

657. SAINTPAULIA WATKINSII
Gesneriaceae

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This new species of *Saintpaulia* is close to *S. pusilla* Engl. but differs in having the three lower lobes of the corolla marked with violet-blue and in having more densely hairy leaves. It was found on steep mossy banks in the forest, growing in deep shade. The name commemorates Colin Watkins, joint author of this paper, who has worked to study and preserve *Saintpaulia* in Tanzania and train Tanzanian artists in botanical illustration.

CULTIVATION. This species has not yet been grown in cultivation.

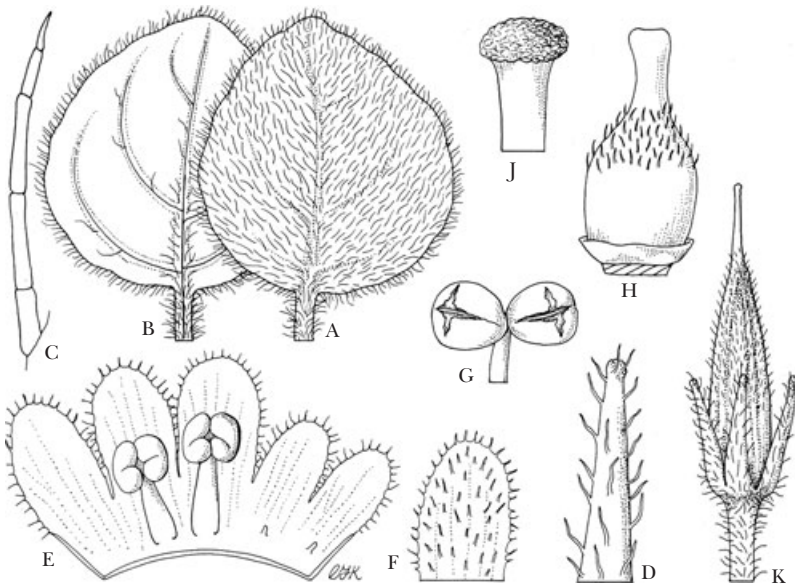


Fig. 1. *Saintpaulia watkinsii*. A, upper leaf surface, $\times 4$; B, lower leaf surface, $\times 4$; C, hair from upper leaf surface, $\times 60$; D, calyx lobe from bud, $\times 20$; E, corolla from bud, $\times 20$; F, corolla lobe, exterior surface, $\times 20$; G, anther from mature flower, $\times 12$; H, gynoecium from bud, $\times 30$; J, stigmatic surface, mature flower $\times 40$; K, developing capsule, $\times 10$. Drawn by Christabel King from *Haston 99*.

Saintpaulia watkinsii Haston, *sp. nov.* Type: Tanzania, Morogoro, Uluguru Mountains, *Haston* 99 collected with *John Mejiassa* (holotype, NHT, isotype, E). *Saintpaulia pusilla* Engl. affinis, a qua lobis tribus inferioribus corollae ad bases violaceo-caeruleo notatis et pilis densioribus foliorum differt.

DESCRIPTION. *Habit* rosulate to creeping, caulescent. *Stems* reddish-green to purple. *Leaves* with petiole 3–12 mm, green, appressed eglandular hairs; *lamina* 10–20 mm, ovate to rounded, margin entire to faintly dentate; upper surface green, secondary veins indistinct, hairs short, appressed, eglandular; lower surface purple, hairs on primary and secondary veins. *Inflorescence* a pair-flowered cyme with usually a single flower-pair present; *peduncle* 10–17 mm long, reddish-green, hairs appressed; *pedicel* 6–10 mm long, green to reddish-green, hairs sparse; paired bracteoles c. 0.5 mm long. *Calyx* 5-lobed, 2 mm long, green, pilose. *Corolla* 5-lobed, twice length of the calyx, with distinct corolla tube; 2 upper lobes white; 3 lower lobes white with violet-blue base. *Stamens* 2, conjoined; filament white, anther yellow; staminodes 3, indistinct. *Style* white, persistent. *Fruit* green when immature, to 8 mm × 1 mm, shortly hairy. *Seeds* not seen.

DISTRIBUTION. Tanzania: Morogoro, Uluguru Mountains, *Haston* 99 collected with *John Mejiassa*. Only known from one locality.

HABITAT. Growing on a damp, mossy, near-vertical slope; 560 m.

CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT. IUCN (2001) DD, but because of the small single populations ‘Critically Endangered’ CR will be recommended.

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Plate 657 *Saintpaulia watkinsii*

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