Scelochilus campoverdei D. E. Benn. & Christenson, sp. nov. (Fig. 17)

TYPE: PERU. Pasco: Oxapampa, District Villarica, Cumbre de Bocaz, 13 Mar 1993, J. E. Campoverde ex Bennett 6151 (HOLOTYPE: NY).

Species haec S. paraguaensis Garay & Dunsterv. similis sed labello basi hirsuto et foliis latis differt.

Small caespitose twig epiphyte. Pseudobulb ellipsoid, complanate, unifoliate, 14 × 6 mm. Leaf elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, basally conduplicate, mid-vein keeled, to 7 × 2.5 cm, shortly petiolate. Inflorescences basal, more or less erect, laxly paniculate, with few-flowered lateral branches. Flowers with sepals pale green marked pale violet, the petals whitish, mid-vein greenish, with dark purple small spots and broken lines, the labellum cream-white, calli teeth and disc vellow, the column pale green tinted cream-yellow, the anther dark violet-purple, the pollinia pale yellow, the stipe creamyellow, the viscidium ochre. Dorsal sepal oblong-obovate, concave, subacute, $7.3 \times$ 3.3 mm. Lateral sepals concave, connate for 34 their length, elliptic in outline, the two apical lobes overlapping, basally bisaccate, 12×4 mm when expanded, with two lateral swellings. Petals obliquely elliptic-obovate, obtuse, subacute, 8.9 × 4.0 mm. Labellum 12 × 6 mm, basal half semiterete, oblong, glabrous below, sparsely hirsute above, extended into a pair of pointed spurs, the lamina broadening near the middle, the midlobe with basal margins laciniate-fimbriate, with two strongly compressed, vertical lamellate keels ascending close to the lateral margins which form two antrorse, conical lobules whose forward edges descend to the disc, in front with two parallel, subapproximate, antrorse, lightly complanate, obtuse teeth, the mid-margins with a deep fold, the lamina broadly rounded apically, minutely papillose. Column joined to the labellum by a common keel, gradually dilated above, ventrally concave, from the middle a thin, high, continuous border around the stigma forming a membraneous, cucullate hood around anther bed, 7.5×2.5 mm; the pollinia 2, hard, subglobose-napiform, 0.7 ×

0.6 mm; the stipe obovate, acuminate, 1.1 \times 0.5 mm; the viscidium elliptic, relatively thick, 0.3 \times 0.2 mm.

Etymology: Named to honor José Edén Campoverde, an intrepid collector of Peruvian orchids.

Habitat: On twigs high in the canopy of very wet montane forest (1925 m), Scelochilus campoverdei flowers in February and March.

Scelochilus campoverdei is distinguished from other species of the genus by the combination of the lateral swellings and bisaccate base of the partially connate lateral sepals with their subacute, overlapping apical lobes, by the hirsute basal half of the labellum, and by the labellum with long conical horns, 2 retrorse lamellae, 2 antrorse calliteeth, and laciniate-fimbriate margins.

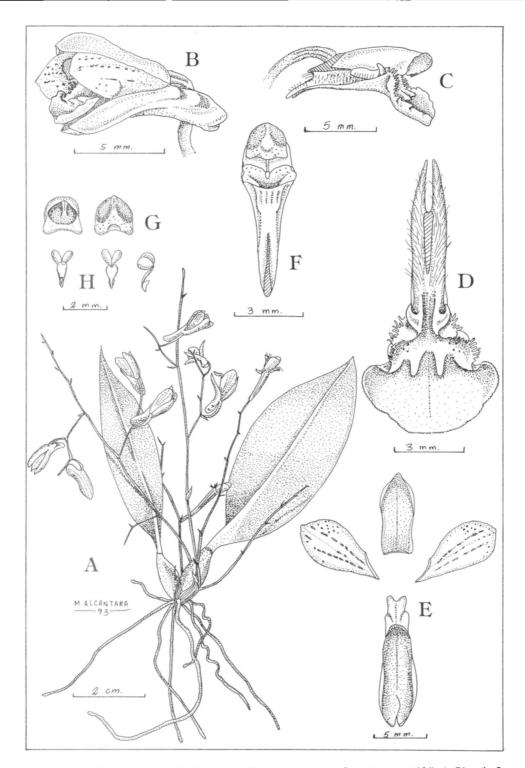


Fig. 17. Scelochilus campoverdei D. E. Benn. & Christenson (drawn from Bennett 6151). A. Plant in flower. B. Flower in profile. C. Column and labellum in profile. D. Labellum. E. Floral dissection. F. Column, abaxial view. G. Anther. H. Pollinarium.