



EPIDENDRUM ELCIMEYAE Hágsater & García-Cruz  
THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 2

*EPIDENDRUM ELCIMEYAE* Hágsater et García-Cruz, *sp. nov.*

Holotype: COSTA RICA: Cartago: Orillas del Río Purisil, 1350 m, pressed 20 Dec. 1982, *C. Horich sub E. Hágsater 6948* AMO! (illustration voucher).

*Epidendro microdendron* Rchb. f. simile sed labello brevior acuto non acuminato, foliis brevioribus.

**Hierba** epífita, ca. 7-20 cm de alto. **Raíces** filiformes, basales, 1 mm de grosor. **Tallos** ramificados, flexuosos, ancipitosos, casi completamente cubiertos por vainas foliares. **Hojas** numerosas, distribuidas a todo lo largo de los tallos, coriáceas; vaina tubular, ancipitosa, longitudinalmente estriada, transversalmente rugosa, especialmente al envejecer, verde claro a oscuro o amoratada, algo dilatada hacia el ápice, 4-9 x 3 mm; lámina articulada, angostamente lanceolada, ápice bilobado, transversalmente rugosa, en el mismo plano del tallo, haz de color verde oscuro, envés más claro y grisáceo, con la quilla de color morado-pardo oscuro, 1.7-1.8 x 0.4 cm. **Espata** ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, en los tallos principal y laterales, racemosa, flexuosa, ca. 2.5 cm de largo; pedúnculo ancipitoso; raquis filiforme. **Brácteas florales** claramente más largas que el ovario, ovadas, agudas, conduplicadas, papiráceas y pardas aún en flores frescas, 6-8 x 4 mm. **Flores** 2-3, complanadas, alternas, no resupinadas, verde-amarillentas. **Ovario** dilatado hacia el perianto, terete, 3.5 mm de largo. **Sépalo dorsal** extendido, angostamente lanceolado, agudo, fuertemente mucronado, 3-nervado, 6.5 x 2 mm. **Sépalos laterales** entreabiertos, triangular-ovados, agudos, ligeramente arqueados en posición natural, fuertemente mucronados, 3-nervados, 7 x 2.7 mm. **Pétalos** extendidos, angostamente oblongos, obtusos, 3-nervados, 6 x 0.9 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, entero, triangular-cordado, agudo, en forma de cucharón en posición natural, 4 x 3 mm; unicallosos, tridentado; disco con 3 nervaduras centrales formando quillas romas. **Columna** recta, corta y gruesa, 2 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** reducido, entero. **Antera** obovoide, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, obovoides, lateralmente comprimidos; caudículas de longitud similar a los polinios, granuladas, viscidio semilíquido. **Rostelo** hendido, subapical. **Lóbulos laterales de la cavidad estigmática** reducidos. **Nectario** penetrando 1/3 del ovario, ancho, no ornamentado. **Cápsula** ovoide, sésil, 13-14 x 6 mm, en el ápice formando un cuello de unos 2.5 mm de largo.

Epiphytic, branched herb. **Roots** filiform. **Stems** branched, flexuous, ancipitous. **Leaves** distributed throughout the stems, coriaceous; sheath ancipitous, striated and rugose; blade articulate, narrowly lanceolate, apex bilobed, rugose. **Inflorescence** apical, from the main stem and branches, racemose; peduncle ancipitose; rachis filiform. **Floral bracts** longer than the ovary, ovate, acute, conduplicate, papiraceous. **Flowers** 2-3, complanate, alternate, non-resupinate, yellowish-green. **Ovary** dilated towards the perianth. **Dorsal Sepal** spreading, narrowly lanceolate, acute, 3-veined. **Lateral sepals** partly spreading, triangular-ovate, acute, 3-veined. **Petals** spreading, narrowly oblong, obtuse, 3-veined. **Lip** entire, triangular-cordate, acute; callus tridentate; 3 veins forming low rounded keels on the disc. **Column** straight, short and thick. **Anther** obovoid, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, obovoid, laterally compressed; caudicles granulate; viscidium semiliquid. **Rostellum** slit. **Nectary** penetrating 1/3 of the ovary, wide, not ornamented. **Capsule** ovoid, sessile, with a short tapering neck at the apex of the body.

**OTHER SPECIMENS:** COSTA RICA: Limón: Región de San Carlos, *Riog 8* CR! F!

**RECOGNITION:** *Epidendrum elcimeyae* has a branching habit, without an obvious main stem in large, adult plants, the stems are ancipitous, very flat, leaves are less than 20 mm long, especially on the main stem, and it has a 2-3 flowered inflorescence with the rachis filiform, the acute, triangular-cordiform lip with a tridentate callus. It is easily confused with its sister species, *E. microdendron* which is distinguished by its long acuminate lip, and the longer leaves, those of the main stem being over 25-35 mm long. The plant is similar in size and shape to that of *E. cordiforme* C. Schweinf., but that species has terete stems and differently shaped floral segments, the petals and lip being wider. *Epidendrum microdendron* is the more common species, from higher altitude, being found mainly at 2000-3100 m. *Epidendrum chirripoënsis* Hágsater is similar but is larger in every way, the leaves of the main stem 45 mm long, the lip being triangular, cordate and acute but ecallose.

**DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY:** Apparently restricted to the Atlantic slope and lowlands of Costa Rica, up to about 1350 m altitude. Flowering in cultivation in December.

**CONSERVATION STATUS:** DD (data deficient).



**ETYMOLOGY:** In honor of Elcimey Baldizón, companion of Clarence Kl. Horich, who accompanied him on some of his field trips. She also accompanied the senior author together with Clarence on several occasions.