NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS

Dichaea Standleyi Ames sp. nov. Caules fasciculati, plus minusve flexuosi, compressi, distanter foliati. Folia decidua, graminea, linearia, acuta, disticha, papyracea. Flores singuli e foliorum axillis orientes. Pedunculi folio breviores. Sepala lateralia patentia, lanceolata, acuta, quinquenervia. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala patentia, lanceolata, quinquenervia, in apice acuto triquetra. Labellum supra basini cuneatam in laminam crescentiformem expansum, minute glandulosum, septemnervium. Columna valde incrassata.

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An epiphytic herb up to 15 cm. tall. Roots whitish. spreading, fibrous. Stems concealed by the sheathing bases of the elongated leaves, complanate. Leaves up to 3.5 cm. long, 2-3 mm, wide, gramineous, distichous, linear-oblong, acute, more or less hispidulous on the margin above the middle, jointed with the complanate sheathing base. Leafsheaths 7-10 mm. long. Peduncles arising from the stem near the axils of the leaves, lateral, concealed at base by the leaf-sheaths, 7-10 mm, long, 1-flowered. Floral bract 4-5 mm. long, scarious, round-ovate, acute, thickened at the tip. Lateral sepals spreading, 7.5 mm. long, 3 mm. wide, lanceolate, acute, 5-nerved. Dorsal sepal similar and equal to the laterals. Petals lanceolate, acute, 6 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, 5-nerved, thickened and subtriguetrous at the acute tip. Labellum 5 mm. long, 7 mm. wide; basal half cuneate-oblong, 2 mm. wide; apical half crescentiform, apiculate, with the horns of the crescent 2 mm. long, narrowly triangular, retrorse and acute, minutely glandular. Disc 7-nerved. Column stout, 3 mm. long.

From Dichaea Lankesteri Ames, this species differs in floral proportions and in the tip of the labellum being apiculate rather than thickened into a more or less triquetrous prolongation. In habit D. Standleyi resembles D. graminoides (Sw.) Lindl.. but is readily distinguished from that species by the outline of the labellum.

Costa Rica, Province of Limon, Vicinity of Guapiles, Paul C. Standley 37440, March 12, 13, 1924. 300-500 meters altitude. On tree; flowers white and purple-red. (Type in Herb. Ames No. 29640.)