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Cover Photo: Chiloschista pulchella Aver. & K.S. Nguyen, miniature leafless ornamental orchid species new for science was recently discovered in Hin Nam No reserve situated the central Laos near the border with Vietnam. This remarkable novelty is identified as a local endemic of the northern part of the protected area. The discovered plant strikingly differs from all known congeners in the thin lip, median lip lobe dissected into two small subulate lobules, as well as in large purple blotches on the lip side-lobes never found in other species of this genus. New species is an indigenous element of the primary xerophytic forests and scrub found in the extra dry habitats on tops of highly eroded limestone hills typical for the central Laos. The newly discovered plant represents high interest for cultivation as an ornamental plant and needs protection in its natural habitats.

Taiwania — International Journal of Life Sciences

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