

# *Phaius tankervillae*

by Ian Chalmers



*Phaius montanus*  
1994 Irian jaya



Lip narrowly tubular, the mid lobe ovate, not recurved, with a pronounced apiculi no spur.. Note: the point at the end of the lip.



*Phaius montanus* JCC MtHagen





*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *antoninea* (flavus colouration) Philippines Ronny Boos



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *antoninea* Peter Balzer and Ronny Boos



Lip narrowly tubular, the side lobes and mid lobe recurved, mid lobe subquadrate, truncate to emarginated with recurved margins.

Note: if flattened out the mid lobe is rectangular, the end is notched.



*Phaius tankervilleae* var *tankervilleae*

Nth Stradbroke

var. *tankervilleae*, flowers cross pollinating; Lip white in basal third, purple in apical two thirds, especially side lobes. var. *australis*, flowers self pollinating petals and sepals often with yellowish venation. Lip brown in basal third, white margins streaked with crimson.





*Phaius tankervilleae* var  
*tankervilleae*  
From a Kur ring gai OS Monthly  
meeting





*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*  
JCC Redlands QLD



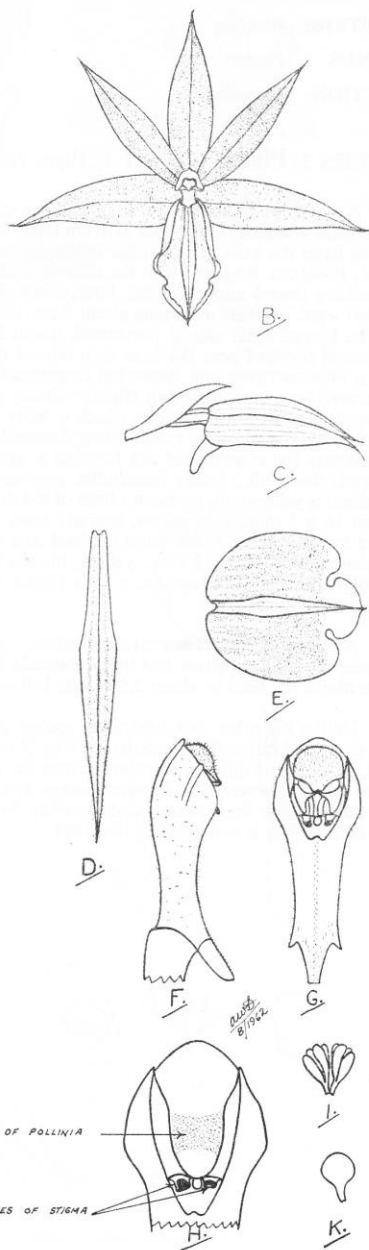
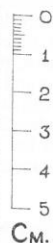
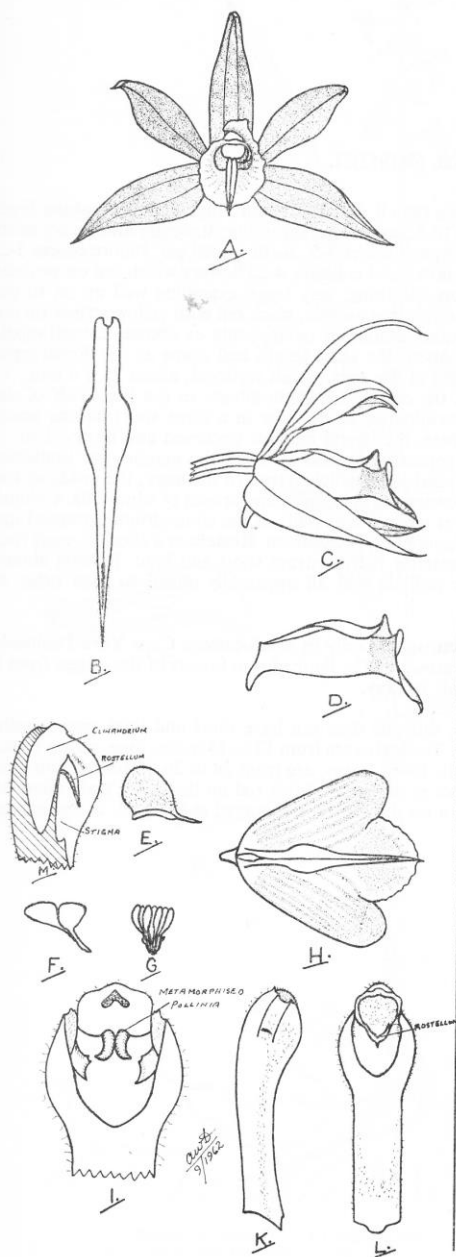
*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*  
JCC Kempsey NSW

*var. tankervilleae*, flowers cross pollinating; Lip white in basal third, purple in apical two thirds, especially side lobes.

*var. australis*, flowers self pollinating petals and sepals often with yellowish venation. Lip brown in basal third, white margins streaked with crimson.



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*  
JCC Point Lookout Nth Stradbroke



Extracted from *Australian Indigenous Orchids* 1969 A. W. Dockrill

This shows the differences between *Phaius tankervilleae* var. *tankervilleae* and *Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*

This should help in correctly naming awarded specimens.





*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*  
JCC Bellthrope QLD



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*  
JCC Finch Hatton NQ

These two images were supplied as *Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*. However I now believe them to be *tankervilleae*.

var. *tankervilleae*, flowers cross pollinating; Lip white in basal third, purple in apical two thirds, especially side lobes. var. *australis*, flowers self pollinating petals and sepals often with yellowish venation. Lip brown in basal third, white margins streaked with crimson.





Flowers yellow with a white lip; column triandrous; lip apex acuminate. Tapering gradually to a point.

*Phaius tankervilleae* var *bernaysii* Jim Cootes



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *bernaysii*  
Noel Grundon



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *bernaysii*  
Nth Stradbroke Is. Jon Cara



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *bernaysii*  
Jim Cootes







*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *tankervilleae* Vietnam  
I originally mis identified this as var. *baolacensis* as it was  
photographed in Vietnam





*Phaius wallichii*

Note: found in cultivation Topaz NQ

One feature used to separate these varieties of *Phaius tankervilleae* from *Phaius wallichii* is the length of the spur. *P. tankervilleae* < 10mm *P. wallichii* >15mm



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*  
JCC RedlandsQLD



*Phaius wallichii* From JCC Topaz



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*  
JCC Finch Hatton NQ



*Phaius tankervilleae* var. *australis*  
JCC Tanawha NQ





*Phaius tankervilleae* var  
*australis*.

From a show in Tropical North  
Queensland Noel Grundon





# Conclusion.

- After some research I have identified the images I had into what I think are the various varieties.
- I could be wrong.
- The three varieties we are most likely to come across are *tankervilleae*, *australis* and *bernaysii*.
- These are all found in Australia and therefore, it probably means that we don't have to differentiate them except when awarding them.
  - *tankervilleae* has a white throat
  - *australis* has a dark throat and is self pollinating
  - *bernaysii* is yellow. The only confusion is if yellow and round mid lobe (no point) is likely to be *tankervilleae* f. *alboflorens*

The other varieties are not known in cultivation in Australia

# Issues

- It goes against the grain to judge orchids as Australian that are from overseas.
- If we don't know the provenance of the plant we have no option but to judge it as Australian.
- If awarded then we need to ensure which variety we have awarded.

# Acknowledgements

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