

Pleurothallis hondurensis *Ames sp. nov.* Rhizoma repens. Caules secundarii approximati vel inter se distantes, elongati, ascendentes, paucivaginati, monophylli. Folium valde coriaceum, anguste lanceolatum, utrinque attenuatum, apice acutum, pedunculis fasciculatis multo longius. Pedunculi fasciculati ex axilla folii orientes, plus minusve octoflori. Bractee inflorescentiae hyalinae, infundibuliformes. Sepala lateralia in laminam lanceolatam valde concavam cohaerentia, apice laminae divisa. Sepalum dorsale lineari-oblongum, conspicue elongatum, trinervium. Petala oblonga, acuta, supra medium plus minusve dilatata, margine paucidentata, apice valde acuta, late purpureo-striata per medium. Labellum carnosum, utrinque prope basim unguis lobulatum, supra unguem valde truncatum, in laminam oblongam acutam trinerviam expansum, nervis subtus prominentibus. Columna elongata, apice obscure fimbriata.

Roots coarsely fibrous, whitish, spreading. Rhizome elongated. Secondary stems 5–12 cm. long, 1–1.5 mm. thick, partly concealed by several tubular sheaths, the uppermost one very much elongated. Leaf coriaceous, 7.5–10 cm. or more long, 1.3–1.5 cm. wide above the middle, narrowly lanceolate, acute, longer than the racemes. Peduncles fasciculate in the axil of the leaf, enclosed at the base by a closely appressed sheath, with the raceme 4–5 cm. long, rather stout, bearing about eight fleshy flowers. Bracts of the raceme 1.5–2 mm. long, scarious, infundibuliform, acute. Pedicel with the ovary about 3 mm. long. Lateral sepals yellowish striped with purple, 9 mm. long, coherent almost to the apex, forming a lanceolate 6-nerved lamina; nerves prominent on the outer surface, the central one of each sepal produced at the tip into a distinct keel. Dorsal sepal 1 cm. long, 1 mm. wide near the middle, oblong, acute, 3-nerved, with the nerves purplish and prominent. Petals 3 mm. long,

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hardly 1 mm. wide, oblong, somewhat dilated above the middle, with the margin inconspicuously paucidentate, acute, with a broad median band of rose-purple. Labellum yellowish, 5 mm. long, 2 mm. wide near the middle, unguiculate, with a small retrorse lobule on each side of the base of the claw; above the claw expanded into an oblong acute lamina which is truncate at the base; lamina fleshy, conspicuously 3-nerved, with the nerves prominent on the under surface. Column 2.5 mm. long, produced into a conspicuous foot.

Pleurothallis hondurensis is apparently a heliophyte, and when exposed to strong sunlight the leaves become suffused with a bronzy purple hue. The flowers vary in coloration, but are normally yellowish, with distinct purplish stripes along the veins of the sepals. The petals are more or less hyaline, with a broad central band of carmine or rose-purple. Although this species was found in several localities it was uncommon.

In habit *P. hondurensis* suggests *P. polystachya* A. Rich. & Gal. *Pleurothallis verecunda* Schltr. is also closely allied, being very similar in habit, but different in the lateral sepals being less coherent and in the fleshier labellum being conspicuously denticulate on each side at base in front of the claw. [Plate 15.]

SPANISH HONDURAS, Lancetilla Farm near Tela, *Ames II.* 204, March 16, 1923. On trees along the Tela River. 350 feet altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 27250.); *Ames II.* 180, March 11, 1923. On tree overhanging rocky bed of Tela River. 300 feet altitude: Cordillera de Mico Quemada near Progreso, on trees overhanging the Rio Pelo, *Ames II.* 233, March 19, 1923. Flowers yellowish with purple stripes. 450 feet altitude: Truxillo, Copete Farm, *Ames II.* 197, March 14, 1923. On branch of small tree in sun, leaves bronzy; *Ames II.* 200, March 14, 1923. Flowers yellow with purple stripe. 150 feet altitude.