

EPIDENDRUM FORTUNAE Hágsater et Dressler, sp. nov.

Type: PANAMA: Chiriquí: Boquete. Fortuna dam site, epiphytic, in cloud forest, 10 February 1985, *Henk van der Werff & Cor van Hardeveld 6855*. Holotype: AMO! (Illustration voucher). Isotype: MO!

Epidendro fuscino (Dressler) Hágsater simile sed floribus minoribus, labelli magnitudine minus quam dimidio, labelli lobis lateralibus vix longioribus quam latoribus, distinguibile.

Hierba epífita, cespitosa, simpodial, ca. 45 cm de alto. **Raíces** basales, carnosas, 1.1-1.5 mm de grosor. **Tallos** sencillos, tipo caña, teretes, de más de 31 x 0.22-0.35 cm. **Hojas** 10 o más, distribuidas lo largo de la mitad apical del tallo, alternas, semejantes entre sí; vaina tubular, finamente estriada y verrugosa, 13-35 x 0.22-0.35 mm; lámina lanceolada a elíptica, ápice desigualmente bilobado, margen entero, lisa, 1.3-8.6 x 1.0-1.9 cm. **Bráctea** espalácea ausente. **Inflorescencias** apical y laterales, racemosas a incipientemente paniculadas, las laterales extendidas, distribuidas hacia la parte apical del tallo, surgiendo a partir de la base de la vaina foliar; la apical de 6 flores, erecta, 5-11 cm de largo; las laterales con 4-6 flores, 3.3-9.7 cm de largo; pedúnculo corto, terete; 5-15 mm de largo, desprovisto de brácteas. **Brácteas florales** mucho más cortas que el ovario, abrazadoras, triangulares, agudas; 2-6 mm de largo. **Flores** numerosas, 4-6 por inflorescencia, simultáneas, resupinadas, sépalos y pétalos verde pálido, labelo y columna blancos, callo amarillo; fragancia muy intensa. **Ovario** terete, delgado, no inflado, liso; 17-25 mm de largo. **Sépalos** extendidos, libres, angostamente obovados, obtusos, diminutamente apiculados, 6-7-nervados, margen entero, 9-11 x 3.7-4.2 mm. **Pétalos** extendidos, libres, anchamente cuneados, redondeados, 3-nervados, las nervaduras laterales muy ramificadas desde la base dando la apariencia de ser 5-nervados, margen entero; 8.5-10 x 3-4.7 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, trilobado, truncado; 4-5.2 x 4-7.3 mm; bicalloso, los callos delgados, alargados hasta la base del lóbulo medio; lóbulos laterales hemiorbiculares, el margen basal casi recto, ápice redondeado, margen entero; 2-3 x 1.6-2.3 mm; lóbulo medio subulado, ápice angostamente redondeado; 2.3-2.8 x 0.8-1.2 mm. **Columna** recta, 7 mm de largo, terminada en 4-lóbulos laminares, truncados, algo petaloides, con el margen eroso dentados. **Clinandrium** corto, bilobado, margen eroso dentado. **Antera** obovoide, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, obovoideos, lateralmente comprimidos; caudículas granulosas, angostas, del doble del largo de los polinios. **Rostelo** perpendicular con respecto al eje de la columna, formando un seno amplio. **Nectario** penetrando poco menos de la mitad del ovario, no inflado, liso. **Cápsula** no vista.

Epiphytic, caespitose, sympodial herb. **Stems** simple, cane-like, terete, erect. **Leaves** 10 or more, distributed throughout the upper half of the stem; sheath tubular, verrucose, blade lanceolate to elliptic, apex unequally bilobed. **Inflorescences** apical and laterals, racemose to slightly paniculate, the lateral inflorescences spreading, straight, with 4-6 flowers, the lateral ones arising from the base of the leaf-sheaths. **Floral bracts** much shorter than the ovary, triangular, acute. **Ovary** terete, not inflated. **Flowers** 4-6 per inflorescence, simultaneous, resupinate, sepals and petals pale green, column and lip white, callus yellow, very fragrant. **Sepals** spreading, free, narrowly obovate, obtuse, minutely apiculate, 6-7-veined, margin entire. **Petals** spreading, free, widely cuneate, rounded, 3-veined, the lateral veins branching from the base so as to appear 5-veined, margin entire. **Lip** united to the column, three-lobed, truncate, bicallose, calli long, reaching the base of the midlobe; lateral lobes hemiorbicular, the basal margin more or less straight, apex rounded; midlobe subulate, apex narrowly rounded. **Column** straight, apex ending in 4 petaloid lobes. **Clinandrium**-hood short, divided into two subquadrate, petaloid lobes, the apical margin erose. **Anther** obovoid, 4-celled. **Nectary** penetrating somewhat less than half the ovary, smooth.

OTHER SPECIMENS: PANAMA: Bocas del Toro: Fortuna, 1200-1300 m, III 2001, *Carrera 178*, AMO! Chiriquí: 5 km N of Fortuna Lake, 1100-1135 m, 8 III 1985, *Croat 60021*, MO! Cerro Fortuna, 1300-1400 m, 20 III 1978, *Dressler 5785*, AMO! Fortuna (dam) 1300-1400 m, 23 III 1978, *Hammel 2245*, MO! Los Planes de Hornito, 1100-1200 m, 17 VI 1982, *Knapp 5549*, MO! Fortuna, 1100 m, 16 II 1985, *Luer 10580*, MO! Ibid. 1250 m, 29 VI 1987, *McPherson 11147*, MO! Ibid., 7 II 1985, *van der Werff 6651*, MO!

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Endemic to Panama, Chiriquí and Bocas del Toro provinces, near the top of the intercontinental divide, Cerro Fortuna and Fortuna dam site, at 1100-1400 m altitude, in cloud forest. Flowering from February to March, June.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum fortuneae* belongs to the Oerstedella Group which is characterized by the sympodial habit, mostly verrucose stems, and the rostellum which is transverse to the column instead of parallel, forming a wide, open sinus, and Intermixtum Subgroup which has small, membranaceous flowers with a bifid, petaloid clinandrium-hood, and laterally compressed, obovoid pollinia with long, granulate caudicles. The new species is closely similar to *E. fuscino*, and is distinguished from it by the taller plants, smaller flowers (sepals 9-11 mm) and the noticeably smaller lip, the lateral lobes being only slightly longer than wide (2-3 mm long). *Epidendrum fuscino* has 13-15 mm long sepals, with the lateral lobes of the lip 7-10 mm long, and about 2-3 times longer than wide. It is closely related to *Epidendrum folsomii* Hágsater which is found at lower altitudes, 600-800 m altitude around El Copé; that species flowers in July to October. It appears that these three species are highly localized, though clearly recognizable by the size, thickness of the flowers and especially the lip. Nearly all specimens have been previously identified as *Epidendrum intermixtum* Ames, F.T.Hubb. & C.Schweinf. which is restricted to central-western Costa Rica and not found in Panama.

CONSERVATIONS STATUS: DD. Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: In reference to Cerro Fortuna, and the dam below it, in western Panama, near where the species has been found up to now.

