

## FABACEAE

A NEW SPECIES OF *COELIDIUM* (LIPARIEAE)

Of the twenty known species of the genus *Coelidium* Vog. ex Walp., seventeen have white, pink or purple flowers and only three are yellow-flowered (Granby 1980, 1987). A new species with ivory-yellow flowers was discovered recently.

*Coelidium vlokii* Schutte & Van Wyk, sp. nov., *C. obtusilobo* Granby valde affinis sed habitu valde maiore robustiore, floribus maioribus cremeis (in *C. obtusilobo violaceis*), apice carinae (rostro) purpureo atque lobis calycis acutis (non obtusis), glabris (in *C. obtusilobo sericeis*) differt.

TYPE. —Cape Province, 3323 (Uniondale): Uniondale commonage, S aspect of Fortkoppie, (–CA), 19-09-1990, Schutte 665 (PRE, holo.; BOL, JRAU, K, NBG, iso.).

Virgate multistemmed shrublet up to 1.0 × 0.8 m, sprouting from a woody rootstock. Branches slender, densely leafy; sericeous when young, glabrescent. Leaves alternate, sessile, simple, erect, linear to narrowly oblong with strongly involute margins, non-twisting, (2–)3(–7) mm long, up to 1 mm wide; apex acute; densely sericeous adaxially, glabrescent abaxially. Stipules minute. Inflorescences bifloral, decussate, axillary, aggregated in terminal clusters of up to 8 flowers. Bracts lanceolate, 1.5–2.0 × 1.0 mm, glabrescent; margins thinly silky. Bracteoles absent. Flowers sessile, 7–9 mm long, ivory-yellow with purple keel tip; glabrous. Calyx 5 mm long, greenish-

yellow, tubular with prominent basal hypanthium; upper two lobes fused higher up, glabrous; lateral and lower sinuses of equal depth; lobes triangular, acute, margins ciliate. Standard 7.0–8.5 × 5.0 mm; lamina widely obovate; apex emarginate; base somewhat indented; claw ± 2 mm long. Wing petals slightly longer than keel, 7 × 2 mm; lamina oblong to narrowly oblong, with distal part imbricate, pocketed; sculpturing upper central, 2 rows of intercostal lunae; claw ± 2 mm long. Keel petals 6.5 mm long, lamina half oblong-elliptic, auriculate, distinctly pocketed; apex obtuse; claw ± 2.5 mm long. Stamens 6.5 mm long; monadelphous, 4 short and 6 long filaments fused for ± 1/3 the length; anthers varying in size, alternately dorsifixed and sub-basifixed. Pistil ± 7 mm long, sessile; style slender, slightly upcurved, glabrous; ovary uni-ovulate, densely sericeous. Young pods 8–9 × 4 mm, ovate, sericeous. Figure 5.

Judged by morphological similarities, the closest relative of *C. vlokii* is probably *C. obtusilobum* Granby, a species known only from the type specimen collected on the Kamiesberg in Namaqualand. *C. vlokii* differs from the latter in the larger and more robust habit, the larger cream-yellow flowers with only the tip of the keel purple (flowers uniformly violet in *C. obtusilobum*), the glabrous calyx (sericeous in *C. obtusilobum*) and the acute calyx lobes (distinctly obtuse in *C. obtusilobum*).

*C. vlokii* is known only from the type locality at Uniondale in the southern Cape Province (Figure 6), where it

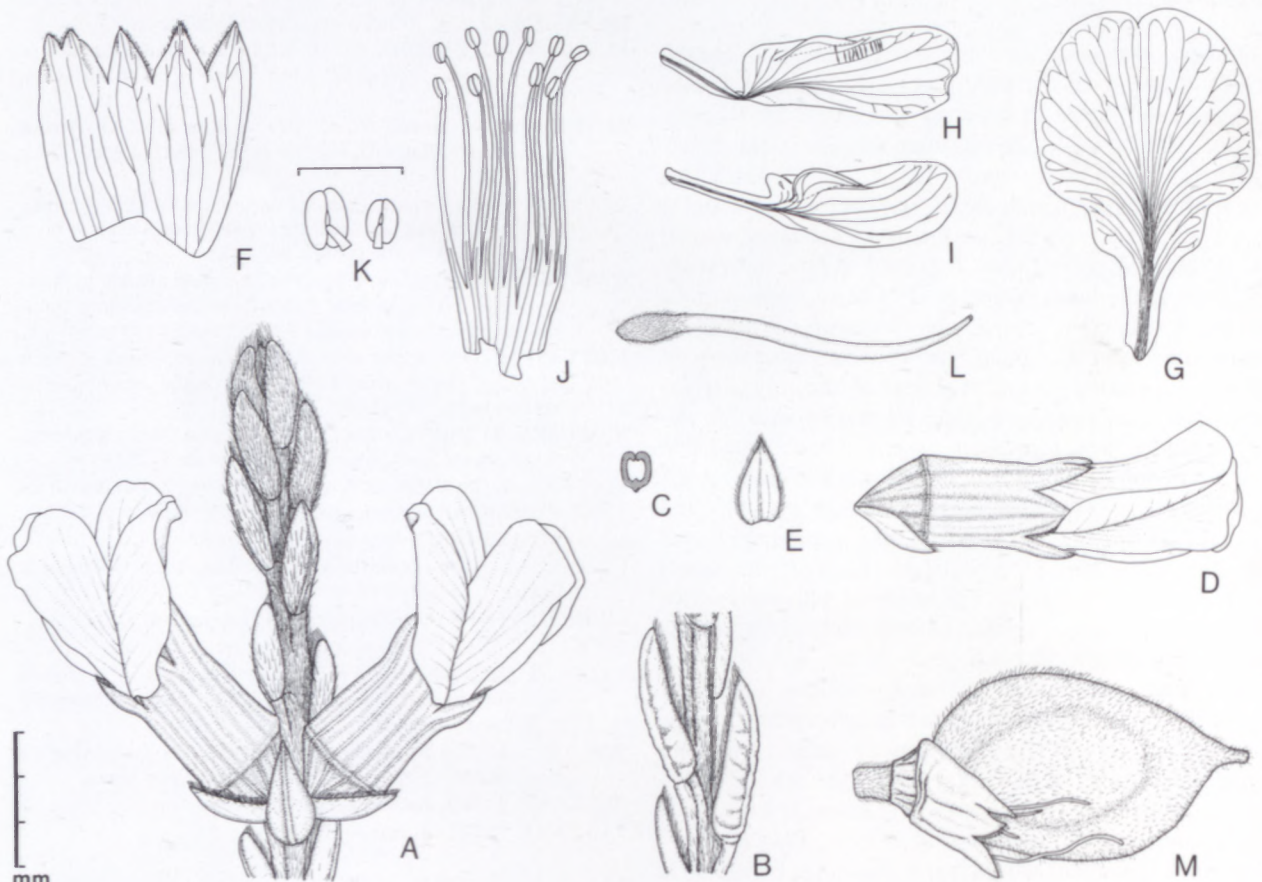


FIGURE 5.—*Coelidium vlokii*. A, flowering twig with young leaves, showing sessile flowers; B, mature leaves; C, leaf in transverse section, showing involute margins; D, flower in lateral view; E, bract; F, calyx opened out with upper lobes to the left; G, standard petal; H, wing petal; I, keel petal; J, stamens; K, anthers; L, pistil; M, young pod in lateral view (note that a short pedicel develops in the fruiting stage).

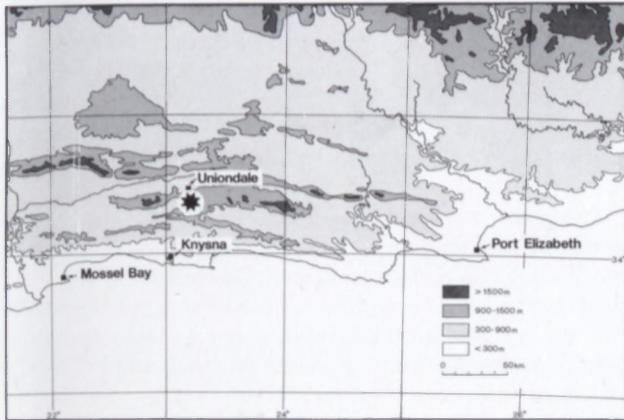


FIGURE 6.—The known geographical distribution of *Coelidium vlokii*.

is locally common in *Elytropappus-Erioccephalus* veld on clayish soil.

This distinct new species is named after Mr J.H.J. Vlok (Cape Department of Nature and Environmental Conser-

vation), who has collected several rare and unknown legumes in recent years.

CAPE.—3323 (Uniondale): Uniondale commonage, S aspect of Fortkoppie, (–CA), 19-09-1990, *Schutte 665* (PRE, holo.; BOL, JRAU, K, NBG, iso.), 19-09-1990, *Schutte 661–664* (JRAU), 21-09-1991, *Schutte 729* (JRAU); 1 km S of Uniondale, along road in poort, (–CA), 01-11-1990, *Van Tonder 79* (JRAU).

#### REFERENCES

- GRANBY, R. 1980. A revision of the genus *Coelidium* (Liparidae–Fabaceae). *Opera Botanica* 54: 1–47.
- GRANBY, R. 1987. *Coelidium flavum*, a new species of Fabaceae–Liparidae from the Cape Province. *Nordic Journal of Botany* 7: 51, 52.

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