

EPIDENDRUM PLAGIOPHYLLUM Hágsater
THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 2

EPIDENDRUM PLAGIOPHYLLUM Hágsater, *sp. nov.*

Holotype: PANAMA: Chiriquí: Volcán Barú, Cerro Punta, al N de Guadalupe, 2000-2300 m, col.15 Mar. 1981, pressed 19 Dec. 1981, **E. Hágsater 6481, R. L. Dressler & C. Castro** AMO! (illustration voucher).
Isotype: STRI! Clonotype: 22 Dec. 1984 SEL!

Epidendro obliquifolium Ames, F.T. Hubbard & C. Schweinf. simile sed foliis transtris transversalibus purpureis destitutis, sepalis 5-nervatis, petalis 3-nervatis, labello subquadrato bicalloso in carinas non producto.

Hierba epífita, colgante, subcespitosa, 5-17 cm de largo. **Raíces** filiformes, 0.5-1 mm de grosor. **Tallos** tipo caña, lateralmente comprimidos, 3.5-13 cm de largo. **Hojas** 4-5(9), distribuidas a lo largo del tallo y en el mismo plano del tallo, desiguales, las basales y la apical generalmente más pequeñas; vaina tubular lateralmente comprimida, de 4-14 mm de largo; lámina ovado-lanceolada, aguda, oblicua, succulenta, de color verde grisáceo, sin barras transversales coloreadas, 19-50 x 0.8-1.8 cm. **Espata** 1, ocasionalmente 2, prominente, semiovada, conduplicada, ocultando totalmente el pedúnculo, 13.5-30 x 8.5-14 mm. **Inflorescencia** apical, del tallo maduro, subcorimbosa, florece una sola vez; pedúnculo corto, hasta de 5 mm de largo. **Brácteas florales** mucho más cortas que el ovario, triangulares, agudas, 2-4 mm de largo. **Flores** 3-5, resupinadas, simultáneas, verdes, concoloras, fragancia no registrada. **Ovario** formando una vesícula conspicua en la mitad apical, conspicuamente provisto de alas laceradas e hialinas en la mitad basal, 7.5-17 mm de largo. **Sépalos** entreabiertos, elípticos, obtusos, margen extendido, 5-nervados, 6.5-9 x 4-5 mm; los **laterales** ligeramente oblicuos. **Pétalos** entreabiertos, angostamente oblongo-oblancoleados, obtuso-redondeados, margen extendido, 3-nervados, las nervaduras laterales cortas, 6-7 x 2 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, entero, base truncada, subcuadrado, emarginado, margen finamente lacerado, 7-8 x 7-8 cm; bicalloso, los callos globosos. **Columna** corta, gruesa, el ápice arqueado, inflexo, 4 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** corto, muy carnoso, eroso. **Antera** reniforme, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, subiguales, obovoides, lateralmente comprimidos; caudículas mucho más cortas que los polinios; viscidio no encontrado. **Rostelo** aparentemente entero, incurvado. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** reducidos. **Nectario** penetrando 1/2 del ovario, no ornamentado, formando un vesícula prominente. **Cápsula** elipsoidal, 14-19 x 11-13 mm, con un pedicelo delgado de 2 mm de largo.

Subcaespitose, pendent epiphyte. **Roots** filiform. **Stems** cane-like, laterally compressed. **Leaves** 4-5(9), ovate-lanceolate, acute, oblique, succulent, grayish-green without any transverse bars. **Espathe** 1, occasionally 2, prominent semiovate, conduplicate, completely covering the peduncle. **Inflorescence** apical, subcorymbose. **Flowers** 3-5, resupinate, simultaneous, green, concolor. **Ovary** forming a conspicuous vesicle at the apical half, and winged at the base, the wings lacerate and hyaline. **Sepals** elliptic, obtuse, 5-veined; **laterals** somewhat oblique. **Petals** narrowly oblong-oblancoleate, obtuse to rounded, 3-veined, the laterals veins short. **Lip** united to the column, entire, subquadrate, apex emarginate, margin finely lacerate; bicallose, the callus globose. **Column** short, stout, apex inflexed. **Clinandrium** short, very fleshy, erose. **Anther** reniform, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, subequal, obovoid, laterally compressed; caudicles very much shorter than the pollinia; viscidium not found. **Rostellum** apparently entire, incurved. **Nectary** penetrating half the ovary, unornamented, forming a prominent vesicle. **Capsule** ellipsoid with a short pedicel.

OTHER SPECIMENS: PANAMA: Chiriquí: W of Cerro Punta, *Busey 670* AMO! PMA! Above Guadalupe, *Dressler 5535* AMO! K! SEL! N of Guadalupe, *Hágsater 6480 et al.* AMES!

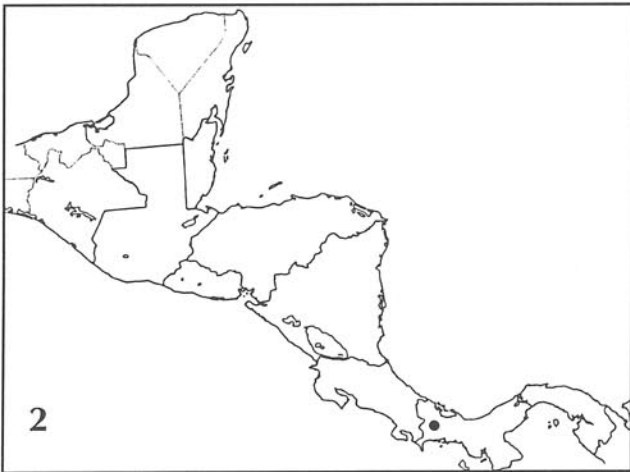
DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Growing in cloud forests around the volcán Chiriquí, at 2000-2300 m altitude. Flowering in December, fruits maturing in February.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum plagiophyllum* belongs to the *Epidendrum megalospathum* Rchb. f. group, and is distinguished by its 4-5 mm wide, 5-veined sepals, the lip square in proportion, with two callus at the base, and the concolor, green plant and flowers. It is closely related to *E. obliquifolium*, which has 3.6-4 mm wide, 3-veined sepals, the lip longer than wide with thickened keels on the disc, the leaves transversely barred with maroon and the flowers dotted with purple. Both are further related to - *Epidendrum stanhopeanum* Kraenzl. which has greenish flowers dotted with purple, the lip semicircular, deeply cordate, margin finely dentate. *Epidendrum miradoranum* Dodson & Bennett is much larger overall, with two orbicular spathes, a deeply cordate lip, and 5 mm wide petals. *Epidendrum escobarianum* Garay has a cordate, long, acuminate, deep red lip, and a small nectary which does not form a vesicle behind the sepals.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD (data deficient).

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek "*plagios*" oblique, and "*phyllon*" leaf, in reference to the oblique leaves, which are common to this species and *E. obliquifolium*, as well as most other species of the *E. megalospathum* group.

NOTE: The rostellum appears to be entire, with the viscidium not produced as is usual in *Epidendrum*. Though rare, this feature has been seen occasionally in other species of distantly related groups in the genus.



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