

Epidendrum congestoides A. & S. sp. nov. Herba nana, caespitosa, epiphytica. Caules foliorum vaginis dense imbricantibus inclusi. Folia approximata, disticha, late patentia, oblonga, in siccitate lateribus revolutis. Inflorescentiae terminales, saepissime biflorae. Sepala lateralia ovato-lanceolata, basi valdissime obliqua, in dorso carinata. Sepalum dorsale ovato-lanceolatum. Petala oblongo-lanceolata. Labellum apici columnae adnatum; lamina reniformi-semiorbicularis, mucronata.

Plant dwarf, epiphytic, forming dense mats, rarely up to 6.6 cm. tall, often much branched. Roots fibrous, filiform, glabrous. Stem entirely concealed by densely imbricating leaf-sheaths which are about twice the length of the internodes. Leaves approximate, distichous, widely spreading, oblong or ovate-oblong, strongly clasping at base, reaching 1.9 cm. in length, about 6 mm. wide when expanded, sharply carinate beneath, obtuse, the sides strongly revolute and rugose in the dried specimen, margins minutely erose. Inflorescences terminal, commonly 2-flowered, sessile. Floral bracts ovate, conduplicate, imbricated, denticulate. Flowers green, bronze green or reddish green. Lateral sepals and petals obliquely inserted on the column. Lateral sepals very obliquely ovate-lanceolate, 9–13 mm. in length along the decurrent posterior margin, 3.2–4.2 mm. wide, acuminate, with a high dorsal keel which is denticulate above, 2- to 3-nerved. Dorsal sepal ovate-lanceolate, 8.8–13 mm. long, 4.1–4.7 mm. wide, acuminate, 3-nerved, with a low entire dorsal keel near the apex. Petals oblong-lanceolate, nearly as long as the sepals, 2.5–3 mm. wide, acute or subacute, 3-nerved, margins minutely denticulate. Labellum adnate to the column to its apex; lamina with sides upcurved in natural position, very shortly and broadly unguiculate, then abruptly reniform-semiorbicular, sharply mucronate, 4.5–6.1 mm. long to the tip of the cusp, 5–7.6 mm. wide, fleshy, margins thin and minutely erose. Column stout, 5–6.6 mm. long; clinandrium fimbriate-dentate.

This description was made from dried specimens.

Epidendrum congestoides is closely allied to *E. congestum* Rolfe, but it differs from that species in its narrower petals, in the apiculate reniform-semiorbicular lamina of the lip and in the lacerate clinandrium. This species is doubtless what Schlechter refers to (Fedde Repert. Beih. 19 (1923) 118) as *E. congestum*.

COSTA RICA, Province of Guanacaste, Vicinity of Tilarán; Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio 44933, January 10–31, 1926. 500–650 meters altitude. "On tree; flowers reddish green." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33595); Standley & Valerio 44205. "Flowers bronze green or sometimes pale green throughout"; Standley & Valerio 44206a: Northeast of Tilarán, C. W. Dodge 7148, February 20, 1930. 680 meters altitude. Flowers greenish: Province of Cartago, Vicinity of Pejivalle, Standley & Valerio 47299, February 7–8, 1926. About 900 meters altitude. "Leaves often dark purple-red; flowers green." (Advanced specimen): Lower Rio Turrialba, H. E. Stork 2446, June 9, 1928. 2000 feet altitude. "Fls. inconspicuous, pale green."