

**Epidendrum pajitense** C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.

Herba elata. Caulis suberectus, gracilior, vaginis arctis tubulatis pustulatis omnino velatus. Folia disticha, late patentia, superne solum praesentia, oblongo-lanceolata vel anguste elliptico-lanceolata. Inflorescentiae laterales et terminales, laxe pluriflorae. Florum segmenta valde patentia. Sepala elliptico-oblonga, lateralia obliqua. Petala cuneato-spathulata, subacuta. Labellum columnae valde adnatum; lamina trifida, cum lobis lateralibus oblique obovato-oblongis et lobo medio flabellato-cuneato, profunde bilobato. Columna apice quadrialata.

Plant rather tall, "saprophytic." Rhizome apparently abbreviated. Roots fibrous, numerous, rather stout, glabrous. Stem suberect, rather slender, with one strict flower-bearing branch above (the main stem broken off), entirely concealed by close tubular pustulose sheaths which are leaf-bearing above, about 49 cm. high. Leaves several to numerous, distichous, spreading, oblong-lanceolate or narrowly elliptic-lanceolate, obtuse to subacute, sessile at the shortly cuneate base, 3.5–6.2 cm. long, about 1.3 cm. or less wide, coriaceous. Inflorescences lateral and terminal; the lateral on the upper part of the stem, racemose, short, loosely few-flowered; the terminal one loosely paniculate with ascending few-flowered branches. Floral bracts minute, concave, ovate or oblong-ovate. Flowers medium-sized, rose-pink, with widely spreading more or less convex segments. Dorsal sepal oblong or elliptic-oblong, broadly obtuse to subacute, about 7-nerved, rather fleshy, about 9.3 mm. long and 3.9 mm. wide. Lateral sepals similar, obliquely elliptic-oblong, obtuse to subacute with a blunt dorsal mucro, about 10.5 mm. long, measured from the base of the dorsal margin to the tip, and 4 mm. wide, about 7-nerved. Petals cuneate-spatulate, abruptly rounded above with a subacute apex, 3-nerved with the lateral nerves branching, slightly oblique, about 10 mm. long and 3.2 mm. wide above. Lip adnate to the column up

to the tip; lamina 3-parted, much exceeding the sepals, submembranaceous; lateral lobes widely spreading, obliquely obovate-oblong, with a more or less truncate and obscurely lobulate outer margin, separated by a pair of small complanate calli, about 7.5 mm. long through the middle lengthwise and 3.9 mm. wide above; mid-lobe porrect, narrowly flabellate-cuneate, conspicuously bilobed with a minute blunt apicule between the oblong-rounded lobules and with a small callus at the base between the lateral calli, about 8.2 mm. long to the tip of an apical lobule and 7.2 mm. wide across the apical lobules. Column short, very stout and dilated upward when viewed from the side, about 6.5 mm. long at the back including the erect 4-lobed wing, with the middle lobes oblong-subquadrate and irregularly lobulate on the truncate apex.

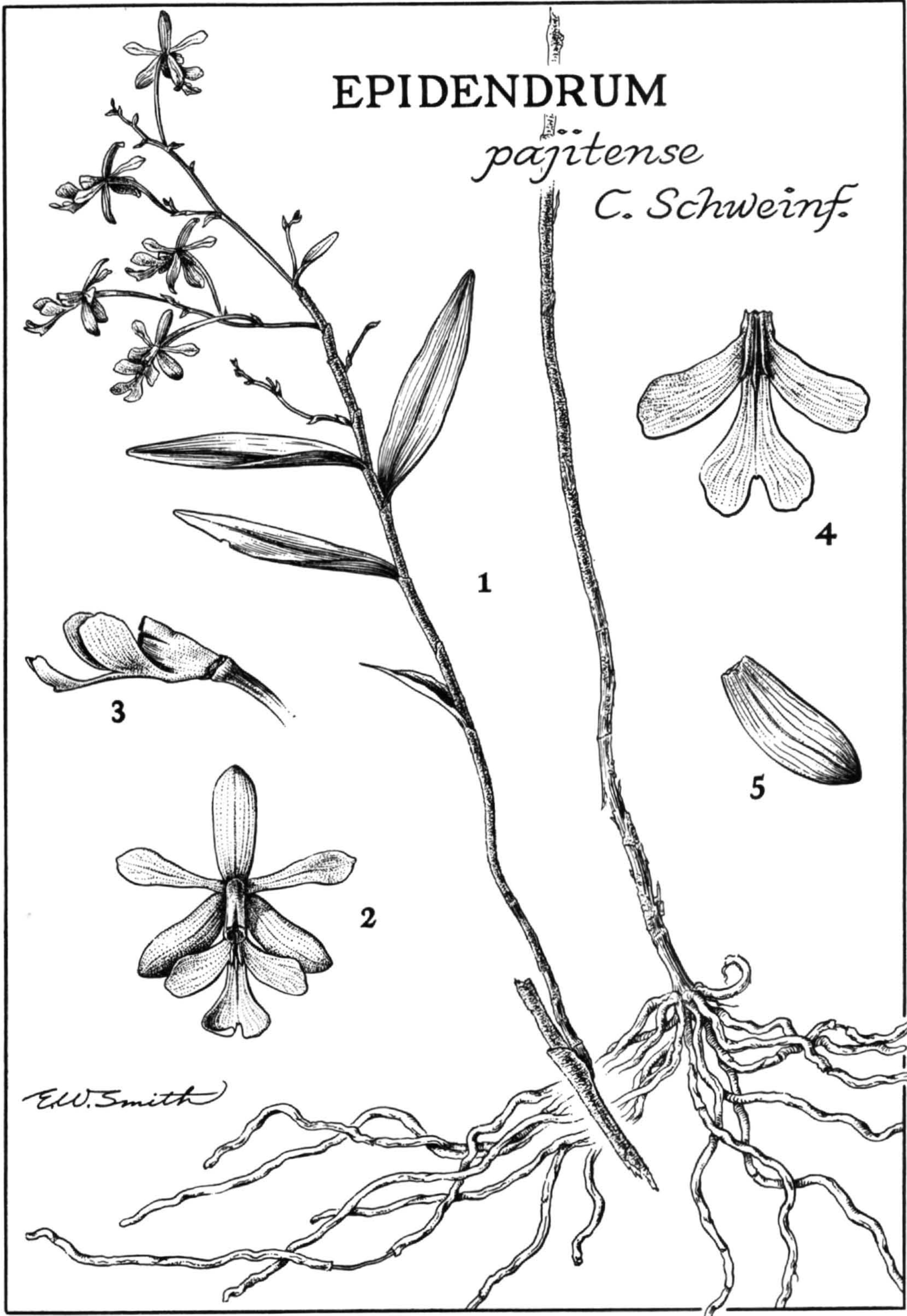
This species has three rather close allies. *Epidendrum exasperatum* Reichb.f. differs in having smooth cauline sheaths, verrucose outer surfaces of the sepals and flowers of another color. *E. Schumannianum* Schltr. has broader leaves, broader petals, relatively smaller lateral lobes of the lip and spotted flowers. *E. verrucosum* Sw. var. *myrianthum* (Lindl.) Ames & Correll shows much narrower and relatively longer leaves and a lip with dissimilar details.

PANAMA: Coclé, Cerro Pajita, hills north of El Valle, at 1100 meters altitude, October 27, 1946, "saprophytic," in dense shade, *Paul H. Allen 3784* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 65444).

### EXPLANATION OF THE ILLUSTRATION

PLATE XV. EPIDENDRUM PAJITENSE *C. Schweinfurth.*  
1, plant, one half natural size. 2, flower partially  
expanded, from the front, one and one half times  
natural size. 3, lip and column from the side, nat-  
ural position, one and one half times natural size.  
4, lamina of lip expanded, from the front, twice  
natural size. 5, lateral sepal, twice natural size.

*Drawn by* E. W. SMITH



EPIDENDRUM

*pajitense*

C. Schweinf.

E.W. Smith