

EPIDENDRUM ALPICOLONIGRENSE Hågsäter & Dodson  
 THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 3

*EPIDENDRUM ALPICOLONIGRENSE* Hágsater et Dodson, *sp. nov.*

Type: ECUADOR: Pastaza: Beside Rio Pastaza, below Rio Negro, 1500 m, 18 March 1976, *C. Luer, J. Luer & P. Taylor 895*. Holotype: RPSC! (illustration voucher).

*Epidendro zosterifolio* F. Lehm. & Kraenzl. similare sed caulibus teretibus, foliis anguste ellipticis usque lanceolatis acuminatis, floribus minoribus albis, labelli lobulis magnitudine subaequalibus, ad marginem sinuatis, callo prominenti carnoso, clinandrio deminuto discrepans.

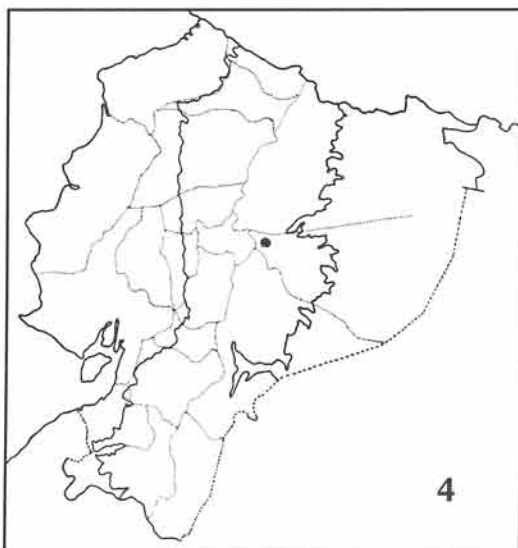
**Hierba** epífita, cespitosa, de 20-32 cm de alto. **Rizoma** corto. **Raíces** basales, delgadas, carnosas, de 0.5-1 mm de grosor. **Tallos** tipo caña, flexuosos, teretes, 10-20 x 0.05-0.1 cm. **Hojas** 5-6, articuladas, distribuidas en los 2/3 del tallo; vainas tubulares, lisas, la inferior no foliosa, 15-25 mm de largo; lámina angostamente elíptica a lanceolada, apice acuminado, gramínea, con una quilla dorsal prominente, desiguales, progresivamente más largas, 2-11.5 x 0.5-0.8 cm. **Espata** 1, de lados casi paralelos, agudas, 25-30 x 4-5 mm. **Inflorescencia** apical, del crecimiento maduro, racemosa, arqueada, cola de zorra pauciflora, con 10-15 flores, racimo de 3-5 x 1.1-1.5 cm, pedúnculo de 4.0-5.0 cm de largo. **Brácteas florales** muy delgadas, linear triangulares, acuminadas, del mismo hasta poco más largas que el ovario, 4-7 x 0.5 mm. **Ovario** terete, 4-6 mm de largo. **Flores** pequeñas, el labelo siempre orientado hacia el raquis, simultaneas, color blanco, fragancia no registrada. **Sépalos** extendidos, ovados, engrosados cerca del ápice, acuminados, agudos, 3-nervados, 4.0-4.4 x 1.3-1.4 mm. **Pétalos** extendidos, lineares, agudos, 1-nervados, 2.7 x 0.3 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, trilobado, de 2.6 x 2.1 mm; unicalloso, el callo laminar, prominente, carnoso; lóbulos laterales dolabriformes, margen sinuado, 0.8-0.9 x 0.5-0.7 mm; lóbulo medio triangular, redondeado, margen sinuado, 1.6 x 1.2 mm. **Columna** corta, gruesa, 2.0 mm de largo incluyendo el clinandrio. **Clinandrio** al mismo nivel del ápice de la columna, entero. **Antera** no vista. **Polinios** 4, ovoides, lateralmente comprimidos, subiguales. **Rostelo** subapical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** pequeños. **Nectario** poco profundo, penetrando 1/4 del ovario, no ornamentado. **Cápsula** ovoidea, con un pedicelo delgado, corto, 4.5-5 x 3.8-5.0 mm, pedicelo 1.3 mm, cuello apical corto.

Epiphytic, caespitose herb. **Roots** basal, fleshy. **Stems** simple, cane-like, flexuous, terete. **Leaves** 3-6, narrowly elliptic to lanceolate, acuminate, grassy. **Spathe** 1, nearly parallel-sided, acute. **Inflorescence** apical, racemose, arching, fox-tail. **Floral bracts** as long as to somewhat longer than the ovary, acuminate. **Ovary** terete. **Flowers** simultaneous, the lip always oriented towards the rachis, white. **Sepals** spreading, ovate, acute to acuminate, 3-veined; laterals somewhat longer. **Petals** spreading, linear, acute, 1-veined. **Lip** united to the column, 3-lobed; unicallose, the callus laminar, fleshy; lateral lobes dolabriform, margin sinuate; midlobe triangular, rounded, margin sinuate. **Column** short, thick, straight. **Clinandrium** reduced, margin entire. **Rostellum** subapical, slit. **Nectary** penetrating one fourth of the ovary, unornamented.

**OTHER SPECIMENS:** None seen.

**DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY:** Known only from Ecuador. Epiphytic in woods, at 1500 m altitude. Flowering and fruiting in March.

**RECOGNITION:** *Epidendrum alpicolonigrense* belongs to the alpicolum group, alpicolum subgroup and is recognized by the terete stems, narrowly elliptic to lanceolate, acuminate leaves, small, white flowers, somewhat similar lobes of the lip, sinuate margin, unicallose lip, the calli prominent, fleshy and reduced clinandrium. Similar to *Epidendrum zosterifolium* but this has ancipitose stems, elliptic leaves, larger, greenish white flowers, with the middle near the apex of sepals and lip deep green, lobes of the lip unequal, margin entire, bicallose, midlobe about 3 times longer than wide, and the clinandrium erose and prominent. *Epidendrum pucunoense* Hágsater & Dodson has ancipitose stems, cream-yellow to white flowers, lobes of the lip entire, bicallose, the large orbicular lateral lobes, larger in area than the midlobe, emarginate, entire, prominent clinandrium. *Epidendrum alopecurum* Schltr. from Bolivia, has a large inflorescence, with smaller flowers.



**CONSERVATION STATUS:** DD. Data deficient.

**ETYMOLOGY:** From the latin *alpicolum*, in reference to the species group to which it belongs (that species, in turn, found on high mountains, similar to the Alps), and *nigrense*, in reference to the locality where it was collected, the Río Negro.

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