

EPIDENDRUM HORNITENSE Hágsater & L.Sánchez

Plate 841

*EPIDENDRUM HORNITENSE* Hágsater et L.Sánchez, *sp. nov.*

Type: PANAMA: Chiriquí: Camp Hornito, Fortuna dam site, 8°44'N 82°13'W, 1000-1200 m, 12 August 1976, **Robert L. Dressler 5326**. Holotype: AMO 2324! (Illustration voucher). Isotype: PMA!

*Epidendrum monophlebium* Hágsater simile sed petalis trinervatis, labello anguste triangulari, ad basem cordato, ad apicem carnosum, differens.

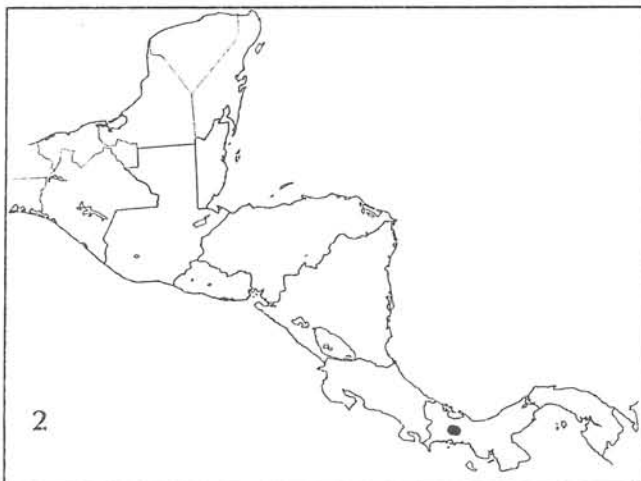
**Hierba** epífita, monopodial, ramificada, 25-30 cm ó más de alto. **Raíces** basales, filiformes, 0.5-0.8 mm de grosor. **Tallos** ramificados, tipo caña, teretes, cubiertos por vainas rugosas, el principal 23-30 x 0.15-0.2 cm; los tallos secundarios 6-10 x 0.1-0.13 cm; los tallos terciarios más cortos, producidos de los secundarios, 1.5-2.0 x 0.1-0.12 cm. **Hojas** numerosas, en los tallos principal, secundario y terciarios; 6-8 en los secundarios, 1-2 hojas en los tallos terciarios; vaina foliar tubular, rugosa, 0.5-1.5 cm de largo; láminas foliares articuladas, lineal elípticas, oblicuamente bilocadas, las del tallo principal 3.5-5 x 0.40-0.48 cm, las de los tallos secundarios, 2-4 x 0.35-0.45 cm, las de los tallos terciarios 1.8-3 x 0.25-0.28 cm. **Bráctea** espátacea ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical de los tallos secundarios y terciarios, racemosa, dística, erecta a arqueada, 1.5-2 cm de largo; pedúnculo muy corto, 1.5-2 mm de largo; el raquis en zigzag. **Brácteas florales** más largas que el ovario, con duplicadas, ovadas, obtusas a agudas, 4.3-4.5 x 2-2.2 mm. **Ovario** terete, ligeramente inflado hacia el ápice, liso, 3.0-3.2 x 0.4-0.6 mm. **Flores** 2-6, simultáneas, no resupinadas, verde amarillento pálido, fragancia no registrada. **Sépalos** glabros, libres, entreabiertos, lanceolados, acuminados, 3-nervados, margen entero, extendido, subcoriáceos, 4.2-4.5 x 0.9-1.1 mm; los laterales oblicuos, ápice con una carina dorsal pequeña, cortamente aristados. **Pétalos** glabros, libres, reflexos, lineares, agudos, 3-nervados, los laterales cortos, margen entero, extendido, 4.0-4.2 x 0.05-0.1 mm. **Labello** unido a la columna, entero, coriáceo, acanalado en posición natural, angostamente triangular, base cordada, ángulos basales redondeados, ápice carnososo, 3.0-3.2 x 1.1-1.3 mm; callo laminar, sulcado en la base, tridentado y terminando en 3 quillas muy cortas. **Columna** corta, recta, 1.2-1.4 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** reducido, entero. **Antera** subesférica, con un pico apical agudo, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, obovoides, caudículas suaves y granuladas, de longitud semejante a la de los polinios. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** cortos, de 1/3 de la cavidad estigmática. **Nectario** penetrando 1/2 del ovario, ligeramente inflado, liso. **Cápsula** no vista.

Epiphytic, monopodial branching herb. **Roots** basal, filiform, thin. **Stems** branching, cane-like, terete, covered by rugose sheaths, the evident main stem tall, with shorter secondary stems which branch into very short tertiary flowering branches. **Leaves** numerous on the main stem, 6-8 on the secondary stems and 1-2 on the flowering stems, and these somewhat over half the size of those of the main stem; sheaths tubular, rugose; blade articulate, linear-elliptic, apex obliquely bilobed. **Inflorescence** apical from the secondary and tertiary or flowering stems, racemose, distichous, erect to arching; peduncle very short; rachis zigzag. **Floral bracts** longer than the ovary, conduplicate, ovate, obtuse to acute. **Ovary** terete, slightly inflated towards the apex, smooth. **Flowers** 2-6, simultaneous, non-resupinate, pale yellowish green. **Sepals** glabrous, free, partly spreading, lanceolate, acuminate, 3-veined, margin entire, spreading, subcoriaceous; the lateral sepals oblique, dorsal keel short aristate. **Petals** glabrous, free, reflexed, linear, acute, 3-veined, the lateral veins short, margin entire, spreading. **Lip** united to the column, entire, coriaceous, channel-shaped in natural position, narrowly triangular, base cordate, the basal angles rounded, apex fleshy; callus laminar, sulcate at the base, apex tridentate and ending in 3 very short keels. **Column** short, straight. **Anther** sub spherical, with a short apical, acute beak, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, obovoid, laterally compressed; caudicles soft and granulose, slightly longer than the pollinia; viscidium semi liquid. **Nectary** penetrating half the ovary, slightly inflated, smooth.

**OTHER SPECIMENS:** PANAMA: Chiriquí: Fortuna Dam area, along trail from road across Río Hornito, 1100-1250 m, 7 VII 1988, *McPherson 12850*, AMO! MO! (Illustration, AMO!)

**DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY:** Known only from western Panama, from the area around Cerro Hornito and Cerro Fortuna. Epiphyte in wet forest at 1000-1250 m altitude. Flowering in August.

**RECOGNITION:** *Epidendrum hornitense* belongs to the Ramosum Group which is characterized by the monopodial, branching stems, the spike-like, distichous inflorescence, and the single callus, and the Rugosum Subgroup which has branching habit with few-flowered inflorescences from short, secondary stems, the leaf-sheaths rugose. The species has teretes stems, 3-veined, lanceolate sepals, linear, 3-veined petals (the lateral veins short), a narrowly triangular, acute lip, cordate basally and fleshy thickened towards the apex. It is similar to *Epidendrum monophlebium* Hágsater from central Costa Rica, which has similarly small flowers, 1-veined petals, the lip truncate at the base, apically acuminate and not fleshy thickened. *Epidendrum sanchoi* Ames has white to greenish white, somewhat larger flowers (sepals 4.5-6.5 mm long), 5-veined, acute sepals with a prominent dorsal, apical keel, and the triangular, acuminate lip 4-5 mm long, ecallose, the disc with 3 thickened nerves. *Epidendrum orthodontum* Hágsater & L.Sánchez, has larger flowers, the 5-veined sepals 9-12 mm long, a 3-lobed lip 7-9 mm long, and a thick column with an erect apical tooth and a pair of lateral subquadrate wings.



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

**ETYMOLOGY:** In reference to the locality of Cerro Hornito, near which the type specimen was collected.