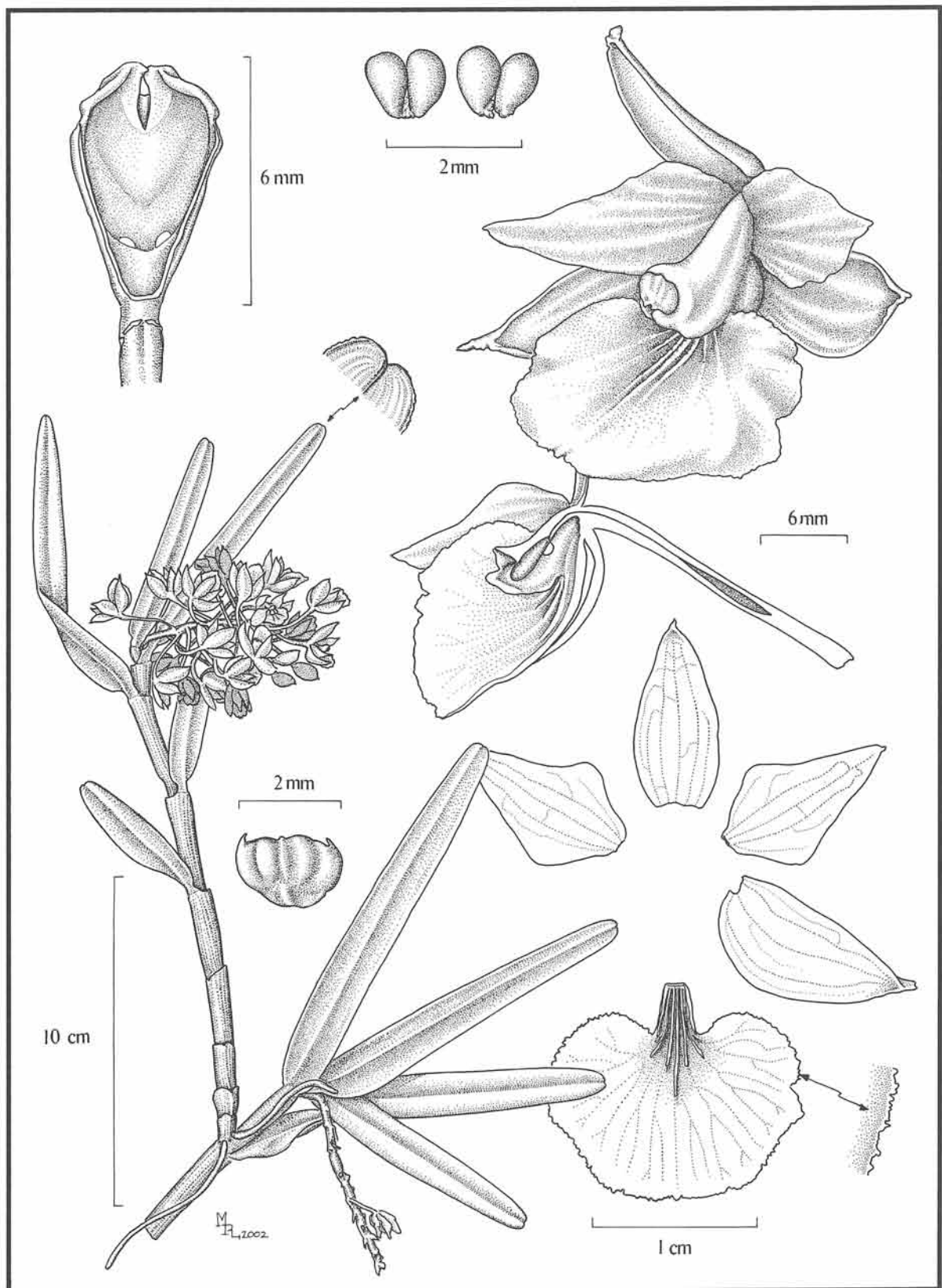




EPIDENDRUM CELICENSE Hágsater & Dodson
 THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 4

EPIDENDRUM CELICENSE Hágsater et Dodson, sp. nov.

Type: ECUADOR: Loja: Celica-Alamor Road, ca. 3 km W of Celica, 2200 m, epiphyte in secondary forest, 18 Feb 1985. **G. Harling & L. Andersson 22172**. Holotype: QCA! (Illustration voucher). Isotypes: AMES GB!

Epidendro diothoneae Schltr. simile sed foliis oblongo-lanceolatis ad apicem truncatis, inflorescentia multiflora densa, floribus minoribus membranaceis, columna brevior leviter sigmoidea, labello subreniformi ad basem cordato, disco 5 carinas tenues et nitidas ferenti abhorrens.

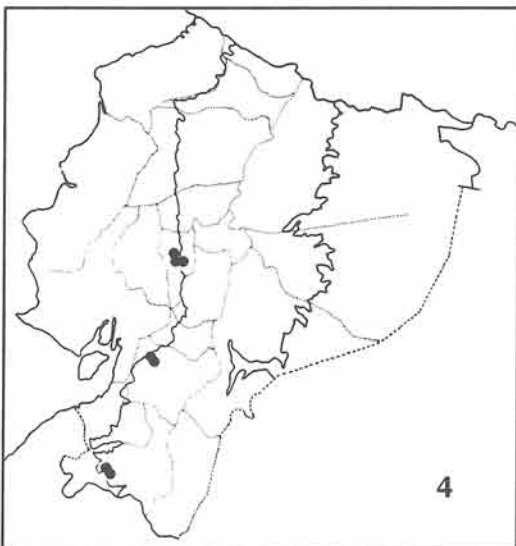
Hierba terrestre o epífita, ramificada, de más de 1 m de alto. **Raíces** de la base de la planta, escasas en la base de algunas ramificaciones, carnosas, gruesas, blancas, 3 mm de grosor. **Tallos** ramificados cuando maduros, tipo caña, teretes, gruesos, 0.6-0.9 cm de grosor; las ramas cortas, 6-15 x 0.5-0.9 cm. **Hojas** en las ramas 4-6, distribuidas hacia la zona media apical de los tallos, alternas, articuladas; vaina tubular, estriada y rugosa, 15-40 x 6-9 mm; lámina angostamente oblongo lanceolada, ápice truncado y bilobado, margen entero a diminutamente crenado, lisa, [4.8] 7.5-12 x 0.9-1.3 cm; en el tallo principal algo más grandes 9-12 x 1.2-1.5[1.9] cm. **Bráctea** espátacea ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, racemosa, arqueada, densa, multiflora; 5.0-7.5 cm de largo; pedúnculo terete, corto, 10-13 mm de largo, provisto en la parte media de una bráctea semejante a las florales, triangular, aguda, 3-4 mm de largo; raquis terete, 4.5 cm de largo. **Brácteas florales** mucho más cortas que el ovario, triangulares, agudas, 2-4 mm de largo. **Flores** ca. 30, simultáneas, resupinadas, color miel a púrpura, el labelo con venas púrpura; sin datos de fragancia. **Ovario** terete, delgado, liso, no inflado, 13-17 mm de largo. **Sépalos** entreabiertos, libres, membranaceos, glabros, agudos, carinados dorsalmente, 3-nervados, las nervaduras laterales ramificadas desde la base, dando la apariencia de ser 5-nervado, margen entero; el dorsal ovado, 10-12.7[14] x 5-5.4[8] mm; los laterales elípticos, oblicuos, 11-13.4 x 6-6.8 mm. **Pétalos** entreabiertos, libres, trulados, agudos, 3-nervado, las nervaduras laterales ramificadas desde la base, dando la apariencia de ser 5-nervados, margen entero, 9.4-12[14] x 5.7-7[10] mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna de manera oblicua, angostamente unguiculado, base cordada, entero, subreniforme, diminutamente apiculado, margen diminutamente eroso; escalo, disco provisto de 5 quillas lisas, delgadas, bajas, la central alargada ca. de la mitad del largo del labelo, las laterales más cortas, 10-12.7 x 15-19.4 mm. **Columna** gruesa, ligeramente sigmoidea visto lateralmente, el ápice arqueado hacia arriba, no alada, 6-7 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** corto, entero. **Antera** reniforme, 4-locular, con una quilla central, roma: **Polinios** 4, obovoides. **Rostelo** subapical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** de 1/4 del largo de la cavidad estigmática. **Nectario** sin traspasar el perianto, no ornamentado. **Cápsula** no vista.

Terrestrial or epiphytic, branching herb. **Roots** thick, fleshy. **Stem** cane-like, branching when mature, terete, thick, the branches shorter. **Leaves** 4-6 distributed towards the apical half of the branches, sheaths finely striated and rugose, blade narrowly oblong-lanceolate, apex truncate, bilobed, margin entire to minutely crenate. **Inflorescence** apical, racemose, arching, dense, many-flowered. **Floral bracts** much shorter than the ovary, triangular, acute. **Flowers** ca. 30, simultaneous, resupinate, honey-colored to purple, the lip with the veins marked with purple. **Ovary** terete, thin, smooth. **Sepals** partly spreading, free, membranaceous, glabrous, acute, dorsally carinate, 3-veined, the lateral veins branching from the base so as to appear 5-veined, margin entire, dorsal ovate, laterals elliptic, oblique. **Petals** partly spreading, free, trullate, acute, 3-veined, the lateral veins branching from the base so as to appear 5-veined, margin entire. **Lip** oblique and narrowly united to the column, narrowly clawed, base cordate, subreniform, minutely apiculate, margin minutely erose; ecallose, the disc provided with 5 smooth, thin keels, the middle one longest, reaching the middle of the lip. **Column** thick, slightly sigmoid, the apex upturned, not winged. **Clinandrium** hood short, entire. **Anther** reniform, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, obovoid. **Rostellum** subapical, slit. **Nectary** without penetrating the ovary, unornamented.

OTHER SPECIMENS: ECUADOR: Azuay: Parroquia Molleturo, San Pedro de Yumate, 2900 m, 27 II 1991, Castellanos 286, QCNE. El Chorro, ca. 6 km above Molleturo on road to Cuenca, 2800-2900 m, 7 III 1985, Harling 22866, AMES, GB! QCA! Bolívar: km 68, Babahoyo-Guaranda, 1650 m, 16 II 1991, Dodson 18690, QCA! QCNE! RPSC! Guaranda, 3000 m, Hirtz 1584, AMO! Old road Guaranda to Caluma, 2800 m, 10 III 1982, Luer 7253, SEL! Loja: Celica-Guachanamá, Roldós monument, 2700 m, 19 II 1985, Harling 22266, GB! QCA! Celica-Zapotillo, 2200 m, 23 II 1985, Harling 22437, AMES! GB! QCA! Cerro de Celica. Celica-Guachanamá, 2430 m, 15 IV 1994, Jørgensen 255, QCNE! Celica-Mercadillo, 25 II 1997, Klitgaard 433, QCNE!

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from southwestern Ecuador, on the western slopes of the Andes from Guaranda (Bolívar) to Celica (Loja), in secondary forest and scrub, as well as on road-banks; between 2200 and 3000 m altitude. Flowering in February and April.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum celicense* belongs to the Diothonea Group and Subgroup which is characterized by the branching plants, linear lanceolate to oblong, bilobed leaves, racemose, arching-nutant inflorescence, membranaceous flowers (rarely fleshy), the entire to 3-lobed, ecallose lip with the margin erose without or with 1-10 thin, smooth to erose keels, the column completely to obliquely united to the lip, the anther reniform. The new species is recognized by the long, oblong, truncate leaves, the short, dense inflorescence with up to 30 flowers, honey colored, the lip with purple veins, sepals and petals



9.4-12 [14] mm long, the petals trullate, the column sigmoid 6-7 mm long, the reniform lip united to the column, cordate base, with 5 narrow, smooth, thin keels. It is similar to *Epidendrum diothoneae*, which has lanceolate leaves, a lax-flowered inflorescence with up to 13 fleshy flowers, sepals 18-25 mm long, the 3 keels at the base of the lip are thickened and low, and the column is 10-12 mm long. *Epidendrum allisonii* Hágsater & Dodson has narrowly lanceolate leaves, a lax, 10-flowered inflorescence, the flowers large and fleshy, sepals [13]15-18 mm long, ovate petals, the reniform lip truncate at the base, with 6-7 thin, erose, keels, the three central ones thickened so that the lip appears three-lobed, and the column is 8-9 mm long.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD. Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: In reference to the town of Celica near where the type was collected.