

Gastrochilus Pechei

Prelims - Current events of National and International Importance| Bio-diversity.

Why in News?

Recently, researchers recorded a new orchid plant in Vijohnagar, Arunachal Pradesh.

- The *Gastrochilus pechei* was known to bloom only in **Myanmar**.
- It was founded at an altitude of 1,200 meters in Vijohnagar, one of the country's remotest administrative circles bordering Myanmar.
- **Genus** - Gastrochilus.
 - It is a small genus first recorded in 1825.
 - It is a monopodial orchid genus comprising 77 species widely distributed in tropical, subtropical, and temperate Asia.
- **Gastrochilus in India** - 22 species of the Gastrochilus genus had been recorded from India; of these, 15 are from Arunachal Pradesh.
- **Scientific Name** - Gastrochilus pechei.
- **Common name** - Peche's Lip Orchid.
- **Family** - Orchidaceae.
- **Characteristics** - It is a small, epiphytic orchid with a single, leathery leaf and a short stem.
- It has many leathery, flat leaves that sheathe at the base, with an unequally bilobed apex.
- The inflorescence is lateral, relatively short, sub-umbellate, and bears a few to many flowers.
- Sepals and petals are free, similar, and spreading.
- The lip features a subglobose, saccate hypochile; the epichile is fan shaped with fimbriate margins.
- The column is short and thick, 2 pollinia are subglobose.



- **Habitat** - It flowers in September-October and thrives in moist, evergreen rainforest on small trees near riverbanks.

References

1. [The Hindu| New orchid recorded in Arunachal Pradesh.](#)
2. [Lankesteriana| Gastrochilus pechei.](#)



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