



EPIDENDRUM ANTONENSE Hágsater

Text on the reverse side

EPIDENDRUM ANTONENSE Hágsater, *sp. nov.*

Holotype: PANAMA: Colón: Near Río Guanche, 10 Aug. 1971, *R. L. Dressler 4071*, AMO!

Epidendro turialvae Rchb. f. simile, sed floribus minoribus, carnosis, sepalis petalisque olivaceis, labello atropurpureo.

Hierba epífita, cespitosa, 40-60 cm de alto. Raíces basales, carnosas, 1-1.5 mm de grosor. Tallos erectos, rectos, tipo caña, lateralmente comprimidos, ancipitosos, cubiertos en la base por vainas tubulares papiráceas, 30-40 x 0.15-0.45 cm. Hojas numerosas, distribuidas a lo largo de los dos tercios apicales del tallo; vaina tubular, ancipitosa, hasta 3.5 x 0.7 cm; lámina angostamente elíptico-lanceolada, acuminada, graminoide, púrpura, 8-19 x 0.7-1.9 cm. Inflorescencia terminal, del tallo maduro, florece durante varios años del mismo racimo; pedúnculo alargado, ancipitoso en la base, arqueado, parcialmente cubierto por brácteas, la basal frecuentemente parece una espata tubular, ancipitosa, aguda, 5-8 cm de largo, las demás progresivamente más pequeñas, con duplicadas, agudas; racimo terminal, corto, subcorimboso. Bráctea floral triangular, muy pequeña, 1-4 mm de largo. Flores 3-4, simultáneas, fragancia no registrada, sépalos y pétalos verde olivo, labello púrpura, columna púrpura (también ha sido reportada en ocasiones como blanca). Ovario delgado, 12-24 mm de largo. Sépalos oblanceolados, agudos, carnosos, reflexos, 5-nervados, los laterales algo oblicuos, 9.5-12.5 x 2.5 mm. Pétalos filiformes, reflexos, 1-nervados, 9-12 x 0.2 mm. Labello unido a la columna, 4-lobado, carnoso, bicalloso, con tres quillas romas, carnosas, que recorren todo el disco hasta el seno apical, 7-8 x 5-6 mm; lóbulos laterales dolabriformes, margen entero; lóbulos apicales divaricados, pequeños, angostos. Columna recta, delgada, terminada en una prominencia triangular (en ángulo recto) a cada lado del ápice, 12 mm de largo. Clinandrio obsoleto. Antera ovoide, 4-locular. Polinios 4, tipo "ala de pájaro", translúcidos, fuertemente comprimidos lateralmente, los interiores algo más pequeños; caudículas dos pares, laminares, algo más cortas que los polinios; viscidio semilíquido, transparente. Rostelo apical, hendido. Lóbulos laterales del estigma pequeños, de 1/4 de largo de la cavidad estigmática. Nectario corto, apenas penetrando hasta la base del perianto. Cápsula elipsoide, 23-25 x 10 mm, con pedicelo delgado de 10-12 mm de largo y pico grueso y corto, ca. 6 mm de largo.

Epiphytic, caespitose herb. Stems straight, reed-like, ancipitous. Leaves elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, grass-like, purple. Inflorescence terminal, flowering during several years from the same raceme; peduncle elongate, arcuate; raceme terminal, short, subcorymbose. Flowers simultaneous, resupinate; sepals and petals olive green, lip deep purple, column purple (it has also been reported as white). Sepals reflexed, oblanceolate, acute, fleshy, 5-veined. Petals filiform, reflexed, 1-veined. Lip united to the column, 4-lobed, bicallose, 3-keeled, keels running down to the apical sinus; lateral lobes dolabriform, margin entire; apical lobes divaricate, small, narrow. Column straight, slender. Clinandrium obsolete. Anther ovoid, 4-celled. Pollinia 4, "bird-wing" type, strongly laterally compressed, transparent, the inside pair somewhat smaller; caudicles laminar, somewhat shorter than the pollinia; viscidium semiliquid, transparent. Rostellum apical, slit. Nectary shallow, penetrating only to the base of the perianth. Capsule ellipsoid, with a slender pedicel and a short apical beak.

OTHER SPECIMENS: PANAMA: Chiriquí: *Dressler 5492*, AMO! *Folsom et al. 5534*, MO! Coclé: *Churchill 4035*, MO! *Folsom 5923*, AMO! *Dressler sub Hágsater 6404* (fls. in FAA), AMO! (illustration voucher.) *Hamilton & Davidse 2825*, MO! Colón: *Antonio 3761*, AMO! *Gentry 8781*, MO! *Knapp et al. 4467*, AMO! Panamá: *Dressler 4883*, AMO! *Folsom et al. 5068*, MO! Canal Zone: *Steyermark & Allen 17109*, AMES! BM!

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Central and western Panama, on both sides of the Continental Divide. Epiphyte, in wet tropical forest from 70 to 800 m altitude. Butterfly visitation to the flowers has been recorded (*Folsom 5923*).

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum antonensis* belongs to the *E. paniculatum* Ruiz & Pav. group and the *E. turialvae* Rchb. f. complex. It resembles vegetatively *E. turialvae*, with similar long, narrow, acuminate leaves, and elongate, racemose, subcorymbose, few-flowered inflorescence, but the flowers are smaller, the lip 7-8 mm long, and the plants appear to be somewhat smaller too. It is easily recognized by the deep olive green sepals and petals and the deep purple, fleshy lip which makes it one of the darkest-flowered species in the genus. It is also related to *E. rodrigoii* Hágsater, which has a light pink, somewhat hyaline lip and is found in Colombia.

CONSERVATION STATUS: Probably not threatened. The species is apparently widespread in Panama, and since a number of areas where it has been found are located above hydroelectric dams, it is expected that the vegetation will be conserved. There is no collecting pressure.



ETYMOLOGY: The epithet is in reference to El Valle de Antón, near where the species was first seen by the author together with Dr. Robert L. Dressler. The local market of El Valle is known for the variety of orchid species which were formerly sold there.

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