



EPIDENDRUM MONOPHLEBIUM Hágster
THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 2

Plate 358
ICONES ORCHIDACEARUM 3. 1999

EPIDENDRUM MONOPHLEBIUM Hágster, sp. nov.

Holotype: COSTA RICA: Cartago: Vertiente Atlántica oriental, orillas del Río Purisil, 1350 m, 20 Nov. 1982, C. Horich sub E. Hágster 6932 USJ! Isotypes: AMO! (illustration voucher), SEL! Clonotype: 2 Sep. 1982 AMES!

Epidendro sanchoi Ames simile sed labello ad basem truncato, callo 3-dentato et petalis 1-nervatis.

Hierba epífita, cespitosa, erecta, 25-50 cm de alto. Raíces basales, carnosas, filiformes, 1 mm de grosor. Tallos ramificados, teretes, flexuosos, el principal de 30 cm de largo o más, 2-3 mm de grosor, los secundarios de 3.5-10 cm de largo incluyendo la inflorescencia, 1.2-2.8 mm de grosor, los terciarios de 1.5-3.5 cm de largo incluyendo la inflorescencia, 1-1.5 mm de grosor. Hojas numerosas, distribuidas a lo largo del tallo, los secundarios con 3-5 hojas; vaina tubular, rugosa, 5-25 mm de largo; lámina angostamente oblonga, ápice bilobado, carinada, coriácea, las del tallo principal 4-5.5 x 0.3-0.7 cm, las de los tallos secundarios 1-3(4) x 0.17-0.3 cm, las de los tallos terciarios 1-2 x 0.15-0.3 cm. Espata ausente. Inflorescencia apical producida en cualquiera de las ramificaciones, racemosa, distíca, laxa, 1-1.8 cm de largo; pedúnculo corto, 0.1-0.3 cm de largo; brácteas 0-1, oblongo-triangular, oblícua, conduplicada, envolvente, hasta 3 mm de largo; raquis flexuoso. Brácteas florales más largas que el ovario, abrazadoras, espaciadas, triangular-oblongas, agudas, 2-4 mm. Ovario no inflado, 2-4 mm de largo. Flores 4-5(6), simultáneas, el labelo siempre del lado del raquis, color verde pálido, aparentemente inodoras. Sépalos extendidos, lanceolados, acuminados, margen entero, 3-nervados, 4-5 x 1.2-1.5 mm; los laterales inflexos, oblícuos. Pétalos extendidos, lineares, agudos, margen extendido, entero, 1-nervados, 4.5-5 x 0.5 mm. Labelo unido a la columna, entero, triangular, base truncada, acuminado, margen entero, 2.7-3 x 2 mm; callo laminar, tridentado. Columna recta, corta, 2 mm de largo. Clinandrio reducido, entero. Antera obovoide, 4-locular. Polinios 4, obovoides, lateralmente comprimidos; caudículas suaves y granulosas, más largas que los polinios; viscidio semiliquido, transparente. Rostelo subapical, hendido. Lóbulos laterales del estigma de 1/3 del largo de la cavidad estigmática. Nectario poco profundo, apenas sobrepasando el perianto. Cápsula no vista.

Caespitose, epiphytic herb. Roots basal, filiform. Stems branched, terete, flexuous. Leaves distributed throughout the stems; sheaths rugose; blades narrowly oblong, apex bilobed, coriaceous, those of the main stem about twice the size of those of the secondary or tertiary stems. Inflorescence apical, from any of the ramifications, a flexuous distichous raceme. Floral bracts longer than the ovary. Ovary not inflated. Flowers 4-5(6), simultaneous. The lip always against the raquis, pale green. Sepals lanceolate, acuminate, 3-veined. Petals linear, acute, 1-veined. Lip entire, triangular, base truncate, acuminate; callus 3-dentate. Column straight, short. Clinandrium reduced, entire. Anther obovoid. Pollinia 4, laterally compressed. Nectary slightly penetrating the ovary beyond the perianth.

OTHER SPECIMENS: COSTA RICA: Alajuela: La Palma de San Ramón, Lent 1719 CR! F! SEL! Viento Fresco, Valerio 353 F! Heredia: Zurquí, Gómez 2421 CR! F! U! Vara Blanca de Sarapiquí, Lankester s.n. SEL!

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known from the Cordillera Central in Costa Rica, at 1200-1800 m altitude. Epiphytic in forest remnants in pastures. Flowering June, October-November.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum monophlebioides* is closely related to *Epidendrum sanchoi*, and can be recognized by its branching stems, 4-6 flowered distichous raceme, pale green flowers, linear, 1-veined petals and triangular lip with the base truncate, and the 3-dentate callus. *Epidendrum sanchoi* has a similar overall appearance, but the petals are 3-veined and the lip cordate at the base, ecallose with 3 thickened veins. *Epidendrum nutantirhachis* Ames & C. Schweinf. is wider overall, the leaves being 5-15 mm wide and the sepals 6-9 mm long.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD (data deficient). It appears to grow well in disturbed sites.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek "mono" one, and "phleba" vein, one-veined, in reference to the one-veined petals which distinguish this species from its close relatives.

