

ENCYCLIA AENICTA, sp. nov.

Epidendrum pollardianum Withner, Orchid Digest 34: 117. 1970, as to photograph and most drawings, not as to type specimen.

*E. pseudobulbis conicis* 1-3 phyllis, foliis ellipticis vel ligulatis, sepalis oblanceolatis, petalis cuneato-spathulatis, labelli subliberi, trilobi, lobis lateralibus oblongis, apice recurvis, intermedio subrotundo mucronato, striato, columna aptera.

Holotype: Mexico; Nayarit, near Jalcocotán, Feb. 1947, flowered in cult. June 1952, E. Yale Dawson s. n. (US 2399076, isotype MO).

This species is closely related to E. diota and E. spatella (syn. E. meliosma), and thus a member of one of the most difficult complexes in the genus. In some areas it hybridizes extensively with E. spatella, but in others they coexist without any sign of intergradation. To make matters worse, the type of E. meliosma cannot now be found. If the specimen is ever located, we may find the customary interpretation of E. meliosma to be incorrect.