Prabin BHANDARIa,*, Lokesh Ratna SHAKYAb and Krishna Kumar SHRESTHAa: *Zeuxine membranacea* (Orchidaceae)—An Addition to the Orchid Flora of Nepal

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**Summary:** *Zeuxine membranacea* Lindl. (Orchidaceae) is reported as a new record for the orchid flora of Nepal. A brief note with habitat, diagnostic key and distribution is provided.


During a recent inventory of orchids of Pokhara valley, Central Nepal, an interesting species of *Zeuxine* was found at about 700 m above sea level in the same habitat where *Z. strateumatica* (L.) Schltr. occurs. Other associates were *Imperata cylindrica* (L.) P. Beauv. (Poaceae), *Chrysophyllum aciculatus* (Retz.) Trin. (Poaceae), *Crotalaria sessiliflora* L. (Fabaceae), etc. On critical study of relevant literature and herbarium specimens, this species was identified as *Zeuxine membranacea* Lindl. *Zeuxine membranacea* is very similar to *Z. strateumatica* (L.) Schltr., but differs in plant height, being taller (up to 34 cm); petals not adnate to dorsal sepal and the ovary pubescent rather than glabrous.

*Zeuxine membranacea* Lindl. was first recorded from Bhutan (Lindley 1840) and is distributed in China, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Thailand to Vietnam (Chen et al. 2009), but this species has not been recorded so far from Nepal (Hara et al. 1978, Press et al. 2000, Subedi 2002, 2003, Rokaya et al. 2013, Bhandari 2015, Rajbhandari 2015). Therefore this species is a new record for the orchid flora of Nepal.


**Type:** BHUTAN. Without precise locality, Griffith 16 (K–holotype; K–isotype).


Specimen examined: CENTRAL NEPAL. Gandaki Zone, Kaski District, Pokhara-23, Kharchang, 700 m, 22 October 2015, P. Bhandari & K. Shrestha P1501 (KATH, TUCH; Fig. 2).

With the addition of *Zeuxine membranacea* Lindl., the number of *Zeuxine* species in Nepal increases to nine.

**Key to the species of Nepalese Zeuxine**

1a. Leaves linear, not stalked .................................. 2
1b. Leaves not linear, stalked .................................. 3
2a. Plant more than 20 cm tall; ovary pubescent
2b. Plant less than 20 cm tall; ovary glabrous ...  

3a. Column with lamellate wings ......... 4 
3b. Column without any appendage .......... 5 
4a. Epichile of lip as broad as or narrower than hypochile, entire or shallowly 2-lobed ..........  

4b. Epichile of lip broader than hypochile, distinctly 2-lobed .................. Z. nervosa 
5a. Lip T-shaped .......................... Z. flava 
5b. Lip Y-shaped .............................. 6 
6a. Lip toothed on outer margin ... Z. longilabris 
6b. Lip not toothed on outer margin .......... 7 

7a. Lip 7–9 mm long; hypochile with 2 lamellate calli ................................................. Z. grandis 
7b. Lip up to 6 mm long; hypochile with 2 subulate hooked calli ................................. 8 
8a. Epichile rotated gently downward; epichile lobes obovate-flabellate .................. Z. affinis 
8b. Epichile reflexed sharply downward; epichile lobes oblong ................................. Z. reflexa

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Fig. 2. *Zeuxine membranacea* Lindl. (P. Bhandari & K. Shrestha P1501, KATH).
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Reference


P. Bhandari a, L. R. Shakya b, K. K. Shrestha b：ネパールのラン科フロラに Zeuxine membranacea を追加

ラン科キヌラン属 Zeuxine にはアフリカ、東南アジア、オセアニアの熱帯域や亜熱帯域に約80種がある。そのうち、ネパールでは、Z. affinis (Lindl.) Benth. ex Hook. f. 以下の8種が知られていた。今回の調査において、ネパール中部ポカラの標高700 mの地点で、Zeuxine membranacea Lindl. を見出した。本種はブータンから記載され、その後インド、ミャンマー、タイ、カンボジア、ベトナムなどで報告されているが、ネパールからは初めての報告となる。これにとづき、ネパール産キヌラン属9種の検索表を付した。

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