

EPIDENDRUM HEMIHENOMENUM Hágsater et Dodson, sp. nov.

Type: ECUADOR: Loja: Bajando del puerto de Zamora a Loja, ca. 1 km abajo del puerto, 3°59'08"S 79°05'35"W, 3000 m, 28 January 2004, *E. Hágsater & Lester Lapo 14070*. Holotype: The illustration herewith published. Original, AMO! Xerox copies: AMES! LOJA! MO! QCA! QCNE! SEL! USM!

Epidendro cleistocoleo Hágsater & E. Santiago simile sed floribus brunneo-rubellis, sepalis ad apicem dorsaliter rugosis, petalis oblongis, labello carinis et venis incrassatis carenti, columna connata in labelli dimidio basali differens.

Hierba epífita, erecta. **Raíces** no vistas. **Tallos** originándose de los entrenudos apicales del tallo anterior, tipo caña, teretes, delgados, rectos, teñidos de púrpura, 0.6 cm de grosor. **Hojas** numerosas, distribuidas a lo largo del tallo, 5 persistentes hacia el ápice del tallo, articuladas, disticas, subcoriáceas; vaina tubular, finamente estriada, 22 x 6 mm; lámina linear lanceolada, ápice redondeado, diminutamente bilobado, con una quilla dorsal diminuta, dorsalmente de color verde claro, la superficie ventral con difuminaciones purpúreas, margen entero, 5-6.5 x 0.9-1.2 cm. **Bráctea espatácea** ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, racemosa, corta, arqueada nutante, florece una sola vez, 2.5 cm de largo; pedúnculo corto, terete, delgado. **Brácteas florales** más cortas que el ovario, triangulares, agudas, 4 mm de largo. **Ovario** terete, delgado, no inflado, no ornamentado, 9 mm de largo. **Flores** 9, resupinadas, sucesivas, estando abiertas hasta 4 de manera simultánea, abriendo de la base hacia el ápice de la inflorescencia, carnosas, pardo rojizas; sin datos de fragancia. **Sépalos** entreabiertos, libres, subagudos, diminutamente apiculados, rugosos en el ápice de la superficie dorsal, margen entero, 12-12.2 x 3.6-4.4 mm; el **dorsal** oblongo oblanceolado, 3-nervado; los **laterales** oblongo elípticos, 5-nervados, oblicuos. **Pétalos** entreabiertos, libres, oblongos, redondeados, 3-nervados, margen apical eroso, 11 x 2.5 mm. **Labello** unido a la mitad basal de la columna, entero, transversalmente elíptico, ápice anchamente mucronado, 4-lobado, los lóbulos redondeados, el par externo más corto que el par interno, base ampliamente cuneada, margen eroso, 12.7 x 16 mm; ecalloso, desprovisto de quillas. **Columna** libre en la mitad apical, recta, gruesa, 8 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** corto, margen entero. **Rostelo** apical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** de 1/3 del largo de la cavidad estigmática. **Antera** reniforme, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, obovoides; caudículas suaves y granulosas, cortas. **Nectario** corto, sin penetrar el perianto, amplio, no ornamentado. **Cápsula** no vista.

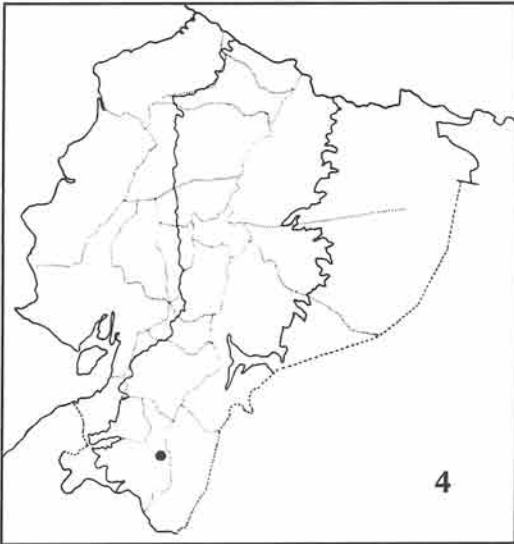
Epiphytic, erect, **herb.** **Stems** originating from the upper internodes of the previous stem, cane-like, terete, thin, straight, tinted purple. **Leaves** numerous, distributed throughout the stem, 5 persistent towards the apex of the stem, articulate, distichous, subcoriaceous; sheath tubular, minutely striated; blade linear-lanceolate, apex rounded, minutely bilobed, with a minute dorsal keel, dorsally light green, ventrally tinged purple, margin entire. **Inflorescence** apical, racemose, short, arching-nutant, flowering only once; peduncle short, terete, thin. **Floral bracts** shorter than the ovary, triangular, acute. **Ovary** terete, thin, smooth. **Flowers** 9, resupinate, successive, 4 open at one time, fleshy, reddish brown. **Sepals** partly spreading, subacute, minutely apiculate, dorsally rugose towards the apex, margin entire; the **dorsal** oblong-lanceolate, 3-veined; the **laterals** oblong-elliptic, oblique, 5-veined. **Petals** partly spreading, free, oblong, rounded, 3-veined, apical margin erose. **Lip** united to the basal half of the column, entire, transversely elliptic, apex widely mucronate, 4-lobed, the lobes rounded, the outer pair shorter than the inner pair, base widely cuneate, margin erose; ecallose, without keels. **Column** basal half united to the lip, straight, thick. **Clinandrium hood** short, margin entire. **Rostellum** apical, slit. **Anther** reniform, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, obovoid; caudicles soft and granulose, short. **Nectary** short, wide, smooth.

OTHER SPECIMENS: None seen.

OTHER RECORDS: ECUADOR: Loja: Zamora a Loja, bajando del puerto, 3000 m, 28 I 2004, *Hágsater 14070*, digital photo at AMO! spirit AMO!

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from the type locality, a roadside bank recently colonized by various orchid species, on the upper western slope, east of Loja, at about 3000 m altitude. Flowering in January.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum hemihenomenum* belongs to the *Diothonea* Group and Subgroup which is characterized by the branching plants, linear lanceolate to oblong, bilobed leaves, racemose, arching-nutant inflorescence, membranaceous flowers (rarely fleshy), the entire to 3-lobed, ecallose lip with the margin erose, with or without 1-10 thin, smooth to erose keels, the column completely to obliquely united to the lip, the anther reniform. The species has short inflorescences, 2.5 cm long, fleshy flowers, sepals and petals partly spreading, reddish brown, sepals apically and dorsally rugose, petals oblong, lip transversely elliptic, without keels, base widely cuneate, the apex mucronate, 4-lobed and the column only united along the basal half to the lip. It is similar to *Epidendrum cleistocoleum* which has spreading, greenish brown sepals and petals with red or reddish dots and the lip deep red to purple, the sepals dorsally smooth, petals



linear-lanceolate, the lip has multiple thickened veins and is not mucronate, and the column is free with a pair of rounded wings at the base. *Epidendrum aureoglobiflorum* Hágsater & Dodson has a short inflorescence, 1 cm long, greenish yellow sepals, yellow petals and lip, the sepals dorsally with reddish brown warts, petals oblong-lanceolate, lip subreniform with the base deeply cordate, and the column obliquely united to the lip. *Epidendrum ardens* Kraenzl. of the *Scabrum* Group, *Soratae* Subgroup, has somewhat similar flowers, though these are scarlet red, orange or rarely reddish brown, longer inflorescences, 5-7.5 cm long, sepals are dorsally papillose, petals linear, lip reniform, deeply cordate at the base, bicallose, and the column is totally united to the lip.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD. Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek ημι- half, and ηνωμενος- united, half-united, in reference to the column and lip which are united along the basal half.

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