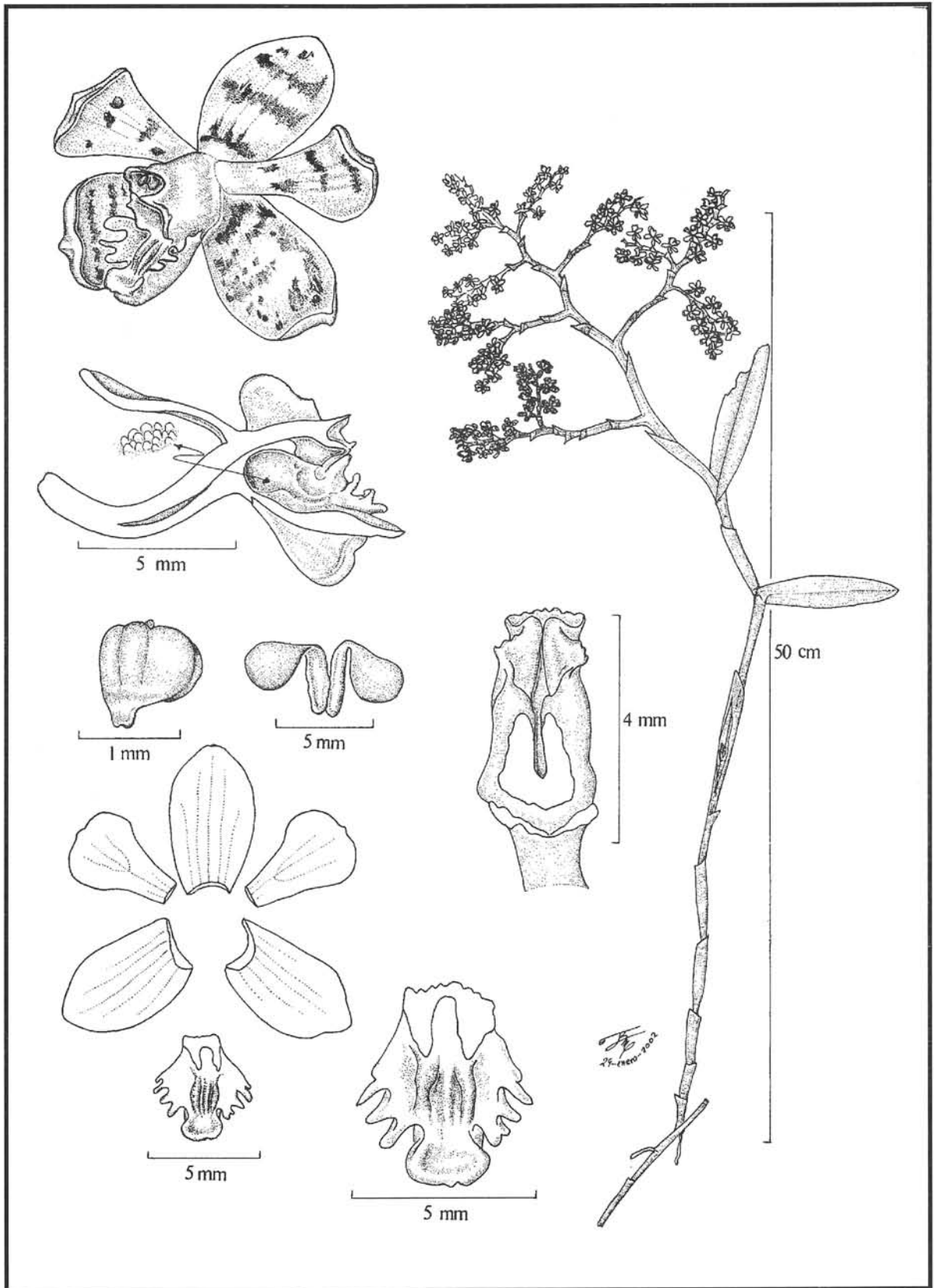




EPIDENDRUM PHIOWERCKLEI Hágsater & E.Santiago

Plate 870

EPIDENDRUM PHILOWERCKLEI Hágsater et E. Santiago, sp. nov.

Type: PANAMA: Bocas del Toro: Changuinola, Sierra Madre, 2200 m, 5 February 2000, Jardín Finca Dracula 482, A. Maduro & E. Olmos 200. Holotype: AMO! (Illustration voucher.)

Epidendro wercklei Schltr. simile sed floribus ochraceis et cum fasciis brunneo-rubellis, columnae cum labello junctio alta et aliquantum obliqua, ore lato, nectario lato et infime rotundato, diversum.

Hierba epífita o raramente terrestre, simpodial, 20-60 cm de alto. **Raíces** originándose a lo largo de los entrenudos basales de cada tallo, escasas, delgadas. **Tallos** sencillos, producidos de los entrenudos inferiores de tallos anteriores, tipo caña, teretes en la base y lateralmente aplanados arriba, delgados, erectos, rectos, 11-34 x 0.3-0.45 cm; la parte inferior cubierta por vainas tubulares no foliáceas, 18-21 mm de largo. **Hojas** 3-6, distribuidas hacia el ápice de los tallos, suberectas, alternas, articuladas; vaina tubular, lateralmente comprimida, finamente estriada, 1-4 x 0.3-0.45 cm; lámina oblongo lanceolada, aguda, diminutamente apiculada, coriácea, margen entero, 4.2-8 x 0.7-1.7 cm. **Bráctea** espátácea ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, paniculada, erecta, pluriflora, florece una sola vez, 7-22 cm de largo; pedúnculo lateralmente aplanado, ancipitoso, recto, 3.5-6 cm de largo, provisto en la parte media de una bráctea, tubular en la base, ancipitosa, conduplicada en el ápice, aguda, 3-15 mm de largo; raquis fructiflexo, ancipitoso, 4-17 cm de largo. **Brácteas** florales más cortas que el ovario, deltoides, agudas, amplexicaules, ancipitosas, 2.5-4 mm de largo. **Ovario** terete, delgado, ligeramente arqueado, no inflado, liso, 5-6 mm de largo. **Flores** [15] 30-60, simultáneas, no resupinadas, carnosas, sépalos y pétalos verde amarillento o amarillo ocre marcados con barras transversales de color pardo rojizo, labelo blanco amarillento con manchas pardo rojizas; sin datos de fragancia. **Sépalos** extendidos, libres, obovado elípticos, ápice redondeado a subagudo, 5-nervados, ligeramente cóncavos en la mitad apical, margen extendido y entero, 6-6.5 x 3.2-3.6 mm; los laterales ligeramente oblicuos. **Pétalos** extendidos, libres, cuneado espatulados, ápice truncado, redondeado, diminutamente apiculado, 1-3-nervados, ligeramente cóncavos en la mitad apical, margen extendido, entero, 5.2-6 x 2.5-3.4 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, trilobado, carnoso, cóncavo, 4.3-5 x 4.3-5 mm; escalo, disco provisto de 3 quillas, carnosas, delgadas, la central ocasionalmente alargada hasta el centro del lóbulo medio, el par lateral más corto; lóbulos laterales triangulares, divididos en 3-4 lóbulos digitiformes, 1.5-2 x 1.7-2.3 mm; lóbulo medio espatulado, corto, angosto en la base y anchamente rómbico en el ápice, diminutamente apiculado, margen entero, 1.5 x 1.4-1.7 mm. **Columna** recta, gruesa, formando una estructura alta con la uña del labelo, cuya apertura es alta y algo oblicua; la interior con un borde vertical de cada lado, de manera que el acceso al nectario es vertical y muy angosto, 4 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** corto, margen entero, eroso. **Antera** reniforme, con una quilla dorsal carnosa, 2-locular. **Polinios** 2, ovoides, lateralmente aplanados; caudículas laminares, duras, casi tan largas como los polinios. **Rostelo** apical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** no vistos. **Nectario** corto, sin penetrar el ovario, amplio, redondeado al fondo, diminutamente papiloso. **Cápsula** no vista.

Epiphytic or rarely terrestrial, sympodial **herb**. **Roots** originating from the basal internodes of each stem, scarce, thin. **Stems** simple, produced from the lower internodes of the previous stem, cane-like, terete at the base, laterally compressed above, thin, erect, straight; the lower part covered by tubular, non-foliaceous sheaths. **Leaves** 3-6, distributed towards the apex of the stem, suberect, alternate, articulate; sheath tubular, laterally compressed, minutely striated; blade oblong-lanceolate, acute, minutely apiculate, coriaceous, margin entire. **Inflorescence** apical, paniculate, erect, many-flowered, flowering only once; peduncle laterally compressed, ancipitose, straight, provided in the middle with a single bract, the bract tubular at the base, ancipitose, conduplicate towards the apex, acute; rachis fructiflex, ancipitose. **Floral bracts** shorter than the ovary, deltoid, acute, ancipitose. **Ovary** terete, thin, slightly arched, not inflated, smooth. **Flowers** [15] 30-60, simultaneous, non-resupinate, fleshy, sepals and petals yellowish green or ochre-yellow, marked with transverse reddish brown stripes, lip yellowish white with reddish brown marks. **Sepals** spreading, free, obovate-elliptic, the apical half slightly concave, apex rounded to subacute, 5-veined, margin spreading, entire; lateral sepals slightly oblique. **Petals** spreading, free, cuneate-spatulate, apex truncate, rounded, minutely apiculate, apical half slightly concave, 1-3-veined, margin spreading, entire. **Lip** united to the column, 3-lobed, fleshy, concave; ecallose, disc provided with 3, fleshy, thin keels, the mid-keel occasionally reaching the center of the midlobe, the lateral pair shorter; lateral lobes triangular, formed by 3-4 finger-like divisions; midlobe spatulate, short, base narrow, apex widely rhombic, minutely apiculate, margin entire. **Column** straight, thick, forming a high structure with the claw of the lip, forming a high, somewhat oblique aperture; the inside access to the nectary very narrow, restricted by a vertical thickening on each side. **Clinandrium**-hood short, margin entire, erose. **Anther** reniform, with a fleshy dorsal keel, 2-celled. **Pollinia** 2, ovoid, laterally compressed; caudicles laminar, hard, nearly as long as the pollinia. **Rostellum** apical, slit. **Nectary** short, without penetrating the ovary, rounded at the end, minutely papillose.

OTHER SPECIMENS: COSTA RICA: Limón: De Ujarrás a San José Cabécar, 2200 m, 14 III 1993, Fernández 677, INB! P. N. Cordillera de Talamanca, Quebrada Kuiza, 2200 m, 13 III 1993, Bittner 1777, AMO! PANAMA: Chiriquí: above Guadalupe, NE of Cerro Punta, 12 XI 1976, Luer 1215, Herb. Dressler Ibid. 20 II 2001, Maduro 180, AMO!

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from the top of the Atlantic slope of the Cordillera on both sides of the border between Costa Rica and Panama, at 2200 m altitude. Flowering from November to March.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum philowercklei* belongs to the Neowilliamsia Group, characterized by the ancipitose stems and rachis, the rachis with conduplicate, acute bracts, usually non-resupinate flowers, the lip often digitate and the 2-4 pollinia with 2 hard, laminar, caudicles. The species is recognized by the tall plants with a paniculate inflorescence, the flowers

marked with red-brown transverse bars over yellow-ochre floral segments, and especially the straight, entire clinandrium-hood and the very wide, somewhat oblique opening formed by the column and lip, with the nectary widely rounded at the height of the perianth; the lip has finger-like divisions, and the petals are cuneate-spatulate. It has been confused with *E. wercklei* which has a similarly divided lip, with finger-like divisions, but the flowers are white or cream green, sparse, with dark purple brown spots, a longer, straight clinandrium-hood, and the column-lip forming a vertically narrower opening, and forming a narrow, rounded nectary. It hybridizes naturally with *Epidendrum dwyeri* Hágsater which is recognized by the ochre, brown-barred sepals and petals, small subentire white lip, and especially the very cuneate and vertically narrow column, which leaves only a small opening in front, and a narrow, acute nectary.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD. Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek φίλος, friendly, loving, and Werckle, in reference to the similarity of this species with *E. wercklei* Schltr., with which it has been confused for over two decades, and the fact that it is found within the borders of the Parque Nacional La Amistad, which straddles the border between Costa Rica and Panama.

