

172. **UNCIFERA** Lindley, J. Proc. Linn. Soc., Bot. 3: 39. 1858.

叉喙兰属 cha hui lan shu

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Herbs, epiphytic, monopodial. Roots not piercing leaf sheaths. Stems usually pendulous, elongate, slender, leafy. Leaves overlapping, distichous, flat, oblong to lanceolate, slightly fleshy, base amplexicaul, sheathing, jointed, apex unequally bilobed or praemorse. Inflorescence axillary, racemose, densely few to many flowered. Flowers thickly textured. Sepals and petals similar, concave; lateral sepals slightly oblique. Petals slightly smaller than sepals; lip funnel-shaped, spurred, 3-lobed, lateral lobes suberect; mid-lobe very small, fleshy, adaxially ± concave; spur long, hooked or curved, inside unornamented. Column terete, bent down over spur entrance, footless; rostellum conspicuous, thick; anther cap conic, apex elongate and narrowed; pollinia waxy, 2, globose, deeply cleft, separated by a hyaline flange, attached by a common long, linear stipe to a large viscidium; stipe wings borne on a ridge formed by basal part of rostellum.

About six species: from tropical Himalayan regions to Indochina and Thailand; two species in China.

- 1a. Apex of spur strongly curved forward and hooked ..... 1. *U. acuminata*
- 1b. Apex of spur curved backward toward ovary ..... 2. *U. thailandica*

**1. *Uncifera acuminata*** Lindley, J. Proc. Linn. Soc., Bot. 3: 40. 1858.

叉喙兰 cha hui lan

*Saccolabium acuminatum* (Lindley) J. D. Hooker.

Stems often arching, terete, 5–27 cm, slender, 3–4 mm in diam., many noded, internodes 1–2 cm. Leaf blade lanceolate or obliquely oblong, 4–10.5 × 0.7–1.5 cm, acute and slightly praemorse. Inflorescence arching, 7–10 cm, densely many flowered; floral bracts ovate, 3–6 mm. Flowers not opening widely, yellowish green, slightly fleshy; pedicel and ovary 5–7 mm. Sepals cymbiform, broadly ovate, 6–7 × ca. 5 mm, obtuse. Petals ovate, ca. 6 × 4 mm, obtuse; lip with a long spur at base, 3-lobed; lateral lobes erect, suborbicular, large, 5–6 mm wide; mid-lobe ovate-triangular, very small, fleshy, adaxially shallowly concave, apex obtuse; spur funnel-shaped, strongly curved forward and hooked, ca. 15 mm. Column ca. 3 mm; rostellum large, fleshy; anther cap subconic; stipe ca. 3 mm; viscidium oblong, ca. 3 mm. Fl. Apr–Jul.

Epiphytic on tree trunks in dense forests; 1300–1900 m. Guizhou, S Yunnan [Bhutan, NE India, Nepal].

**2. *Uncifera thailandica*** Seidenfaden & Smitinand, Orchids Thailand 4(2): 828. 1965.

中泰叉喙兰 zhong tai cha hui lan

Stems short, internodes ca. 10 mm. Leaf blade ligulate, 10–12 × ca. 2 cm, unequally obtusely bilobed. Inflorescence gently curving; peduncle 4–6 cm; rachis 7–10 cm, many flowered. Flowers: sepals light purple edged white, petals light greenish with a purple central spot, lip white with a purple spot near apex of blade; pedicel and ovary 9–10 mm. Dorsal sepal concave, ca. 7 × 4.5 mm; lateral sepals ca. 7 × 5 mm. Petals ca. 6.3 × 5 mm; lip lateral lobes insignificant, triangular with broad base, less than 1 mm high, ca. 1.5 mm wide at base; mid-lobe very fat, with 2 small lobes turned backward; spur sigmoid, apex turned backward toward ovary. Column very short, tip of rostellum hidden in opening of sac.

Epiphytic in evergreen forests; ca. 1400 m. Yunnan (Yingjiang) [Thailand].

