



Further detail on *Prasophyllum laticallosum* (Orchidaceae), and a new combination

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Abstract

A new combination, *Paraprasophyllum laticallosum* (G.P. Phillips & H.C. Zimmer) D.L. Jones, is provided for the recently described *Prasophyllum laticallosum* G.P. Phillips & H.C. Zimmer to reflect the species' membership of *Paraprasophyllum* M.A. Clem. & D.L. Jones. Additional diagnostic features for *P. laticallosum* are provided, and the species is critically compared with *P. solstitium*, with which it may be closely related. A minor correction on the flowering time of *Paraspraphyllum keltonii* is also made.

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Introduction

Prasophyllum R.Br. *sens. lat.* (Orchidaceae) is a large, diverse genus of terrestrial orchids distributed across Australia and New Zealand (Bernhardt and Rowe 2026). Following molecular analyses, the segregate genus *Paraprasophyllum* M.A. Clem. & D.L. Jones was proposed for a lineage comprising the majority of species previously included in *Prasophyllum sens. lat.* to resolve the recovered paraphyly of *Prasophyllum* with respect to *Corunastylis* Fitzg. (Clements and Jones 2019). *Parapras-*

ophyllum has not been universally accepted, and is currently considered a synonym of *Prasophyllum* by the Australian Plant Census (APC; <https://biodiversity.org.au/nsl/services/rest/name/apni/51341750/api/apni-format>, accessed 9 February 2026). However, given the strong support for the paraphyly of *Prasophyllum* when broadly circumscribed but not including *Corunastylis* or *Genoplesium* R.Br, various authors, including in orchid publications and field guides such as Jones (2024) and Hayashi and Egan (2024), continue to advocate for the recognition of *Paraprasophyllum*, as

this enables the morphologically distinctive *Corunastylis* to be maintained as a separate genus.

Prasophyllum laticallosum G.P.Phillips & H.C.Zimmer, a perennial terrestrial orchid endemic to a small area in Kosciusko National Park, NSW, was described by Phillips *et al.* (2026). The species is morphologically and ecologically similar to other species placed within *Paraprasophyllum* by Clements and Jones (2019), namely *Paraprasophyllum solstitium* (D.L.Jones) M.A.Clem. & D.L.Jones, *P. keltonii* (D.L.Jones) M.A.Clem. & D.L.Jones and *P. canaliculatum* (D.L.Jones) M.A.Clem. & D.L.Jones, and these species are also likely to be phylogenetically related. Therefore, the combination *Paraprasophyllum laticallosum* comb. nov. is made here to reflect these relationships.

Taxonomy

Paraprasophyllum laticallosum

Paraprasophyllum laticallosum (G.P.Phillips & H.C.Zimmer) D.L.Jones, comb. nov. Basionym: *Prasophyllum laticallosum* G.P.Phillips & H.C.Zimmer, *Australian Journal of Taxonomy* 108: 2–8 (2026).

Diagnostic features: Further to the comparisons described by Phillips *et al.* (2026), *Paraprasophyllum laticallosum* is also distinguished from *P. solstitium* (Table 1, Figure 1). While *P. laticallosum* was initially recognised as morphologically similar to *P. keltonii* and *P. canaliculatum*, both of which co-occur with *P. laticallosum* on the Southern Tablelands of NSW (Phillips *et al.* 2026), morphological similarities to *P. solstitium*, a species from the Northern Tablelands, were not recognised at the time. Renner (2026) subsequently recognised the morphological similarities between *P. laticallosum* and *P. solstitium*, in particular the labellum shape and the broad callus

with a hastate basal elaboration shared by these species (Figure 2).

Paraprasophyllum laticallosum differs from *P. solstitium* by having a shorter dorsal sepal at 7–8 mm long (c.f. 8.5–10 mm in *P. solstitium*) and column wings that are shorter than the stigmatic plate and rostellum in profile view (c.f. the same length as the stigmatic plate and rostellum in *P. solstitium*). The two species also have highly disjunct distributions and should not be confused in the field, with *P. laticallosum* currently only known from a small area of the Southern Tablelands of NSW (Phillips *et al.* 2026), and *P. solstitium* currently only known from the New England Tableland in northern NSW (Copeland and Backhouse 2022).

Note: the flowering time for *P. keltonii* was erroneously reported as late Jan to early March by Phillips *et al.* (2026); the correct flowering time, Dec-Jan, is given here.

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Figure 1. Comparison of (L-R): *Paraprasophyllum laticallosum* from the type locality at Long Plain, New South Wales; *P. keltonii* from the type locality at McPhersons Plain east of Tumbarumba, New South Wales; *P. canaliculatum* from the type locality on the Countegany - Wadbilliga Road east of Cooma, New South Wales; and *P. solstitium* from the type locality east of Guyra, New South Wales. Credit: *P. laticallosum*, *P. keltonii*, *P. canaliculatum* all G. Phillips, *P. solstitium* L. Copeland.

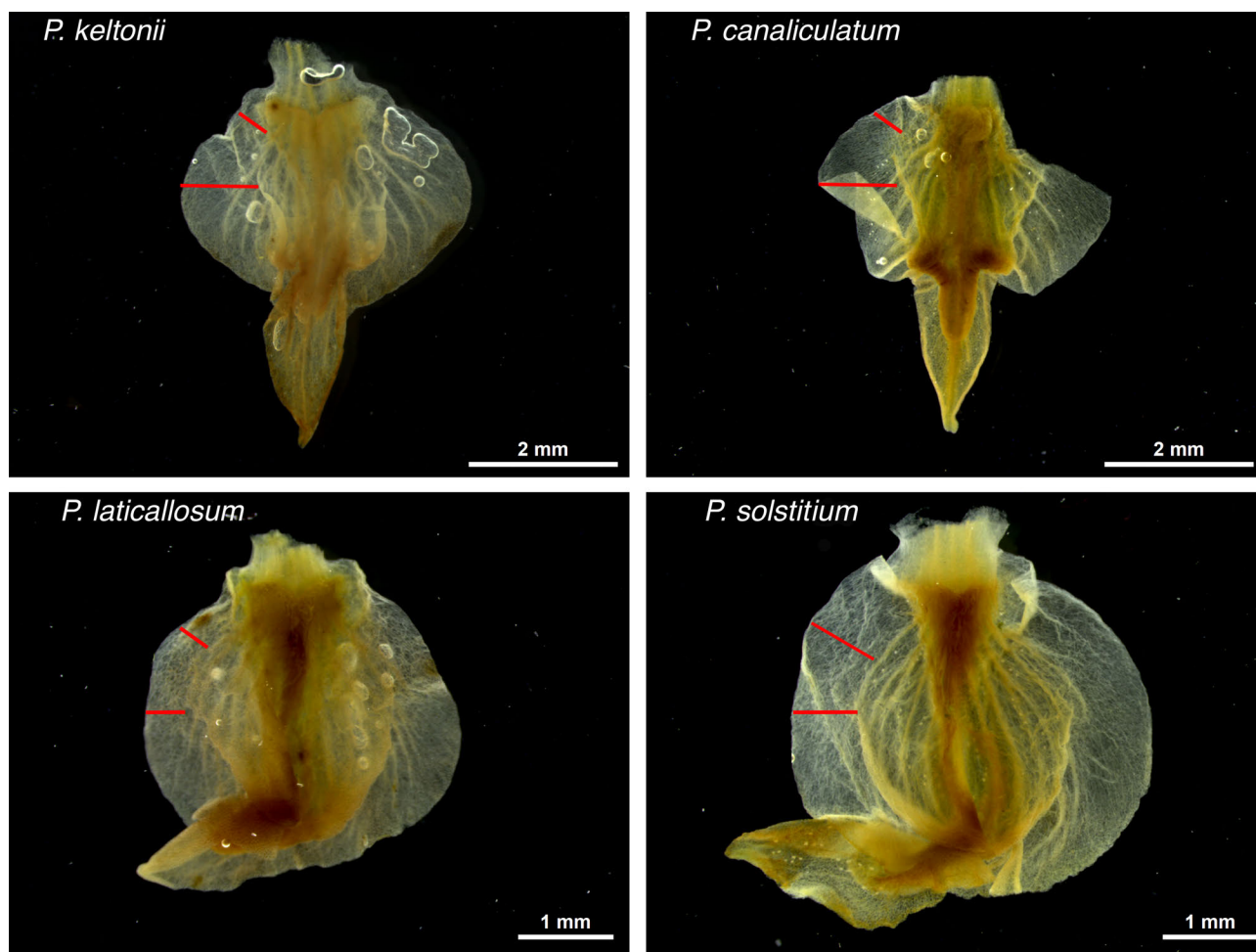


Figure 2. Flattened labella allowing comparison of labellum and callus morphology. The relative distance between midlobe and callus margin is indicated in red. The hastate basal elaboration of the callus, a feature shared by *Paraprasophyllum laticallosum* and *P. solstitium* but lacking in *P. keltonii* and *P. canaliculatum*, is most prominently shown in *P. laticallosum* here. *P. keltonii* (NSW1101528); *P. canaliculatum* (NSW1101501); *P. laticallosum* (NSW1101672); *P. solstitium* (NSW942299).

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Table 1. Comparison of *Paraprasophyllum laticallosum* and similar species; see Figures 2 and 3 for further detail.

	<i>P. laticallosum</i>	<i>P. keltonii</i>	<i>P. canaliculatum</i>	<i>P. solstitium</i>
Inflorescence length (mm)	70—150	50—90	50—110	70-150
Dorsal sepal length (mm)	7—8	7.5—8.5	7.5—9	8.5—10
Dorsal sepal position/arrangement	Shallowly decurved to decurved	Deflexed	Deflexed	Decurved
Lateral sepal arrangement	Widely spreading	Narrowly spreading	Erect or recurved	Divergent
Petal width (mm)	1.5—2.5	1.3	2	1.8
Labellum lamina shape	Broadly ovate	Ovate-lanceolate	Ovate-elliptical	Ovate-lanceolate
Labellum venation	Obvious dark venation on the margins	Lacking obvious venation	Subtle venation	Subtle venation.
Labellum position	Prominently recurved to reflexed; often projected through the lateral sepals	Porrect to obliquely erect labellum; rarely projecting through the lateral sepals	Porrect to obliquely erect labellum; does not project through the lateral sepals	Porrect in the proximal half, recurved in the middle, distal half erect or shallowly recurved
Labellum callus size (mm)	4—5 x 3	3 x 3	4 x 3	5 x 3
Labellum callus apex	Blunt, knob-like	Tailed	Tailed	Obtuse-slightly acute
Labellum channel	Broad, deep	Narrow, deep	Broad, deep	Narrow
Basal elaboration of the callus	Hastate, with longitudinal and transverse axes, and is furrowed but not cleft at the midline	Rounded, linear, longitudinally orientated, and cleft into two identical lobes at the labellum midline	Rounded, linear, longitudinally orientated, and cleft into two identical lobes at the labellum midline	Hastate, with longitudinal and transverse axes, and is furrowed but not cleft at the midline
Column wings	Apex rounded, usually shorter than the stigmatic plate and rostellum	Obtuse apex, same length or longer than the stigmatic plate and rostellum	Obtuse apex, same length or longer than the stigmatic plate and rostellum	Apex rounded, same length as the stigmatic plate and rostellum
Flowering time	Jan-Feb	Dec-Jan*	Late Dec-Jan	Dec-Jan



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