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[\[Wildlife Conservation\] Precious Red Spot Orchid Appears in Danda Forest Area](#)

[Wildlife Conservation] Precious Red Spot Orchid Appears in Danda Forest Area ([Chinese Version](#))

Udn.com (2010/07/27) The conservation officers of Nantou Forest District Office discovers three plants of CITES-listed red spot orchid, [Ponerorchis tominagai](#), in Danda Forest Area (CITES: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora). District Director of Nantou Forest District Office points out, the discovery is very significant and not easy.

Source: udn.com/ Nantou Forest District Office

*Ponerorchis tominagai* was first discovered by Japanese botanist Ushinosuke MORI (森丑之助) around the Dashueiku Mountain area in 1931, and hence it is also called Dashueiku orchid. Its usual height is between six to twenty-two cm, blooming during July and August. Each plant has two to four buds, with white or light purple petals and red spots on the labellum.

*Ponerorchis tominagai* grows in the mountain grasslands, scree slides or rocky cliffs, at an altitude between 3000-3800 meters. This time, the plants discovered in Dongluan Mountain at the altitude 2850 meters, with a larger number of the blooming flowers than before, indicates the result of the conservation efforts spent in Danda Area during the years.

According to the survey by Forest District in 2008, the number of the plants of *Ponerorchis tominagai* is less than one thousand, and hence the plant is an endangered species. More effort should be spent on its conservation.

Further Information:

[Nantou Forest District Office News 2010/07/26](#) (Chinese)

[Udn.com 2010/07/27](#) (Chinese)

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[National Science Council International Cooperation Sci-Tech Newsbrief](#)  
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