

Ornithidium Lankesteri Ames sp. nov. Herba epiphytica, valida, floribunda. Caules erecti vel ascendentes, foliosi. Folia disticha, ligulata, valde coriacea, apice obtuse et inaequaliter bilobata, nervo medio prominenti. Flores numerosi ex axillis vaginarum. Vaginae complanatae caulem obtegentes. Pedunculi elongati, graciles. Sepala lateralia oblonga, acuta. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala elliptico-oblonga, utrinque attenuata, acuta. Labellum trilobatum, callosum, carinis tribus prope basim, carnosum, petalis multo brevius; lobis lateralibus porrectis, obtusis; lobo medio lobos laterales multo excedenti, triangulari, apice incrassato subtriquetro. Callus in disco valde incrassato usque ad basim lobi medii extensus, antice truncatus. Columna in pedem brevem producta, usque ad apicem leviter dilatata.

Epiphytic herb 60–90 cm. high, with numerous distichous leaves and many flowers from the axils of the leaf-sheaths. Stems about 1.4 cm. in diameter, somewhat complanate above. Leaves about 2 cm. apart, jointed to closely appressed sheaths, 7–12.5 cm. long, up to 1.5 cm. wide, narrowly oblong, obtusely and unequally bilobed at the tip, somewhat conduplicate at the base. Leaf-bases up to 1.3 cm. long, imbricating. Peduncles 5–6 cm. long, slender, with several closely appressed elongated bracts, apparently fasciculate. Bract subtending the pedicel 1 cm. or more long, conduplicate, embracing the base of the pedicel, ovate-lanceolate, acute, the apex extending beyond the base of the upper sepal and closely appressed. Lateral sepals about 1.6 cm. long, 4 mm. wide, oblong, acute. Dorsal sepal similar. Petals about 1.5 cm. long, 4 mm. wide, narrowly elliptic-oblong, acuminate, acute. Labellum fleshy, 7 mm. long, about 4 mm. wide when spread out between the tips of the lateral lobes; lateral lobes quadrate, rounded at the tip, 2 mm. wide; middle lobe much exceeding the laterals, 3 mm. long, 2 mm. wide near the base, 3-nerved, triangular, acute or obtuse, somewhat triquetrously thickened near the apex. Disc with three raised keels near the base of the labellum and with a dilated truncate median callus which extends to the base of the middle lobe. Column 6 mm. long, extended at the base into a short foot to the tip of which the labellum is rigidly attached. Pollinia four, cohering in pairs at the apex of an oblong caudicle.

Allied to *Ornithidium Biolleyi* Schltr. and *O. bracteatum* Schltr., from which it is very different in the structure of the floral segments.

COSTA RICA, San Cristobal, C. H. Lankester & Alfredo Sancho 421, January 12, 1923. Common on trees standing in the pastures on ridges or upper slopes, a delightful natural object. Lower leaves deciduous. Segments of the flower crystalline white, petals suffused centrally at base with pink. Labellum empire-yellow (Ridgway), basal two-thirds of column aster-purple (Ridgway), this color also tinging the lateral lobes of the labellum. Anther-cap white. 5500 feet altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 23735.)