

## A note on *Eulophia explanata* Lindl.: a terrestrial orchid of Jamtara Forest Division, Jharkhand & Rourkela Forest Division, Odisha

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Orchids always create magic and enhance our immunity to knowing more and more about their diversity. During the floral assessment in two forest divisions [Jamtara Forest Division (JFD) Jharkhand & Rourkela Forest Division (RFD), Odisha], a unique terrestrial orchid was observed having fruits only. It was looking like a *Geodorum* or *Eulophia* species. Very good populations were observed in both divisions at the Naala Range and the Bisra Range of the JFD and RFD, respectively. Rhizomes were collected and kept with dates and locations separately.



Figure 1: Flower parts, inflorescence, and rhizome of *Eulophia explanata* Lindl.

During the month of April 2024, sudden flowers were observed, and after a lot of discussions (with Dr. Rajeev Kumar Singh, Botanical Survey of India) and critical morphological observations, they were identified as *Eulophia explanta* Lindl. (Figure 1). After a literature survey, it was noticed that it has a low population. Therefore, the propagation using rhizomes and restoration work was started by the team members of the Ambika Prasad Research Foundation (APRF), Odisha, India, and it was noticed that 25 individuals were propagated. Its qualitative phytochemical analysis was carried out using an aqueous extract, and the results revealed that rhizome has diverse secondary metabolites, which could be a potent pharmacological agent.