ORCHIDACEAE QUAEDAM AMERICANAE

Epidendrum Pittieri Ames sp. nov. Caules rigidi, polyphylli. Folia disticha, ovali-oblonga. Flores in racemo laxo dispositi. Labellum trilobatum, lobis lateralibus semi-orbicularibus, margine denticulatis, lobo medio oblongo, margine integro. Discus prope basim bicallosus, longitudinaliter incrassatus per medium. Columna sectionis.

Stems rigid, 2.5 dm. tall in the type which is incomplete, sparingly branched near the tip. Leaves 2.5-3 cm. long, up to 11 mm. wide, coriaceous, oval-oblong, acute, 1.5-2 cm. distant, distichous, persistent on the coriaceous cylindrical rough rugose sheaths which conceal the stem, mid-nerve prominent beneath, margin slightly revolute in dried material. Peduncle with the raceme 6 cm. long, terminal, about 7-flowered, floriferous nearly to the base. Floral bracts linear-lanceolate, acute, 6-8 mm. long, equalling or shorter than the pedicellate ovary. Pedicel and ovary 7-8 mm. long, non-scabrous. Flowers greenish white, fleshy, nervose when dry. Lateral sepals oblong-oblanceolate, 1.3-1.4 cm. long, heavily 3-nerved, acute, apex shortly carinate beneath, the carina prolonged into a cusp. Dorsal sepal ligulate, 1.3 cm. long, heavily 3-nerved, tapering toward both ends, 3.5 mm. wide near the middle. linear-spatulate, obtuse, 12.5 mm. long, hardly 2 mm. wide near the tip, 3-nerved, the mid-nerve prominent. Labellum distinctly 3-lobed, including the column 15 mm. long, fleshy: lateral lobes about 4 mm. long from base to sinus formed with middle lobe, hardly 3 mm. wide, semiorbicular, margin denticulate; middle lobe nearly 4 mm. long, 3 mm.

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wide, oblong, rounded at the tip, thickened along the middle nerve. Disc bicallose near the summit of the column, calli rounded, smooth. Column 10-11 mm. long, adnate to the labellum.

Closely allied to *Epidendrum scabrum* Ruiz & Pav., from which it is in part distinguished by larger flowers and longer column. Jamieson No. 10 (referred to *E. scabrum* by Lindley) has similar flowers, but the plants are of a more branching habit with longer leaves. From *Epidendrum chioneum* Lindl., it is readily distinguished by the linear-spatulate petals.

COLOMBIA, State of Cauca, Headwaters of Rio Lopez, Rio Palo basin, Tierra Adentro, *H. Pittier 1067*, January 1906. 2500–3000 meters altitude. (Type in U. S. Nat. Herb. No. 531269.)