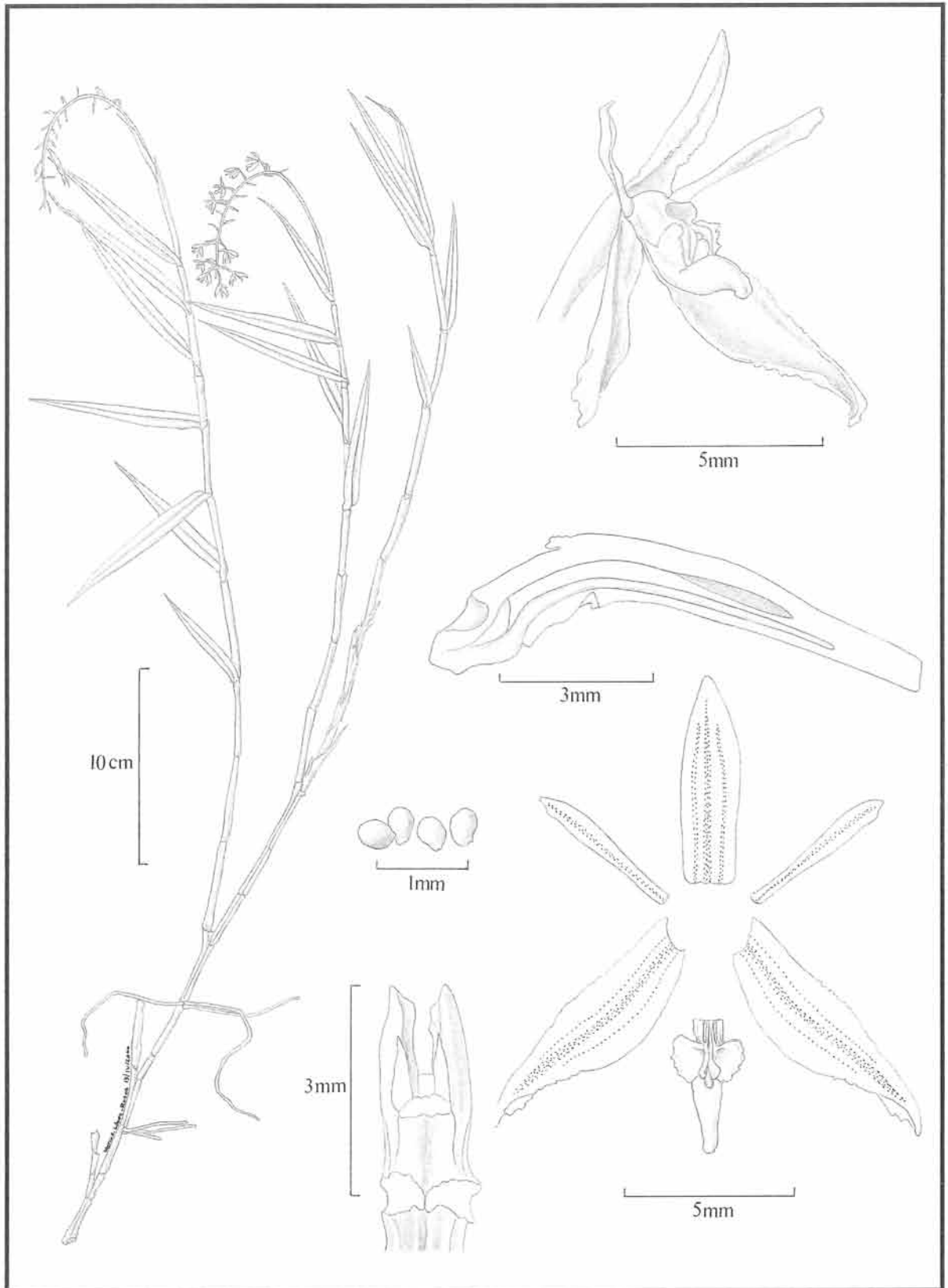




EPIDENDRUM ALPICOLOSCANDENS Hágsater & Dodson
THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 3

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

Type: ECUADOR: Loja: S slopes of Cerro Villonaco, summit of Loja-Catamayo road, 4°00' S 79°16' W, ca. 2700 m, epiphyte in disturbed montane forest, 18 Jun 1979, **B. Løjnant, A. & U. Molau 15089**.

Holotype: GB! (illustration voucher).

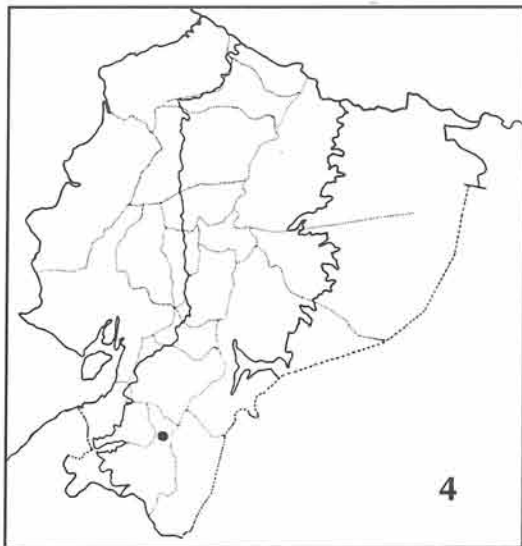
Epidendro facisepalo F. Lehm. & Kraenzl. simile sed habitu scandenti, foliis latioribus, floribus majoribus, sepalis lateralibus quam dorsali manifeste longioribus, margine eroso undulato, labelli lobulis lateralibus ad marginem erosis, lobulo medio plus quam duplo longiore quam latiore abhorrens.

Herba epífita, rastrera, de simpodio erecto, de más de 60 cm de alto. **Raíces** basales, escasas, carnosas, 0.5-1.5 mm de grosor. **Tallos** sencillos, tipo caña, teretes, producidos a 6-9 cm de la base del tallo anterior, 25-60 x 0.15-0.3 cm. **Hojas** 5-7, distribuidas a lo largo de la mitad superior de los tallos; vainas tubulares, finamente estriadas, 2-4.2 x 0.2-0.3 cm; lámina lanceolada, acuminada, margen entero, lisa, 4-10.8 x 0.5-0.85 cm. **Espatas** 1-2, tubulares, conduplicadas, acuminadas, 4.6-7 x 0.2-0.3 cm. **Inflorescencia** apical, florece una sola vez, racemosa, nutante, 14-18 cm de largo; pedúnculo suberecto, cubierto casi en su totalidad por las espatas, 7.5-9.4 cm de largo. **Brácteas florales** más cortas que el ovario, triangulares, acuminadas, 5-10 mm de largo. **Flores** 26-44, simultáneas, resupinadas, color naranja amarillento pálido, sépalos y pétalos con tintes verduscos en el lado externo, base del labelo blancuzco, fragancia no registrada. **Sépalos** libres, angostamente elípticos, agudos, 3-nervado, la nervadura media ligeramente engrosada, el dorsal extendido, margen entero, 7 x 2 mm; los laterales entreabiertos, oblicuos, con una quilla dorsal, margen en algunas secciones, finamente eroso undulados, 8.6 x 2.7 mm. **Pétalos** extendidos, libres, linear oblanceolados, agudos, margen entero, 1-nervado, 5.6 x 0.75 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, trilobado, base truncada, 4 x 2.5 mm; bicalloso, callos alargados, aplanados, con una carina central corta, roma, intercallosa; lóbulos laterales dolabriliformes, margen eroso, 1 x 1.5 mm; lóbulo medio angostamente triangular, redondeado, engrosado carnoso, margen escasamente sinuado, 2.3 x 0.9 mm. **Columna** corta, formando un arco ligero con el ovario, 3 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** reducido, entero. **Antera** no vista. **Polinios** 4, ovoides, desiguales. **Rostelo** apical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** no vistos. **Nectario** penetrando $\frac{3}{4}$ partes del ovario, no ornamentado. **Cápsula** no vista.

Epiphytic, climbing herb. **Stems** simple, cane-like, terete, the new stem produced a short way up the previous stem. **Leaves** distributed along the upper half of the stems, sheaths tubular, finely striated; blade lanceolate, acuminate, margin entire. **Spathes** 1-2, tubular-conduplicate, acuminate. **Inflorescence** apical, flowering only once, racemose, nodding. **Floral bracts** shorter than the ovary, triangular, acuminate. **Flowers** numerous, simultaneous, resupinate, pale orange-yellow, sepals and petals faintly greenish-tinted outside, lip whitish. **Sepals** narrowly elliptic, acute, 3-veined, the median vein thickened, the laterals aristate, margins partially erose-undulate, the keel erose. **Petals** linear-oblanceolate, acute, margin entire, 1-veined. **Lip** 3-lobed, base truncate, bicallose with a short central keel between the calli; lateral lobes dolabriform, margin erose; midlobe narrowly triangular, rounded, fleshy, thickened. **Column** forming an arch with the ovary, short. **Clinandrium** reduced, entire. **Rostellum** apical, slit. **Nectary** penetrating three fourth of the ovary.

OTHER SPECIMENS: None seen.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum alpicoloscandens* belongs to the alpicolum group which is recognized by the simple stems, long, narrow spathes, and numerous flowers with fleshy lip, triangular midlobe and roundish lateral lobes; the species has a repent habit, the new stem produced at 6-9 cm from the base of the previous stem, narrow, lanceolate leaves up to 8.5 mm wide, dorsal sepal 7 mm long and the lateral lobes of the 4 mm long lip upright, embracing the apex of the column. *Epidendrum facisepalum* F. Lehm. & Kraenzl. has shorter plants (30-35 cm), leaves up to 5 mm wide, shorter inflorescence, fewer flowers, sepals 6 mm long, the lateral lobes of the lip bilobed and upright, about subequal to the midlobe, margin entire, and the flower in general has a heavier aspect.



DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from Ecuador, from the type locality, slopes of the Cerro Villonaco, in disturbed forest, ca. 2700 m altitude. Flowering in June.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD. Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *scandere* climbing, and *alpicolum*; in reference to the straggling and climbing habit of the plant; all other known species of the *alpicolum* subgroup are caespitose.