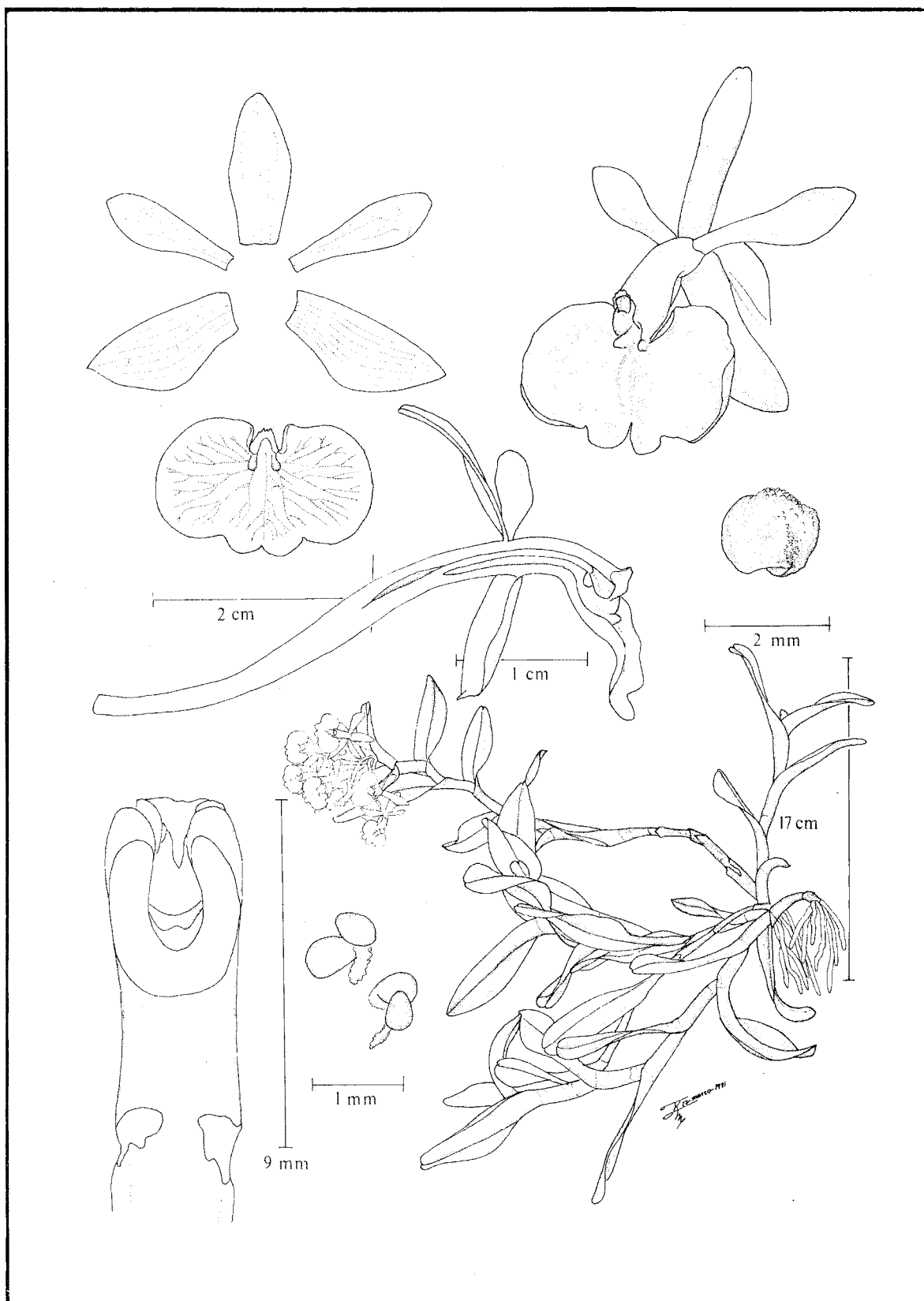




EPIDENDRUM BORICUARUM Hágsater & L. Sánchez

Text on the reverse side

Plate 114

ICONES ORCHIDACEARUM 2. 1993

EPIDENDRUM BORICUARUM Hágsater et L. Sánchez, sp. nov.

Holotype: PUERTO RICO: Sierra de Luquillo, colectado 18 julio 1986, prensado 31 julio 1992, E. Hágsater 8751, AMO! (illustration voucher.)

Epidendro diffirmi Jacq. simile, sed caulibus leviter compressis, labello in ambitu transverse oblongo parum cordato, lobo mediano multo brevior, quam longo multo latiore, callis disjunctis, parallelis, et columna valde arcuata differt.

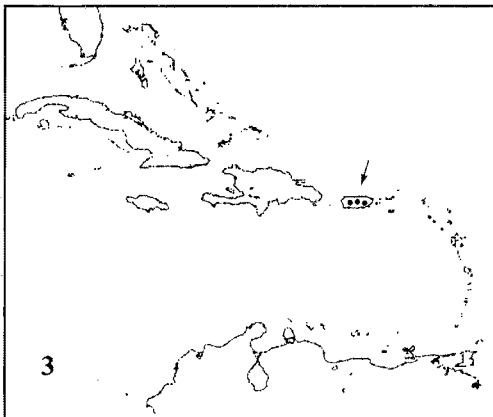
Hierba epífita, cespitosa, 13-30 cm de alto. Raíces basales, carnosas, 1-2.4 mm de grosor. Tallo sencillo, tipo caña, algo comprimido lateralmente, no ancipitoso, flexuoso, 15-28 cm de largo. Hojas 6-12, equidistantes a lo largo del tallo; vaina comprimida lateralmente, lisa; lámina subcoriácea, elíptica a angostamente ovada, ápice desigualmente bilobado, márgenes enteros, lisa, con carina dorsal obsoleta, verde, 2-7 x 0.5-2.1 cm. Inflorescencia terminal en el tallo maduro, subumbelada, florece una sola vez, cortamente pedunculada. Bráctea floral mucho más corta que el ovario, 5 mm de largo. Flores (1) 2-8, resupinadas, simultáneas, verdes, fragantes. Ovario dilatado hacia el perianto, terete, no ornamentado, 22-45 mm de largo. Sépalos subcoriáceos, glabros, libres. Sépalo dorsal elíptico, agudo, márgenes enteros, extendidos, 5-nervado, 10-14 x 2-5 mm. Sépalos laterales algo falcados, oblicuamente elípticos, agudos, márgenes enteros, extendidos, 5-nervados, 10-13 x 4-7 mm. Pétalos membranáceos, oblanceolados, agudos a redondeados, márgenes enteros, extendidos, 3-nervados, 10-12 x 1-3 mm. Labelo unido a la columna, trilobado, ligeramente arqueado, transversalmente oblongo en contorno general, más ancho entre los lóbulos laterales, coriáceo en el centro, membranáceo en los márgenes, bicalloso, los callos separados y paralelos entre sí, el disco con pequeñas gotas de néctar, 7-11 x 14-19.5 mm; lóbulos laterales semiorbiculares, simétricos, margen entero; lóbulo medio corto y muy ancho (casi 4 veces más ancho que largo), emarginado, formando dos lóbulos semiorbiculares. Columna fuertemente arqueada, 9 mm de largo. Clinandrio no prominente, entero, margen sinuoso. Antera subglobosa, papilosa, 4-locular. Polinios 4, subiguales, semiovados, lateralmente comprimidos; caudículas suaves y granulosas; viscidio viscoso, translúcido. Rostelo subapical, hendido. Lóbulos laterales del estigma pequeños. Nectario corto, penetrando 1/4 del ovario, no ornamentado. Cápsula elipsoide, 20-30 mm de largo.

Epiphytic, caespitose herb. Stem reed-like, somewhat compressed laterally, not ancipitose, flexuous. Leaves 6-12, elliptic to narrowly ovate. Inflorescence terminal, subumbellate, flowers only once, shortly pedunculate. Flowers (1) 2-8, simultaneous, resupinate, green, fragrant. Sepals subcoriaceous, glabrous, free, elliptic, acute, margins entire, spreading; lateral sepals oblique. Petals membranaceous, oblanceolate, acute to rounded, margins entire, spreading. Lip united to the column, 3-lobed, transversely oblong in outline, bicallose, calli separated, parallel, disc with small drops of nectar, margins entire; lateral lobes semiorbicular; midlobe very short and wide, emarginate, forming two semiorbicular lobules. Column strongly arcuate. Clinandrium entire, margin sinuate. Anther subglobose, papillose, 4-celled. Pollinia 4, semiovate, laterally compressed; caudicles soft and granulose; viscidium viscous, translucent. Rostellum subapical, slit. Nectary short, penetrating 1/4 of the ovary. Capsule ellipsoid.

OTHER SPECIMENS: PUERTO RICO: Ackerman 1876, UPRRP! 2059, UPRRP! 2065, UPRRP! 2199, UPRRP! 2328, UPRRP! 2358, UPRRP! 2408, UPRRP! 2492, UPRRP! 2493, UPRRP! Ackerman et al. 1582, UPRRP! 1864, UPRRP! 1940, UPRRP! 2051, UPRRP! Ackerman sub Hágsater 9208, AMO! AMES! F! K! MO! NY! SEL! Hágsater 8749, AMO! UPRRP! 8750, AMO! Parrilla 27, UPRRP! Sintenis 498, AMES! W!

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: At present known only from Puerto Rico, but the species may very well be found on neighboring islands. Epiphyte, in humid broad-leaved forests from 300 to 900 m altitude. The flowers produce a nocturnal fragrance of cucumbers, which in daytime is very weak. It is visited at night by moths.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum boricuarum* is very similar to *E. difforme* Jacq., but can be separated by the slightly laterally compressed stems, the lip slightly arcuate, transversely oblong in outline, the base shallowly cordate, the calli separated and parallel, the lateral lobes semiorbicular, symmetrical, the midlobe very short and wide, almost 4 times as wide as long, and the strongly arcuate column. *Epidendrum difforme* has strongly laterally compressed, ancipitous stems, the lip strongly recurved above the middle, cordiform in outline, the base deeply cordate, the calli approximate and diverging, the lateral lobes more or less semiorbicular but somewhat oblique, the midlobe subquadrate, slightly wider than long, and the column straight to very slightly arcuate. *Epidendrum floridense* Hágsater is also similar but has terete stems and entire or very shallowly lobed lip, which is either reniform, emarginate or with two small, rounded apical lobes.



CONSERVATION STATUS: Undetermined. The species seems to be common in the Cordillera Central of Puerto Rico.

ETYMOLOGY: This species is dedicated to the Boricuas, the original inhabitants of the island of Puerto Rico before its discovery by Christopher Columbus, and the name by which today's inhabitants of the island are familiarly called by other Latin Americans.

Authors: E. Hágsater & L. Sánchez

Illustrator: R. Jiménez

Editors: E. Hágsater & G. A. Salazar

Herbario de la Asociación Mexicana de Orquideología, A.C.

Plate 114

Apartado Postal 53-123, 11320 México, D.F., MEXICO

ICONES ORCHIDACEARUM 2. 1993