CAMPYLOCENTRUM TENELLUM (ORCHIDACEAE), A NEW SPECIES FROM PANAMA

Campylocentrum Bentham is a genus of approximately 45 species of small, epiphytic, neotropical orchids. In a revision of the Costa Rican species (Todzia, 1980), a new taxon from Pan-

ama came to my attention. After careful examination of the South American taxa, I feel confident in proposing this new species.

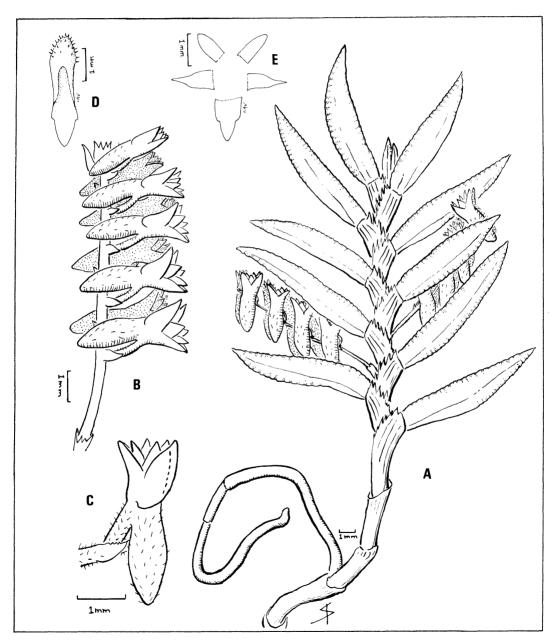


FIGURE 1. Campylocentrum tenellum. -A. Whole plant. -B. Raceme. -C. Flower. -D. Lip and spur. -E. Sepals, petals, and lip.

Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 72: 876-877. 1985.

Campylocentrum tenellum Todzia, sp. nov. TYPE: Panama. Panamá: La Eneida, region of Cerro Jefe, 26 Oct. 1969, *Dressler 3758* (holotype, CR). Figure 1.

Planta parvula, epiphytica, 1–5.5 cm alta; folia lineario-lanceolata, 0.8–1 cm longa, 1–2 mm lata, vaginae tubulares, lacerae; inflorescentia 7–10 mm longa; flor albus, sepala ovata, petala lanceolata, labellum trilobatum, calcar rectum acutum hispidulum.

Small, epiphytic plant with pendant or ascending stems, 1-5.5 cm tall. Roots basal or alternating with the lower 1 or 2 leaves, fibrous, flexuous, glabrous, to 15 cm long. Stem simple, terete, slightly fractiflex, 1-2 mm wide, invested by leaf sheaths. Leaves small, thin, distichous, linear-lanceolate, margin smooth to lightly denticulate and crenulate, apex retuse, mucronulate to caudate, articulated to the persistent sheathing bases, 0.8-1 cm long, 1-2 mm broad; leaf sheath tubular, compressed, lacerate on the apical margin. Inflorescences produced singly opposite the leaves, not exceeding the leaves, ascendant to spreading, 7-10-flowered; rachis 7-10 mm long, minutely puberulent; floral bracts concave, triangular, acuminate, 1 mm long, ciliate along the margin. Flowers small, distichous, white to cream-colored; sepals ovate, acute, 1 mm long, 1-nerved, outer surface lightly hispidulous; petals linear, acute, 1.25 mm long, longer than the sepals, 1-nerved; lip ovate, 1.5 mm long, slightly 3-lobed at the base, lateral lobes obtuse, abbreviated, mid-lobe ovate, acute; spur straight, cylindric, acute, 1.5–2 mm long, outer surface lightly hispidulous; column short, 0.5 mm long; ovary 0.75–1 mm long, hispidulous with short, stiff hairs 0.1 mm long. Capsule not seen.

Additional collection. Panama. Panamá: El Llano-Carti Hwy., 15–20 km N of El Llano, 30 Sept. 1973, Dressler s.n. (TEX).

Campylocentrum tenellum is most similar to C. parvulum Schltr. of Costa Rica, from which it is differentiated by its lacerate leaf sheaths, shorter inflorescences, and flowers with a longer spur. It is easily distinguished from all other leafy Panamanian Campylocentrum species by its straight, acute spur, thin, lanceolate leaves, lacerate leaf sheaths, and the small size of the plant. Campylocentrum tenellum belongs to section Campylocentrum as does C. parvulum.

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LITERATURE CITED

Todzia, C. A. 1980. A revision of the Costa Rican species of *Campylocentrum* (Orchidaceae). Brenesia 18: 117–136.

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