

Epidendrum bracteosum A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba epiphytica, crassa, humilis. Caules vaginis laxis imbricantibus omnino obtecti. Folia elliptica vel elliptico-oblonga, patentia. Racemus terminalis; bracteae spectabiles, conduplicatae. Sepala lateralia oblique lanceolata. Sepalum dorsale elliptico-lanceolatum. Petala anguste spathulato-oblancheolata. Labellum columnae valde adnatum; lamina ovata, tricarinata. Columna crassa, brevis.

Plant stout, epiphytic, about 14 cm. tall. Roots fibrous, flexuous, glabrous, stout. Stems decumbent at base, loosely enveloped by imbricating sheaths which are scarious and membranaceous on the lower part and foliaceous and leaf-bearing on the upper portion. Leaves 3 or 4, distichously spreading, ovate, elliptic or elliptic-oblong, 1.7–6.3 cm. long, 1.6–2.4 cm. wide, the lowermost markedly the smallest, the uppermost often the largest, obtuse, clasping, coriaceous, the mid-nerve sulcate above and conspicuously carinate beneath. Raceme simple, terminal, 5- or 6-flowered. Floral bracts conspicuous, conduplicate, lanceolate, foliaceous, the lowest 3.2 cm. long at the back, the upper ones successively smaller. Lateral sepals obliquely lanceolate, about 10.5 mm. long, about 4 mm. wide, acuminate, 4-nerved, with one nerve prominently keeled dorsally near the apex, the posterior margin near the apex minutely crenulate. Dorsal sepal elliptic-lanceolate, 10 mm. long, obtuse, 5-nerved. Petals narrowly spatulate-oblancheolata, about 9 mm. long, 2.3 mm. wide just above the middle, obtuse, 1-nerved. Labellum adnate to the column nearly to the apex; lamina ovate, cordate at base, 7 mm. long in the center, 6.6 mm. wide near the base, abruptly obtuse with a blunt mucro, slightly contracted on each side near the base, tricarinate with the lateral keels short and high and the central one low and running nearly to the apex. Column short and very stout, dilated above, about 5 mm. long to the apex of the erect crenulate clinandrium.

The description was made from a single dried plant having well developed fusiform-ellipsoid ovaries.

Epidendrum bracteosum recalls *E. coriifolium* Lindl. in habit, but appears to lack close allies.

COSTA RICA, Province of San José, Cerro de las Vueltas, Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio 43663, December 29, 1925–January 1, 1926. 2700–3000 meters altitude. "On tree." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33498.)