

EPIDENDRUM DWYERIOIDES Hągsater & E.Santiago

*EPIDENDRUM DWYERIOIDES* Hágsater et E.Santiago, sp. nov.

Type: PANAMÁ: Bocas del Toro: Changuinola, Sierra Madre, 2200 m, 5 March 2000, Jardín Finca Drácula 483 y 476, *Erick Olmos & J. Nuñez 202*. Holotype: AMO! (Illustration voucher.)

*Epidendro dwyeri* Hágsater simile sed floribus minoribus, labello bicalloso reductissimo duos lobulos laterales triangulares incipientes ferenti, nectario amplo a fronte cavitatis stigmaticae, angusto versus fundum, distinctum.

**Hierba** epífita, simpodial, escandente, ca. de 37 cm de alto. **Raíces** originándose a lo largo de los entrenudos basales de cada tallo, carnosas, delgadas. 0.5-1 mm de grosor. **Tallos** sencillos, producidos de la parte inferior del tallo anterior, tipo caña, teretes en la base y lateralmente aplanados arriba, delgados, erectos, ligeramente flexuosos, 25 x 2.5-5.5 cm; cubiertos en la base por vainas tubulares no foliáceas, 25 mm de largo. **Hojas** 6, distribuidas en la 1/2 apical del tallo, alternas, articuladas, las inferiores generalmente caedizas; vaina tubular, finamente estriada, 11-23 x 2.5-5.5 mm; lámina angostamente elíptica, aguda, diminutamente apiculada, margen entero, 3-7 x 0.7-1.1 cm. **Bráctea espatácea** ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, florece una sola vez, paniculada, la panícula compuesta por 3 racimos cortos, paniculada, laxa, erecta, 12 cm de largo; pedúnculo lateralmente aplanado, ancipitoso, recto, 55 mm de largo, provisto en la parte media de 1 bráctea tubular en la base, conduplicada en el ápice, aguda, 10 mm de largo; raquis lateralmente aplanado, ancipitoso, algo flexuoso. **Bráctea floral** más cortas que el ovario, triangulares, agudas, conduplicadas, amplexicaules, 2-3 mm de largo. **Ovario** terete, delgado, no inflado, liso, 6 mm de largo. **Flores** 20, simultáneas, no resupinadas, sépalos y pétalos amarillo verdosos con manchas marrones, labelo blanco; sin datos de fragancia. **Sépalos** extendidos, libres, obovados, redondeados, diminutamente apiculados, 5-nervados, margen entero, 5.7 x 3 mm. **Pétalos** extendidos, libres, cuneado espatulados, truncado redondeados, diminutamente apiculados, 3-nervados, margen entero, 5.3 x 1.7 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, muy reducido, suborbicular en forma general, subentero, el margen muy irregular; bicalloso, con un par de quillas carnosas, bajas; formando incipientemente un par de lóbulos laterales pequeños, triangulares, 0.8 x 3.5 mm; lóbulo medio transversalmente subrectangular, redondeado, diminutamente apiculado, 1.7 x 4 mm. **Columna** recta, algo engrosada, 4 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** sobrepasando ligeramente el ápice de la columna, margen dentado. **Antera** subreniforme, con una quilla dorsal carnosas, 2-locular. **Polinios** 2, obovoides, lateralmente aplanados; caudículas 2, laminares, duras. **Rostelo** apical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** obsoletos. **Nectario** sin penetrar el perianto, amplio frente a la cavidad estigmática, angosto y agudo a la altura del perianto. **Cápsula** no vista.

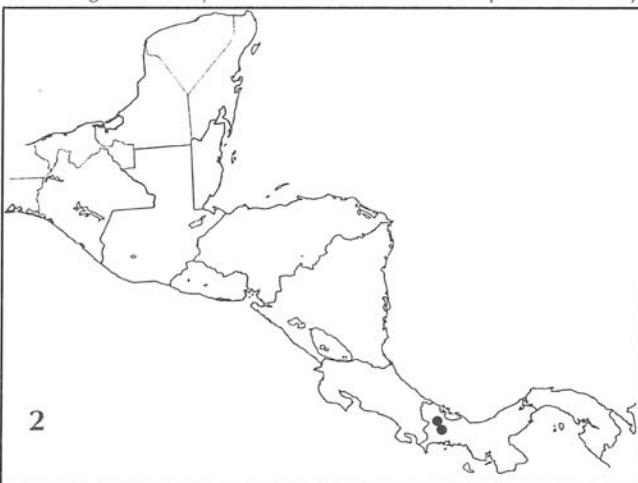
Epiphytic, sympodial scandent herb. **Roots** originating along the basal internodes of each stem, fleshy, thin. **Stems** simple, produced from the lower part of the previous stem, cane-like, terete at the base, laterally compressed above, thin, erect, slightly flexuous; the lower part covered by non-foliaceous, tubular sheaths. **Leaves** 6, distributed along the apical half of the stem, alternate, articulate, the lower ones generally deciduous; sheath tubular, minutely striated; blade narrowly elliptic, acute, minutely apiculate, margin entire. **Inflorescence** apical, flowering only once, paniculate, the panicle formed by 3 short racemes, lax, few-flowered, erect; peduncle laterally compressed, ancipitose, straight, provided in the middle with one bract, tubular towards the base, conduplicate above, acute, rachis laterally compressed, ancipitose, somewhat flexuous. **Floral bracts** shorter than the ovary, triangular, acute, conduplicate, amplexicaul. **Ovary** terete, thin, not inflated, smooth. **Flowers** 20, simultaneous, non-resupinate, sepals and petals greenish yellow with brown spots, the lip white. **Sepals** spreading, free, obovate, rounded, minutely apiculate, 5-veined, margin entire. **Petals** spreading, free, cuneate-spatulate, truncate to rounded, minutely apiculate, 3-veined, margin entire. **Lip** united to the column, very reduced, suborbicular in general outline, subentire, the margin very irregular; bicallose, with a pair of low keels; forming a pair of small, incipient, triangular lateral lobes; midlobe transversely subrectangular, rounded, minutely apiculate. **Column** straight, somewhat thickened. **Clinandrium-hood** slightly longer than the apex of the column, entire, margin dentate. **Anther** subreniform, with a fleshy dorsal keel, 2-celled. **Pollinia** 2, obovoid, laterally compressed caudicles 2, laminar, hard. **Rostellum** apical, slit. **Nectary** without penetrating the ovary, wide in front of the stigmatic cavity, narrow and acute at the bottom.

**OTHER SPECIMENS:** None seen.

**OTHER RECORDS:** PANAMÁ: Chiriquí: Cerro Punta, Finca Dracula, *Soto s.n.*, spirit, AMO!

**DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY:** Known only from the summit of the cordillera in western Panama, epiphytic at 2200 m altitude. Flowering in March.

**RECOGNITION:** *Epidendrum dwyerioides* belongs to the Neowilliamsia Group characterized by the ancipitose stems and rachis, the rachis with conduplicate, acute bracts, distichous, non-resupinate flowers, the lip often digitate and the 2 or 4 pollinia with 2 hard, laminar, caudicles. The species is recognized by the paniculate inflorescence with greenish yellow flowers with brown spots, a very reduced, subentire, white lip with a pair of triangular lateral lobes, the nectary wide in front of the stigmatic cavity and narrow at the bottom. *Epidendrum dwyeri* Hágsater has a similar inflorescence but the flowers are larger (sepals 7-8.6 mm long), the lip subentire with the margin sinuate to forming 4, short, digit-like lobes.



*Epidendrum philovercklei* Hágsater & E.Santiago has the lip clearly 3-lobed, with the column and claw of the lip forming a wide aperture and the nectary wide and rounded at the bottom.

**CONSERVATION STATUS:** DD. Data deficient.

**ETYMOLOGY:** in reference to the similarity of this species to *E. dwyeri*, thus the ending οειδης, indicating resemblance. Dr. John D. Dwyer, was Curator Emeritus of the Missouri Botanical Garden, and specialist in Central American Rubiaceae.

Authors: E. Hágsater & E. Santiago

Illustrator: R. Jiménez M.

Editors: E. Hágsater & L. Sánchez S.

Herbario AMO Apartado Postal 53-123, 11320 México, D.F., MÉXICO

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