

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS

***Epidendrum exiguum* A. & S. sp. nov.** Herba epiphytica, pusilla. Caules humiles, simplices vel paulo ramosi, distichophylli, foliorum vaginis omnino obtecti. Folia parvula, ovalia, in apice bilobata, late patentia. Inflorescentiae terminales; racemi abbreviati, pauciflori. Bracteeae conspicuae, conduplicatae. Sepala lateralibus oblique triangulari-lanceolata, in apice carinata. Sepalum dorsale lanceolato-oblongum. Petala linearia. Labellum columnae valde adnatum; lamina anguste triangularis, in basi cordata.

Plant epiphytic, dwarf, up to 9.2 cm. tall. Roots fibrous, filiform, glabrous. Stems simple or often with one short branch, entirely concealed by sheaths of which the lower ones appear scarious and without leaf-blades. Leaves oval or round-elliptic, up to 1 cm. long and 5 mm. wide, obtusely bilobed, clasping at the rounded base, coriaceous, the mid-nerve sulcate above and sharply carinate beneath, horizontally spreading. Inflorescence racemose, terminal, abbreviated, 2- to 4-flowered, erect. Floral bracts conspicuous, broadly ovate, up to 6.5 mm. long, conduplicate, scarious, rigid-nervose. Flowers small, rigid-nervose. Lateral sepals obliquely triangular-lanceolate, anterior margin at base gradually dilated, 5-5.5 mm. long, about 1.7 mm. wide near the base, acute, with a prominent dorsal keel extended into a mucro at the apex. Dorsal sepal lanceolate-

63

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS

oblong, 5-5.8 mm. long, up to 1.2 mm. wide, acute, slightly carinate on the outer surface. Petals obliquely linear, 5-5.5 mm. long, more or less slightly narrowed toward the base, subacute. Labellum deeply adnate to the column; lamina narrowly triangular, tubular-involute in natural position, cordate at base, 3.8-4 mm. long, up to 3 mm. wide near the base when expanded. Column up to 2 mm. long, stout, 3-toothed at the tip with the lateral teeth prominent and porrect and the middle tooth relatively short broad and dentate. Ovary with a small but conspicuous vesicle just below the flower in front.

The plant was described from herbarium specimens.

Epidendrum exiguum is nearly related to *E. strobiliferum* Reichb. f., but it differs in being a very dwarf plant with small leaves, slightly branched stems, and somewhat larger flowers with narrower segments.

COSTA RICA, Province of Cartago, Vicinity of Pejivalle, Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio 47036, February 7-8, 1926. About 900 meters altitude. "On tree." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33596); Standley & Valerio 47045.