

*Nepenthes thorelii* H. Lec.

*Planta paludosa in silvestris. Caulis tere, 6-12 decim. altus, 5-6 mm crassus, glaber. Folia 12-20 cm. longa, submembranacea, sessilia vel subpetiolata, semi-amplexicaulia, ad 5-15 mm., decurrentia, petiolis alatis, lanceolata, apice acuta, in cirrum attenuata, glabra; nervi longitudinales in paria 3-4 dispositi, obscuri, omnes e basi folii v. Par intimum e triente inferioris costae oriundi, par intimum 7 mm., par secundum 9 mm., par exterius 10-10,5 mm. a costa remotum; nervi transversi valde obscuri, oblique ascendentes; cirrus 7-15 cm. longus, versus basin ascidii leviter ampliatus, glaber. Ascidia 5-7 cm. longa, 2,5-4 cm. lata, juventute ferrugineo-pubescentia, demum glabra, valde reticulato-nervosa, dimorpha; inferiora cylindrica, minima, gradatim in cirrum attenuata; superiora ampulliforma; alae ventrales ciliatae; peristomium cylindricum, 4-6mm. latum, in collum valde elongatum, apud ascidia inferiora minimum, crebre striatum; operculum 1,8-3,5 cm. diametro, emarginatum, cordato-orbiculare, extus +- pubescens, intus glandulis multis immersis, perithecioides, dispersis obsitum; calcar 3-4 mm. longum vel nullum; ascidium intus ad trientem v. dimidium superius opacum, breve angustatum, inferne nitidum, glandulosum, et longe attenuatum; glandulae profunde immersae. Inflorescentia male: 12-15 cm. longa, ferrugineo-villosa; pedunculus villosi. Flores 7-8 mm. diametro. Sepala ovalia extus et ad marginem intus tomentosa, intus glandulis multis parvis obsita. Columna staminea sepala aequans, basi villosa. Pedunculus usque 60 cm. longus; racemus laxiflorus. Ovarium dense sericeo-pubescentia, quadratum; stigma sessile, 4-lobum, medio depressum. Capsula 1-5 cm. longa, sparse albido vel brunneo-puberula, demum brunneo-nitida, lobis stigmaticis triangulis depressis. Semina 4,5 mm. longa.*

This species is close to *N. vieillardii* Hook. f.; it can be distinguished from the latter by the leaves venation which is clearly less pronounced, by the less abundant inflorescences, by the male and female inflorescence peduncula which are much longer, by the staminal column which is hairy in its lower third. It has been collected by Doctor Thorel in Ti-Tinh (Cochinchine) n°1032, where it can be found in the forest marshes, on slopes or amidst other grasses; it flowers in June.

Cochinchine: (Germain) (Dr Harmand and Godefroy); Ha-tien (Pierre); Guia-Toan; Lo-thieu; marshes of the surroundings of Ti-Tinh, n° 1032 (Dr Thorel).

Cambodia: ad montem Pursat, n° 344 (Godefroy).

76. *Nepenthes thorelii* Lecomte.

(Jebb, M. & M. Cheek 1997. A Skeletal Revision of *Nepenthes*. Blumea 42: 1-106)

*Nepenthes thorelii* Lecomte, Not. Syst. 1, 2 (1909) 63. – Type: Thorel 1032 (lecto, designated here, P; iso P, BO), Vietnam, Guia-Toan, Lo-thieu, Ti-tinh.

Terrestrial shrub with large perennial rootstock producing annual shoots in the wet season. Rootstock irregularly branched to 2 cm thick. Stem erect, to 40 cm high, terete, 0.4-0.8 cm in diameter. Leaves linear lanceolate to narrowly obovate; 12-26 x 1.8-3 cm; apex acute to acuminate; base amplexicaul inserted at an acute angle, and decurrent to stem for 1-2.5 cm, ultimately rounded, these basal wings almost meeting on opposite side of stem; longitudinal veins 2-4 on each side of midrib, arising from along the midrib; pennate nerves numerous curving towards the apex. Lower pitchers ovoid; to 11.5 x 4.5 cm; wings broad, 5-8 mm, with fringe elements 2-5 mm, c. 2 mm apart; the mouth ovate-triangular, oblique, concave; peristome rounded at front, 2-4 mm across, towards lid to 7 mm across, ribs 0.25-0.4 mm apart, the inner margin with rounded teeth 0.2-0.5 mm long; spur simple, 2-4 mm; lid ovate to rounded, 2-3.5 x 2-2.8 cm, the glands prominently lipped, dense and numerous near base of midline, 0.3-0.7 mm across there, c. 0.15 mm across towards margin and not so dense. Upper pitcher borne on uncoiled tendril; obovate, narrowed towards mouth; to 12.5 x 4.5 cm; wings narrow, 1-1.5 mm broad, with very sparse (3-7 mm apart), acuminate fringe elements 1-1.5 mm long; mouth oblique, concave; peristome rounded, 3-5 mm across, outer margin regularly sinuate; lid as in lower pitcher. Inflorescence a raceme; 8-18 cm long; borne on a tall erect rachis 50-70 cm long; partial peduncles 1-flowered pedicels 3-6 mm long, with or without a short bract. Indumentum of simple or branched hairs 0.3-0.4 mm long. Colour of pitchers light green with reddish markings, lid reddish, indumentum white.

Distribution – Vietnam.

Ecology – Seasonally dry savannah grassland; sea level to 200 m.

Notes – 1. The male specimen at Paris, with lower pitchers, is selected as the lectotype. The Paris isotype is a female plant with upper pitchers.

2. There are problems with the delimitation of this species, *N. anamensis* and *N. smilesii* (see Little Known Taxa). All three species share narrow linear leaves with clasping leaf bases. The limits of variation of these two species is not yet understood, and *N. anamensis* may occupy similar habitats to *N. thorelii*. *Nepenthes thorelii* appears to be a plant of seasonally dry grassland, surviving as a dormant rootstock during the dry season when fires burn out the above ground vegetation. Besides its perennating habit, *N. thorelii* is characterised by the non-coiling tendrils of the upper pitchers, and its tall inflorescence, which rises over a metre above the ground.

Collection – Vietnam. Guia-Toan, Lo-thieu, Ti-tinh, Thorel 1032 (Type).