

Notes and New Records of African Plants

by

Various Authors

AMARYLLIDACEAE

Cyrtanthus eucallus R. A. Dyer, sp. nov., *C. sanguineo* (Lindl.) Walp. affinis, sed perianthio parviore tubo et filamentis brevioribus differt.

Bulbus 2.5–3.5 cm diam., in collum ad 10 cm longum contractus. *Folia* 2–4, ad 50 cm longa, supra medium 2–3 cm lata, coetanea, dorsaliter carinata. *Scapus* c. 30 cm altus, 1–6-florus; bracteae 4–6 cm longae, 1 cm latae; pedicelli 1.5–4 cm longi. *Corolla* rubra, 4.5–5.5 cm longa, vix ad infra medium divisa; tubus 2–2.5 cm longus, supra infundibuliformis; lobi 2.5–3 cm longi, patentes, 1.2–1.3 cm lati. *Stamina* 2-seriata, filamentis 4–5 mm longis.

TRANSVAAL.—Barberton: Aurora Mine, in wooded kloof in moist loose soil, Ising & McNeil 31a in PRE 29282, holotype; Louws Creek, Hall 2 in PRE 29283.

Bulb 2.5–3.5 cm diam. contracted into a neck up to about 10 cm long, covered by a dark brown tunic. *Leaves* 2, sometimes 3 or 4 to a bulb, contemporary with the inflorescence, up to 50 cm long and 2–3 cm broad above the middle, tapering to base and apex, dark green, somewhat glossy, prominently keeled down back. *Scape* solid towards base and with narrow cavity above, up to about 30 cm tall, 5 mm diam., 1–6-flowered; bracts 2, boat-shaped 4–6 cm long, suberect or spreading. *Perianth* red, lighter within throat, 4.5–5.5 cm long; tube 2–2.5 cm long, slender for 1 cm and then gradually expanded to about 2 cm at mouth; lobes elliptic-oblong, 2.5–3 cm long, 1–1.3 cm broad, spreading. *Stamens* in 2 series, inserted within the throat of the tube, those opposite the outer lobes inserted lower in the tube and with slightly shorter filaments; filaments 4 and 5 mm long respectively; anthers dorsifixed and divided from the base to the point of attachment.

Some specimens of *Cyrtanthus sanguineus* (Lindl.) Walp., in the National Herbarium, Pretoria, from the eastern Cape show a strong likeness to our plant in the luxuriant leaves and 3–4-flowered scape. The flowers are, however, larger, with a longer tube and the filaments are longer with the anthers exerted from the throat in *C. sanguineus*. These differences appear to justify species-status for *C. eucallus*, which has not been recorded from outside the Barberton district.

The first specimen submitted to the National Herbarium for identification was cultivated and brought by Mr. J. P. Hall of Johannesburg in 1960 and it was only after further collections were made by Dr. G. Ising of Sweden and Mr. G. McNeil of Ofcalaco, that it was decided to publish the new name and description. Mr. E. T. E. (Tom) Andrews of Barberton, who has known of the plant for many years, must be commended for his successful efforts to protect the natural habitat of the species from vandalism. The name chosen for the species refers to its natural beauty, a feature of most of the other species of *Cyrtanthus*.

Dr. Ising has for some years carried out cytological and genetical research on the genus *Cyrtanthus* and his journeys in South Africa in 1962–63 with Mr. McNeil were made with the specific object of recording and collecting more material in the wild state.

R. A. DYER