

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS

Agrostophyllum Elmeri *Ames sp. nov.* Caules elongati, foliosi, complanati, vaginis foliorum omnino obtecti. Folia oblongo-ligulata, utrinque angustata, coriacea. Inflorescentia capitata, bracteosa. Pedicellus valde trialatus. Ovarium plus minusve trigonum. Sepala lateralia cymbiformia, lanceolata, extus per medium carinata, apice valde incrassata et lateraliter compressa. Sepalum dorsale lanceolatum, apice leviter incrassatum, ecarinatum. Petala anguste lanceolata, acuta, sepalis vix breviora. Labellum panduratum, basi valde concavum, carnosum, margine hypochilii erecta; epichilio orbiculari, septemnervio. Discus prope basim epichilii septo transverso calloso instructus. Columna apice tridentata.

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A tall leafy herb of which only the upper part of a stem has been examined. Stem complanate above, entirely concealed by the sheathing petioles of the leaves. Petioles about 9 cm. long, equitant, conduplicate, about 2 cm. wide when spread out, ascending, persistent, longitudinally nervose, rigid. Leaves 18 cm. long, up to 1.8 cm. wide, jointed to the sheathing petioles, deciduous, ligulate, attenuated at the ends, obliquely ascending. Inflorescence terminal, capitate, sessile in the axil of the uppermost leaf, about 3 cm. long, and 3 cm. in diameter, densely bracteose, many-flowered. Pedicellate ovary about 8 mm. long, triangular in cross-section, 3-winged, tapering gradually upward. Lateral sepals 4 mm. long, 2 mm. wide when spread out, lanceolate, cymbiform, externally carinate along the middle nerve, thickened and laterally compressed at the apex. Dorsal sepal 3 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, lanceolate, acute, concave, ecarinate, hardly thickened at the tip. Petals 3 mm. long, 1 mm. wide below the middle, narrowly lanceolate, acute, membranaceous. Labellum 4 mm. long, 2 mm. wide across the orbicular obtuse epichile; hypochile 1.5 mm. long, about 2 mm. wide, fleshy, ventricose, rounded beneath, closed in front by a transverse erect septum. Column 2.5 mm. long, 1 mm. wide, tridentate at the summit.

In habit resembling *Agrostophyllum philippinense* Ames, from which it differs in the form of the epichile and in having broader petals. From the closely related *Agrostophyllum longifolium* Reichb. f. it differs chiefly in the details of the epichile.

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