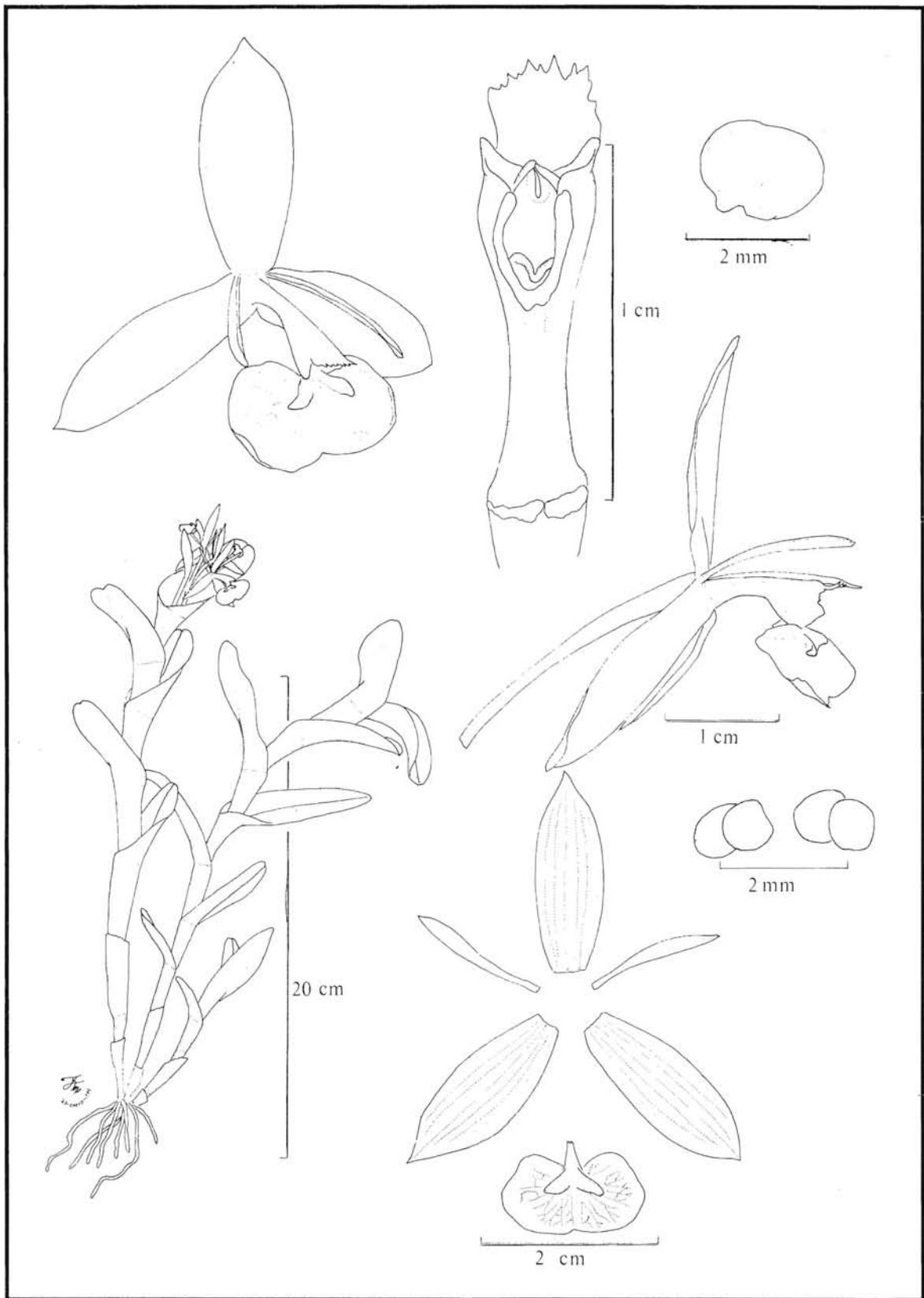




EPIDENDRUM PACHYCERAS Hágsater & L. Sánchez

Text on the reverse side

Plate 170

ICONES ORCHIDACEARUM 2. 1993

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

Holotype: COSTA RICA: Slope of Cerro de Carpintera, west of Cartago, ca. 1800 m, 22 Aug 1940, M.A. Chrysler & W.E. Roever 5529, AMES! (illustration voucher.)

Epidendro apagano Mansf. simile, sed differt foliis longioribus, floribus fragrantissimis, labello duobus callis cornuatis projectis instructo, columna prominentiis lateralibus apicalis petaloideis munita, clinandrio prominentissimo, margine dentato fimbriato.

Hierba epífita, cespitosa, 14-35 cm de alto incluyendo la inflorescencia. Raíces basales, carnosas, 1.5 mm de grosor. Tallo sencillo, tipo caña, fuertemente comprimido lateralmente, flexuoso, 7-30 cm de largo. Hojas 2-7, equidistantes a lo largo del tallo; vaina lateralmente comprimida, lisa; lámina coriácea, elíptica, lisa, ápice bilobado, márgenes enteros, extendidos, color verde, 2-9 x 1-4 cm. Inflorescencia terminal en el tallo maduro, florece una sola vez, sécil. Bráctea floral mucho más corta que el ovario, triangular, 3-7 mm de largo. Flores 1-3, simultáneas, resupinadas, verdes, con fragancia nocturna intensa. Ovario no inflado, terete, no ornamentado, 28-45 mm de largo. Sépalos glabros, libres, subcoriáceos, extendidos, elípticos, agudos, márgenes revolutos, 5-nervados, 18-27 x 6-8 mm. Pétalos membranáceos, linear-elípticos, agudos, márgenes extendidos, 1-nervados, 15-23 x 1-2 mm. Labelo unido a la columna, entero, reniforme, coriáceo, retuso, bicalloso, los callos gruesos, divergentes, agudos, proyectados como dos cuernos rígidos, margen eroso, 8-11 x 15-20 mm. Columna recta, 12-14 mm de largo incluyendo el clinandrio, con prominencias apicales laterales petaloideas, obtusas. Clinandrio muy prominente, recto, entero, margen dentado-fimbriado. Antera subsférica, con una concavidad en el ápice, 4-locular. Polinios 4, obovoides, lateralmente comprimidos, subiguales; caudículas suaves y granulosas, más cortas que los polinios; viscidio viscoso, translúcido. Rostelo apical, hendido. Lóbulos laterales del estigma prominentes. Nectario profundo, penetrando la mitad del ovario, no ornamentado. Cápsula no vista.

Epiphytic, caespitose herb. Stems reed-like, strongly laterally compressed, flexuous. Leaves 2-7, elliptic, apex bilobed, coriaceous. Inflorescence terminal, flowers only once, sessile. Flowers 1-3, simultaneous, resupinate, green, with strong nocturnal fragrance. Sepals spreading, free, subcoriaceous, elliptic, acute, margins entire, revolute. Petals spreading, linear-elliptic, acute, margins entire, spreading. Lip united to the column, entire, reniform, retuse, bicallose, the calli divergent, thick, prominent, acute. Column straight, with two lateral-apical, obtuse, petaloid processes. Clinandrium very prominent, straight, entire, margin dentate-fimbriate. Anther subspheric, with a concavity at the apex. Pollinia 4, obovoid, laterally compressed; caudicles soft and granulose; viscidium viscous, translucent. Rostellum apical, slit. Lateral stigma lobes prominent. Nectary deep, penetrating 1/2 of the ovary.

OTHER SPECIMENS: COSTA RICA: Brade 313, AMES! CR! Cartago: Dodge & Thomas 4787, AMES! Luer et al. 4156, SEL! San José-Cartago: Utley 2955, CR! F! San José: Todzia 474, CR!

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from Costa Rica. Epiphyte in cloud forest, from 1320 to 2500 m altitude. Flowering throughout the year.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum pachyceras* is a member of the *E. difforme* Jacq. complex, and can be recognized by the strongly laterally compressed stems, entire, reniform, retuse lip, calli divergent, thick, prominent, acute, column with two lateral-apical, obtuse petaloid processes, and clinandrium very prominent with margin dentate-fimbriate. It is similar to *E. apaganum* Mansf., from Ecuador and Peru, which has obtuse lip, column without lateral-apical processes, and smaller, subglobose calli.

CONSERVATION STATUS: Probably not threatened. This species is relatively frequent.

ETYMOLOGY: The epithet is derived from the Greek *pachy*, thick, and *ceras*, horn, in reference to the horn-like calli of the lip.



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