

**Brachionidium pusillum** A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba perpusilla, epiphytica. Rhizoma filiforme, longissime repens, ramosum, radices crassas ferens. Caules minuti, monophylli. Folia perparva, elliptica, mucronata. Pedunculi singuli, folia superantes. Sepala lateralalia in laminam lanceolatam caudato-acuminatam connata. Sepalum dorsale et petala lanceolato-ovata, breviter caudata, ciliata. Labellum multo minus, in circuitu transverse rhombicum, trilobatum; lobi laterales triangulares, patentes; lobus intermedius semiorbicularis, abrupte mucronatus; discus callo rotundato ornatus.

Plant very small and inconspicuous, epiphytic. Rhizome filiform, very long creeping, branched. Roots subremote, relatively stout, simple. Stems very short, about 1 mm. tall, about 1 cm. apart on the rhizome above the solitary roots, monophyllous, invested by 2 loose scarious sheaths. Leaf elliptic, up to 7 mm. long and 3.2 mm. wide, minutely tridenticulate with prominent central mucro, very shortly petioled. Peduncle very slender, about 7 mm. long, with an inconspicuous sheath at base and near the middle. Flower large for the plant, but small for the genus, dull pale yellow. Ovary turbinate, bearing a filiform appendage, surrounded by a loose infundibuliform, abruptly mucronate sheath. Lateral sepals connate into a lanceolate caudate-acuminate lamina, 5.2 mm. long, 1.6 mm. wide, 2-nerved, obtuse at the tip. Dorsal sepal ovate-lanceolate, about 6 mm. long, 2 mm. wide near the base, shortly caudate, 1-nerved (3-nerved at the base), shortly ciliate. Petals very similar to the dorsal sepal but a little shorter, slightly oblique. Labellum transversely rhombic in outline, 1.5–1.9 mm. long, 3–3.8 mm. wide across the middle, 3-lobed; lateral lobes triangular, widely spreading; middle lobe semiorbicular, apiculate; disc 3-nerved, provided in the middle with a large rounded fleshy callus. Column short and stout, dilated upward, about 1 mm. high, terminating on each side in a short triangular tooth.

*Brachionidium pusillum* appears to be remotely allied to *B. parvum* Cogn., but it has smaller leaves, shorter peduncles and a single prominent lip-callus.

This genus was hitherto unrecorded from Central America. *B. pusillum* was described from dried plants and from material preserved in alcohol.

COSTA RICA, Province of Heredia, Yerba Buena, North-east of San Isidro, *Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio* 49068, February 22, 28, 1926. About 2000 meters altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33204.)