

*Dactylorhiza viridis* (Linn.) R.M. Bateman, Pridgeon & M.W. Chase 1997

Sera sjáldsom / Very rare



[Charlie Kellogg](#) 11y

- This orchid appears to be synonymous with the Grønligt Hjúnagras, Frog Orchid, *Coeloglossum viride* (L.) in many resources.

However one internet reference

([http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora\\_id=1&taxon\\_id=200028594](http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=200028594)) references this distinction, and comments as follows:

"Recent molecular studies, in which nuclear ribosomal DNA internal transcribed spacer (ITS) sequences were analyzed, showed that within the palmate-tuber clade *Coeloglossum* is embedded within a strongly supported, monophyletic *Dactylorhiza* (A. M. Pridgeon et al. 1997); subsequently the monotypic *Coeloglossum* was formally transferred to *Dactylorhiza* (R. M. Bateman et al. 1997). The latter authors note that although *Coeloglossum* differs from *Dactylorhiza* in many morphologic characters, relatively little molecular divergence has occurred. In this treatment we continue to recognize them as separate but closely related genera."

For simplification and until more is known (noting your "?" in the title for this image), I will tag this image the same as your photo of *Coeloglossum viride*, but respecting your knowledge regarding this plant, I acknowledge that we may in fact have two different plants in the two photos.

The following information comes from Wikipedia>:

"The Frog Orchid, or *Coeloglossum viride*, also known as the Long-Bracted Green Orchid and *Dactylorhiza viridis* is a monotypic genus of the family Orchidaceae generally found within the palearctic ecozone throughout the mid to northern United States through Canada, and in the British Isles and parts of Western Europe. It is typically found growing in moist, rich soil in wet meadows, moist or wet deciduous woods and thickets, and is frequently found on steep slopes."

The following information provides a distinctly different description of the common environment of this orchid in the Faroe Islands (**Faroese Flowers** by Dorete Bloch, and translated by Sheila Arnskov). "Occasional, but does occur on nearly all the islands in the drier upper areas of the hagi."



[Marita Gulkleit](#) 11y

Hi Charlie :o)

Thanks for your always very informative and interesting comments.

Additional information: This orchid was originally brought down from a very remote path high in the mountains of Vágur 8 years ago. Several orchids similar to this were growing there.

This orchid certainly gave me some problems, since I have never seen any orchid like this earlier: I noticed immediately, that there were some differences between this orchid and the more common "Grønligt Hjúnagras" *Coeloglossum viride* (L.), which I have seen several times..

First I saw some spots on the tongue, that is normally not present on the "Grønligt Hjúnagras" *Coeloglossum viride* (L.). Also this orchid was much larger and darker than the *Coeloglossum viride* (L.). After searching for some more information's, I sent the photo to a friend in Austria, who knows a lot about flowers - and mainly orchids.

First he sent me the same information's, as you have added above, and after we had discussed the matter more close, he added his opinion, that this orchid could be a hybrid between *Orchis mascula*

(L.) and *Coeloglossum viride* (L.).

It would not be wrong to call this orchid *Coeloglossum viride* (L.), but I think the name, that I have used, specifies, that there is a slight difference between *Coeloglossum viride* (L.) and this form.

I would love to see this orchid in its natural environment, but I guess the area would be to impassable for me.

N.B. I added the ? above, while I was hoping for some reactions of the name, but I will remove it now.

The very best regards,

Marita



[Charlie Kellogg](#) 11y

Hi Marita,

Thank you for your detailed response. Between your comments and mine, it would be quite apparent to any reader that there is something very special and different about this orchid -whether it be a hybrid or very possibly the *Dactylorhiza viridis*. Is it OK with you if I leave the tag as is so that individuals are able to reference the two photos together for noting similarities and any differences?

Best Regards,

Charlie



[Marita Gulklett](#) 11y

Hi Charlie :o)

*Of course it is okay to leave the tag as it is!*

*It could be very interesting to get some additional informations or comments...*

*The very best regards,*

Marita