

Hiroo KANAI\*: **Notes on Himalayan plants (1)**

金井弘夫\*: ヒマラヤ植物ノート (1)

The author had a chance to make a botanical study in Nepal from 1969 to 1971 as a Colombo Plan Advisor attached to the Department of Medicinal Plants, H. M. G. of Nepal. The followings are the notes on Himalayan plants based mainly on my field observations.

1. *Viola wallichiana* Ging. in DC., Prodr. 1: 300 (1824); W. Becker in Beih. Bot. Centralbr. 34: 262 (1917).

This yellow flowered violet is very close to *V. biflora*. It was characterized by subglabrous distinctly cordate reniform leaves with partly rounded-crenate serration, small, 5-6 mm long, flowers with acute quite slender spur, 5-6 mm long, and elongate very acute sepals against *V. biflora* which has reniform leaves with glabrous or subpubescent upper surface and subpubescent nerves below and with repando-dentate or subcrenate serrations, ordinarily or somewhat smaller sized flowers with very small spur, and linear or narrowly oblong sepals. But according to my observation, the characters of leaves and sepals are variable and can not be regarded as key characters. A dwarf form of *V. wallichiana* is found among the specimens from exposed places at higher altitude, and it has reniform leaves with denser hairs and smaller flowers with shorter spur. On the other hand, *V. biflora* from forest habitat has cordate subglabrous leaves. The shape of sepals and the size of flowers are not reliable as distinguishing characters. Nevertheless, these two species can still be distinguished by the shape of spur. In addition, they can be distinguished by the color of flowers in the living status. The brown purple nerves on the lip and the same colored tint on the back of petals are correlated to the shape of spur as shown below and in fig. 1.

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	<i>V. wallichiana</i>	<i>V. biflora</i>
Spur	Long, slender.	Very short, saccate.
Upper & lateral petals	Yellow on both surfaces without brown purple tint.	Tinted with brown purple, especially on the back.
Lip: Front	With some brown purple nerves attaining to 2/3-1/2 way from the base.	With many brown purple nerves attaining to more than half way.
Back	Yellow without brown purple nerve or tint.	With many nerves much tinted with brown purple attaining to the margin or nearly so.

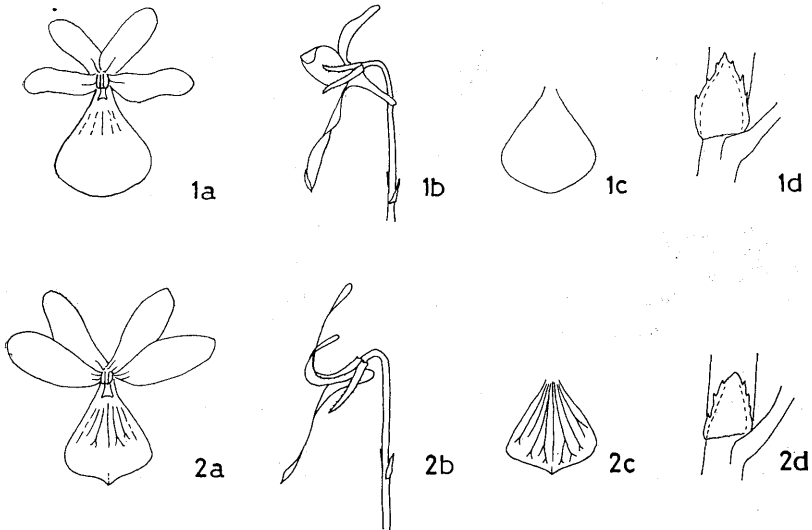


Fig. 1. 1. *Viola wallichiana*. 2. *Viola biflora*. a. Front view. b. Side view. c. Back view of lip. d. Stipule.

The lips look like to be shortly pointed when they are somewhat folded at the tip. (Fig. 1, 2a & 2c).

As regard to the habitat, *V. wallichiana* is growing at lower altitude than *V. biflora* on the same mountain ridge. In central Nepal, the border

is at 2500-2800 m which is a bit lower than the border of forest zones from evergreen oak (*Quercus semecarpifolia*) to *Rhododendron* (*Rh. arboreum* var. *campbelliae*) or conifer (*Abies spectabilis*). In Sikkim, it is at 3500-3900 m. In Bhutan, *V. biflora* comes down to 2800 m but *V. wallichiana* has not been reported. (Fig. 2).

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1969年より2年間、ネパールの首都 Kathmandu にある Department of Medicinal Plants に勤務し、同国の植物調査に協力した。当初考えていたほどには各地を歩くことができなかったが、採集の現場でできるだけ記録をとるように心がけ、多少の知見を得た。今後これらを整理しながら発表して行くことにする。

1. *Viola wallichiana* Ging.

黄色の花をつけるスマレで、山地でよく見られる。高い所に生えている *V. biflora* とよく似ているが、距が細長いことと、花弁の裏面が黄色のみで紫褐色を帯びない点を目安にすれば容易に区別できる。葉の形、毛の状態、萼片の形などは互に移り変って区別点とはなりにくい。本種は *V. biflora* より低い地域に生じ、山を上って行くときある高さで本種から急に *V. biflora* に変わるのが観察される。Fig. 2 は色々な地域のものを集めて示しており、ある所では入り混っているかのように見えるが、一つの山の一つの尾根をとると決して混生していない。また両種の境目には植生的な差異は認められない。

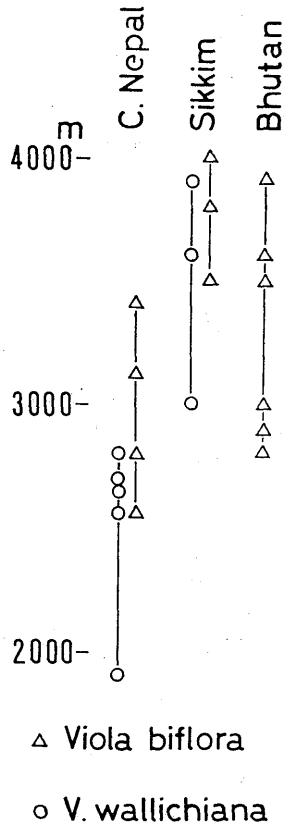


Fig. 2. Altitudinal distribution of *Viola wallichiana* and *V. biflora*.

○*Barbula prionophylla* Saito は有効名か? (水島うらら) Urara MIZUSHIMA: On the nomenclature of *Barbula prionophylla* Saito

本誌 46 巻 5 号 139-145 (1971) に収録されている齊藤亀三氏のセンボンゴケ科雑記 (1) を読み、*Barbula prionophylla* Saito という新名の有効性に疑問を感じた。こ