

Nepenthes mirabilis var. *globosa* M. Catal. var. nov.

Differt a typo characteribus sequentibus: ascidia inferiora rotunda ad ovata, plerumque rubra, ascidia superiora infundibuliformia ad obovata; pars superior peristomii ascidiorum superiorum inferiorumque producta in collum brevem (1 cm longum) crestamque brevem (1.5 cm longam) varam; alae ascidiorum inferiorum 2-5 cm magnitudinis, plerumque incurvae; constrictio ascidiorum superiorum inferiorumque in dimidio superiore ascidiorum vel deficiens.

Holotype: Khamart 10932 (PSU), Thailand, province of Trang, 1995.

Lower pitchers round to oval, usually red; upper pitchers infundibular to obovate; top of the peristome of upper and lower pitchers ending with a short (1 cm) neck and a short (1.5 cm) crest pointing outwards; wings of lower pitchers 2-5 cm large, usually curling inwards; pitcher hip in the upper half of the pitcher or absent.

Distribution: Southern Thailand, provinces of Trang and Phang-nga, in sandy soil, on open savannahs and grasslands, at sea level.

Specimens examined: Khamart 10932 (PSU), Thailand, province of Trang, 1995; Hamilton & Congdon 71378 (BKF), Thailand, Kao Chong Park, 1979.

This variety is immediately recognizable by the round to oval shape of the pitcher body, which is usually wholly red, and by the prominent neck and crest at the top of the peristome. The peristome is usually green or red, but is always darker on the inner side. Other features are characteristic of *N. mirabilis* var. *globosa* and very rare or absent in *N. mirabilis* var. *mirabilis*: very large and usually curling wings in the lower pitchers, and often even in the upper pitchers (reduced in *N. mirabilis* var. *mirabilis*); the tendrils and the base of the lower pitchers are red even when the pitcher is still developing, even in the rare case of greenish adult pitchers (in *N. mirabilis* var. *mirabilis* they are green); the pitcher hip is either absent or is located in the upper half of the pitcher, both in the lower and upper pitchers (in *N. mirabilis* var. *mirabilis* the hip is in the lower third to lower fourth in the lower pitchers, and at or below the pitcher mid-point in the upper pitchers); the upper pitchers are infundibular to obovate (in *N. mirabilis* var. *mirabilis* they are tubulose); the glands under the lid are nearly absent along the midline (usually present in *N. mirabilis* var. *mirabilis*); the presence of a very short appendage at the apex of the lid's lower surface (usually absent in *N. mirabilis* var. *mirabilis*).

Thanks to Jan Schlauer for the Latin translation and to Charles Clarke for reviewing the description.

On the next page: 1. Lid's underside, 2. Peristome column, 3. Stem showing leaf attachment, 4. Male inflorescence, 5. Leaf showing leaf tip.