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*Dendrobium vocongii* SCHETTLER & PHAM

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**Summary:** A new species of the genus *Dendrobium* Vietnam is described as *Dendrobium congii*.**Keywords:** Vietnam, *Dendrobium congii*.

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# A new species of *Dendrobium* BLUME from Vietnam

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**Abstract:** A new species of *Dendrobium* has been discovered in a collection from Kon Ka Kinh, Vietnam. Its habit was similar to *Dendrobium fuerstenbergianum*, however upon blooming those plants proved to be a very different species, related to *Dendrobium wattii* RCHB.F. We therefore decided to describe *Dendrobium vocongii* sp.nov. SCHETTLER & PHAM as a new species. The name honors its discovered, Mr. Vo Van CONG of Kontum.

*Dendrobium vocongii* sp. nov.  
SCHETTLER and PHAM

**Type:** Cultivated in Kontum by Mr. Vo Van CONG, original collector, and bloomed in March 2016 at his nursery. Holotype Pham 3/2016 VNP16301, Kon Ka Kinh, Vietnam

**Plant description:**

**Growth habit:** plant upright, sympodial, epiphytic, occasionally lithophytic, roots growing in live epiphytic fern roots. **Pseudobulbs:** clustered, fusiform to ovate, to 15 cm long by 1.3 cm in diameter, bearing leaves that last for several years. **Leaves:** obovate to lanceolate, from 3 to 6 cm long, coriaceous, typical of the section *Formosae* of *Dendrobium*. **Inflorescences:** appear both on the old and the emerging new growth, very short peduncle of 5 mm–1 cm, bearing 1–4 flowers of 3 to 5 cm **Flower color:** completely white with the exception of barely visible orange stripes on labellum. **Dorsal sepal:** lanceolate, 2 cm length x 0.8 cm width. **Petals:** obovate to aristate, 2.5 cm length x 1.7 cm width. **Lateral sepals:** attached to the column base, partially fused, 2 cm long x 1.8 cm wide. **Labellum** three lobed, its

obovate lateral parts are wider than the downwards curving median part. The lateral parts have a distinctive faint orange horizontal striping, barely visible, but present on the type specimen and all the others from the same collection. The base of the lip color varies from pure white to yellow, with the orange stripes being present. The median part bears 2 long lammellae. The tip of the median part is obtuse denticulated. The two sides and median part of the lip when flattened have a similar length, of 3 cm, and median width of 0.8 mm

**Comparison:** That species bears a passing resemblance with *Dendrobium wattii*, which has an orange lip throat and obvious callii. The median part of the lip is much longer than the side parts, which makes it immediately different. *Dendrobium infundibulum* has been considered as well, but the

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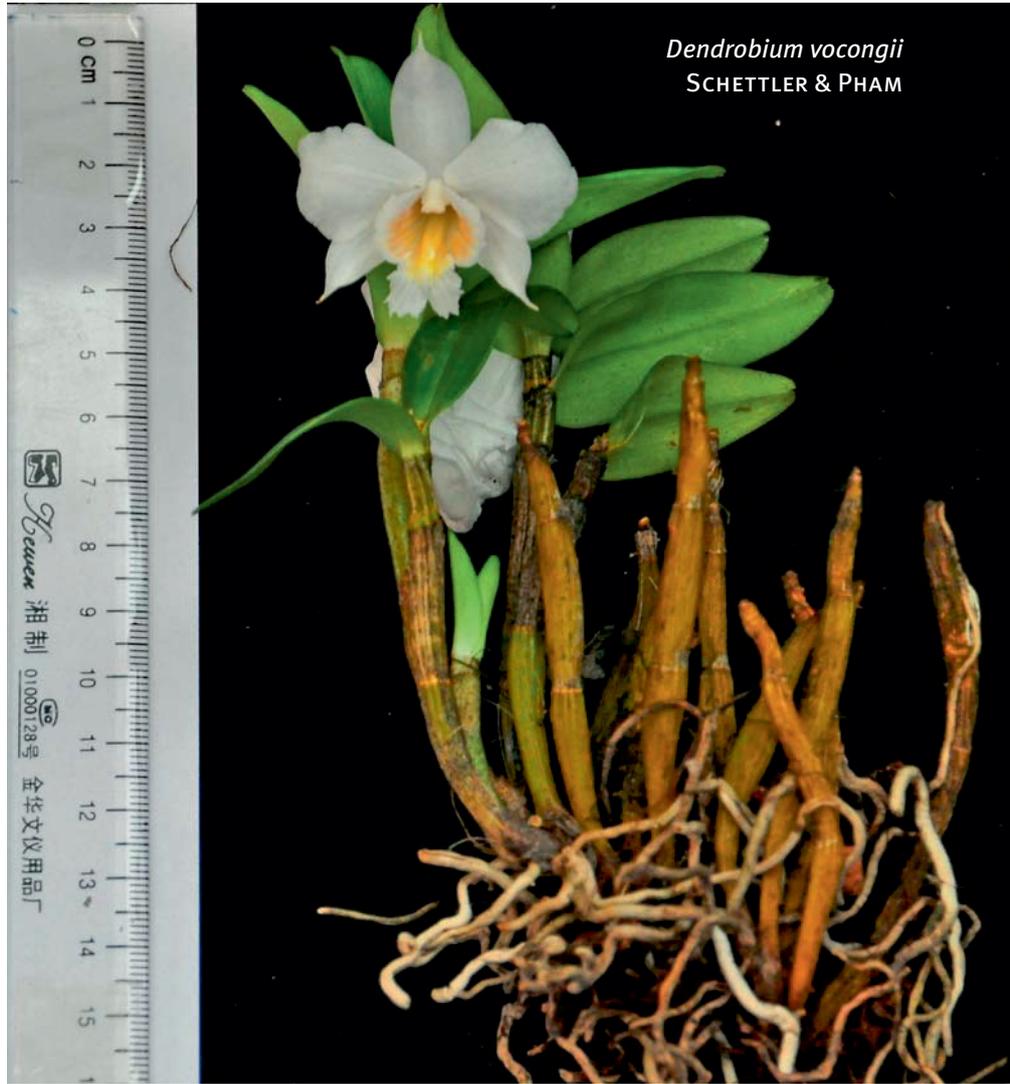


median part of the lip is wider than its sides, which makes it extremely different. Both those species have broadly a similar flower color, but are clearly different.

**Etymology:** Named after Mr. Vo Van CONG of Kontum, discoverer of the present species in the wild.

**Habitat:** Kon Ka Kinh, Vietnam, at an altitude of about 1,000m. It grows on epiphytic fern roots.

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