

CENTRAL AMERICAN ORCHIDS

Cranichis saccata *Ames sp. nov.* Herba terrestris. Folia basilaria, breviter petiolata, ovato-elliptica. Scapus erectus, paucibracteatus, supra medium glandulosus. Racemus sublaxus. Sepala lateralia basi protuberantia, supra insertionem triangularia, extus glandulosa. Sepalum dorsale anguste ellipticum, acutum, uninervium, sparse glandulosum. Petala membranacea, elliptico-oblonga, apice

CENTRAL AMERICAN ORCHIDS

rotundata, conspicue uninervia, margine sparse ciliolata. Labellum basi profunde saccatum, antice in laminam conduplicatam extensum. Columna generis.

Terrestrial herb about 20 cm. tall, with nine or more leaves clustered at the base. Leaves petiolate, spreading; petioles up to 1.5 cm. or more long, sheathing the stem at base; lamina of the leaf membranaceous, 1.5–2.5 cm. long, up to 1.5 cm. wide, the smaller ones nearest the base of the stem. Scape with few bracts, glandular-pubescent above the middle, lowermost bract foliaceous, upper ones more or less closely appressed, 1–2 cm. long, acute, glabrous. Raceme ten or more flowered, exceeding 3.5 cm. in length; rachis glandular-pubescent. Bracts of the raceme oblong-lanceolate, not exceeding the ovary in length. Pedicellate ovary about 7 mm. long, densely glandular. Lateral sepals 4 mm. long from the point of insertion at the base of the column to their tip, with a conspicuous rounded posterior protuberance which is 2 mm. long, triangular-acute above the middle, sparsely glandular-pubescent on the outer surface. Dorsal sepal 5 mm. long, 2 mm. wide near the middle, narrowly elliptical, obtuse, mid-nerve conspicuous. Petals about 4 mm. long, 1.5 mm. wide, elliptic-oblong, rounded-obtuse at the apex, median nerve conspicuous, lower margin obscurely ciliolate. Labellum 6 mm. long, deeply saccate, with the sac subcylindrical and blunt; lamina above the sac porrect, more or less conduplicate, obtuse, truncate, 4 mm. long, hardly 2 mm. wide when spread out, with a prominent erect callus at the base in front of the opening of the sac; basal margin of the labellum obscurely crenate-dentate. Column 3 mm. long.

In the structure of the labellum *Cranichis saccata* differs from all other species in the Central American area. The protuberant basal portion of the lateral sepals is anomalous in the genus.

COSTA RICA, Cascajal, C. H. Lankester K351. In pastures. 5500 feet altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Kew.)