscure and certainly Sleumer (1949) does not include the *Orchidaceae* as one of the collections saved. One collection which was destroyed was the orchid herbarium of Rudolph Schlechter (Oakes Ames, 1944).

Of the Schlechter herbarium the Rev. H. M. R. Rupp (1950) says: "Unhappily for all concerned this magnificent treasury of botanical science was terribly damaged, and partly destroyed, in the great war of 1939-45. At present it is uncertain whether the types of Schlechter's orchid species, amounting literally to thousands in number, have been lost to us forever, or whether some at least were removed and stored away". Rupp gives a list of nearly 400 South East Asian and South African species collected by Schlechter and represented in the Sydney herbarium.

The purpose of the present paper is to give some indication of the whereabouts of the Schlechter duplicates of New Guinea *Orchidaceae* and is prompted by work, which is being carried out in Edinburgh on the orchid flora of New Guinea.

The genus *Liparis*, which in Edinburgh is well represented by Schlechter material, has been selected as a test case. Cyclostyled sheets listing the 54 New Guinea species described or collected by Schlechter (1911) and citing his numbers were sent to 27 herbaria. The recipients were requested to check the lists with their herbarium material and to amend and return the circulars. Within five days the first list was returned from the British Museum and thereafter the replies came in like the returns of a General Election, but much more exciting.

The writer is extremely grateful to the various herbaria for their excellent co-operation; the following took part in the census. The figure following the herbarium symbol indicates the number of species represented. Amsterdam (AMD-nil); Orchid Herbarium of Oakes Ames, Harvard (AMES-39); Berlin (B-nil); British Museum (BM-21); Bogor (BO-28); Brussels (BR-2); Brisbane (BRI-1); Copenhagen (C-nil); Edinburgh (E-21); Chicago (F-nil); Geneva (G-39); Hamburg (HBG-nil: here Schlechter's specimens are all below no. 10900); Kew (K-31); Leiden (L-42); Lund (LD-nil); Lyon (LY-nil); Munich (M-nil); Sydney (NSW-38); New York (NY-nil); Paris (P-6); Stockholm (S-36); Singapore (SING-nil); Utrecht (U-nil); Berkeley

(UC-nil); Uppsala (UPS-nil); Washington (US-nil); Vienna (W-nil); Zurich (Z-nil).

It is of course possible that specimens exist elsewhere and the writer would appreciate any information about them being brought to his attention. If the distribution of Schlechter's duplicates in other genera follows a similar pattern an analysis of the list would seem to indicate that they are most likely to be found, in diminishing order, in the following herbaria: L; AMES; G; NSW; S; K; BO; BM and E.

List of Material of Schlechter's New Guinea species of Liparis

(Numbers in brackets indicate collections not cited by Schlechter and may in most cases represent misnumbered specimens. All specimen numbers are Schlechter except where indicated).

Liparis	14474	
acaulis	(14475)	BM; BO; BR; K; NSW; P.
	(14745)	AMES-photo.
	20168	
altigena	18706	AMES; BO; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
anceps	Ledermann	11310
anemophila	17100	AMES; BO; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
	18592	G; L; S.
apiculata	16552	AMES; BM; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
arachnites	19721	
brevicaulis	20135	
brunnescens	19102	
calcaria	18027	AMES; BM; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
caricifolia	(18390)	S.
	18590	AMES; E; G; K; L; NSW.
chlorantha	17147	AMES; BO; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
confusa J. J. Smith*	14091	
(flaccida Schltr.)	14636	
	(16311)	BO.
	16361	AMES; BM; G; L; NSW; S.
	17117	
	Ledermann	(7973) AMES.
cyclostele	19301	AMES; BO; G; L; NSW; S.
	"bei Pema, am Waria, Mai 1909",	s.n.
dolichobulbon	17224	AMES; BM; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
	19054	AMES; BO; E; G; L; NSW; S.
finisterrae	18037	
flaccida <i>see</i> confusa		
genychila	14001	AMES-photo; BM; BO; BR; K; NSW; P.
	17261	
	18588	
	19178	L.
glumacea	19805	
govidjoae	19803	

* According to AMES Herbarium = *L. condylobulbon* Rchb. f.

<i>graciliscapa</i>	16807	G; L; NSW; S.
	(18417)	NSW.
	19189	AMES; BM; G; K.
	19417	G; L; S.
	19753	G; L; S.
	(s.n.)	BO; L.
<i>imperatifolia</i>	20044	
	20336	AMES; BO; G; L; NSW; S.
<i>inamoena</i>	18784	
<i>kempfi</i> A. Kempf	s.n.	
<i>kempteriana</i>	17556	
	17997	
<i>kenejiae</i>	18912	
<i>lamproglossa</i>	18625	AMES; BO; G; L; NSW; S.
<i>leptopus</i>	19629	AMES; BM; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
<i>maboroensis</i>	19891	
<i>macrotis</i> Kraenzl.	Nyman 789	
<i>major</i>	14055	
<i>mapaniifolia</i>	19322	AMES; BM; BO; G; L; NSW; S.
<i>melanoglossa</i>	17425	AMES; E; G; L; NSW; S.
	19526	AMES; BO; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
<i>microblepharon</i>	19413	AMES; BO; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
<i>miniata</i>	19838	
<i>nebuligena</i>	20112	
	16961	AMES; BO; E; K; L; NSW.
	19514	
<i>neoguineensis</i>	13934	BM; K; P.
	16803	AMES; BM; G; L; NSW; S.
	18889	AMES; E; G; L; NSW; S.
	19559	
	19786	
	(s.n.)	BR.
<i>ochrantha</i>	16308	AMES; BM; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
	(18200)	BO.
	18260	AMES; BM; BO; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
<i>oligantha</i>	19486	AMES; G; L; S.
<i>ovalis</i>	18056	AMES; BM; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
<i>pectinifera</i> see <i>schistochila</i>		
<i>pedicellaris</i>	19913	
<i>persimilis</i>	18999	AMES; E; L; NSW.
	19476	E; K; L; S.
<i>platychila</i>	14041	AMES-photo; BM; K; P.
	19704	
<i>pseudodisticha</i>	14064	AMES; BM; BRI; K; P.
	(s.n.)	BRI.
<i>schistochila</i>	13950	
	17044	AMES; E; G; K; NSW.
	18248	
	18998	AMES; E; G; K; L; NSW.
	19109	AMES; BO; G; L; NSW.

scleriifolia	Ledermann 10380
	12357
serrulata	14328 AMES-photo; BM; K; P.
	20037
	Ledermann (11519) AMES.
similis	20120
spectabilis	17060 AMES; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
	19027
var. dischorensis	19622
stenostachya	19281
	19390 G; L; S.
	17423 AMES; E; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
sympodialis	19425 AMES; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
	19769
torricellensis	14416 BM; K.
	20134
trachyglossa	20338 AMES; BM; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
truncatula	19039
truncicola	16674 AMES; E; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
var. oblanceolata	18627 AMES; E; BO; G; K; L; NSW; S.
	19066 AMES; E; G; K; L; NSW; S.
wernerii Werner	45
	19077

REFERENCES

- ALSTON, A. H. G. (1946). Report on the state of Taxonomic Botany and Botanical Collections in some areas of Germany since 1939. *British Intelligence Objectives Sub-Committee: Final Report no. 1520, Item no 22*. London: H.M. Stationery Office.
- AMES, OAKES. (1944). Destruction of the Schlechter Herbarium by Bombing. *Am. Orch. Soc. Bull.* 13: 105-106.
- RUPP, H. M. R. (1950). The Schlechter Collection of Orchidaceae in the National Herbarium of New South Wales. *Contributions from the New South Wales Herbarium*, 1: 304-311.
- SCHLECHTER, R. (1911). Die Orchidaceen von Deutsch-Neu-Guinea, *Fedde, Rep. Beih.* 1.
- SLEUMER, H. (1949). Communication *Kew Bull.*, 172-175.