

## **Provenance for *Hydnophytum* species from Mullins Harbor, Papua New Guinea**

One subgroup of the genus *Hydnophytum* consists of 5 species that have larger elongated leaves than the rest of the genus, ridges running down the stems from the leaf bases and branched inflorescences. The only one of these in widespread cultivation is *Hydnophytum simplex*.

This plant is one of that group of plants, but it is not *H. simplex* because *simplex* is the only one in the group with 4 seeds per fruit and this plant has only 2 seeds per fruit. We can also rule out *H. radicans* because it has yellow or ochre petals while this plant has white petals on the flowers. (The seed count and flower color come from someone who examined the plant in habitat.)

That leaves *Hydnophytum normale*, *kejense* or *albertisii* as the most likely name for this species. A mature plant in cultivation will be required to make the ID.

This plant was growing as a low epiphyte in a thick mangrove forest at sea level. The forest is on the east edge of Mullins Harbor in Orangerie Bay, Milne Bay Province, Papua New Guinea.

First photo of a mature plant in habitat is courtesy of Andreas Wistuba of The Nepenthes Nursery in Germany.

The second photo is the exact plant I will be sending you, sown on December 6, 2016 and growing in a 3-1/4 inch pot.



© Andreas Wistuba



