

# ANOTHER NEW SPECIES OF CORYANTHES

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TO THIS SINGULAR GROUP of orchids we now add a second striking new species. Like *Coryanthes alborosea* (see Am. Orch. Soc. Bull., vol. 12, no. 7), this species has unusually small flowers for the genus and also belongs to that distinct group of *Coryanthes* which has the mesochile — the narrow middle portion of the lip — adorned with transverse keels. It is unusual, however, in having these keels flap-like and overlapping. Further notable features of this species are the three-leaved pseudobulbs and the parti-colored flowers.

*Coryanthes trifoliata* C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.

Herba pro genere mediocris, epiphytica. Pseudobulbus anguste pyriformi-cylindraceus, apice trifoliatus, in sicco profunde plurisulcatus. Folia conspicue petiolata, patentia; lamina anguste lanceolato-elliptica, acuminata, basi sensim angustata, cum nervis tribus prominentibus. Inflorescentia gracilis, apice laxe biflora. Flores pro genere parvi. Sepalum dorsale ovato-suborbiculare, mucronatum. Sepala lateralia plus duplo longiora, oblique semilunato-ovata, acuta vel breviter acuminata. Petala falcato-linearita. Labellum more generis; hypochilium semiglobosum, cum ungue gracili; mesochilium breve, laminis transversis duabus bilobatis ornatum; epichilium conico-subglobosum, complanatum, comparate magnum, apice trilobatum. Columna apice abrupte reflexa, basi cum glandulis duabus.

Plant epiphytic, medium-sized for the genus. Roots fibrous, glabrous, numerous, unbranched. Pseudobulb narrowly pyriform-cylindric, trifoliate at the apex, about 6.5 cm. long, deeply plurisulcate in the dried specimen. Leaves spreading, up to 42 cm. long including the long slender channelled petiole; lamina narrowly elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, gradually narrowed below, up to 32.3 cm. long, about 4.4 cm. wide, plicate, thinly chartaceous, with three prominent nerves beneath. Inflorescence (broken off in my specimen) lightly arcuate, slender, provided with six small tubular sheaths which are remote except at the base, progressively longer upward, the uppermost sheath being 2.7 cm. long; peduncle about 33 cm. long; rachis very loose, gently fractiflex, 2-flowered, about 3 cm. long. Floral bracts concave and surrounding the pedicel, scarious, abruptly apiculate, up to 3 cm. long. Pedicellate ovary slender, arcuate, almost three times as long as the subtending bract. Flowers small for the genus, "gray-rose, red-violet, canary yellow, with a black-violet round spot." Dorsal sepal ovate-suborbicular, adnate to the column at the base, about 2.3 cm. long and 2.6 cm. wide, bluntly mucronate at the rounded apex, membranaceous. Lateral sepals obliquely semilunate-ovate, acute or short-acuminate, about 5.7 cm. long (measured from the incurved tip to the dilated anterior portion) and 3.4 cm. wide where broadest, membranaceous. Petals linear, falcate and incurved, slightly angle-dilated on each side near the apex, adnate to the column at base, nearly 3 cm. long and 8 mm. wide near the apex and base, subacute or obtuse, membranaceous. Lip divided, as in the genus, into a clawed hypochile, narrow mesochile and large bucket-like epichil; claw slender, fleshy, channelled, about 1.3 cm. long; hypochile semiglobose, fleshy, about 1 cm. long and nearly as deep, finely cellular-pubescent in front; mesochile short, semi-cylindric in section, about 8 mm. long (free portion), concealed by two prominent transverse decurved plates which are fleshy, deeply bilobed and finely papillose, the upper one being much smaller with an apicule in the sinus between the lobules; epichile much larger than the other parts, complanate-



EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE

FIGURE 1, habit, and inflorescence,  $\times \frac{2}{3}$ . FIG. 2, column and lip, from the side, natural size. FIG. 3, dorsal sepal, spread out, natural size. FIG. 4, petal, spread out, natural size.

subglobose or quadrate-subconic in the fresh plant, abruptly 3-lobulate at the apex with small lobules of which the lateral lobules are obliquely ovate and uncinata and the middle lobule is longer, ovate-oblong, apically rounded, with a small tooth on each side of the middle and lightly incurved above. Column stout, dilated upward, about 2.4 cm. long, abruptly recurved near the apex, with a wing on each side, and a pair of small obliquely round-ovate, porrect glands or horns at base.

LORETO: Vicinity of Iquitos, at 100 meters altitude, July 1937, *G. Klug 10097*. (TYPE in Herb. Ames, No. 61903.)

This species apparently lacks near allies. It is remarkable for its 3-leaved pseudo-bulbs and for its small flowers with short mesochile which is concealed by its two fleshy bilobed overlapping plates. — *Botanical Museum, Cambridge, Mass.*