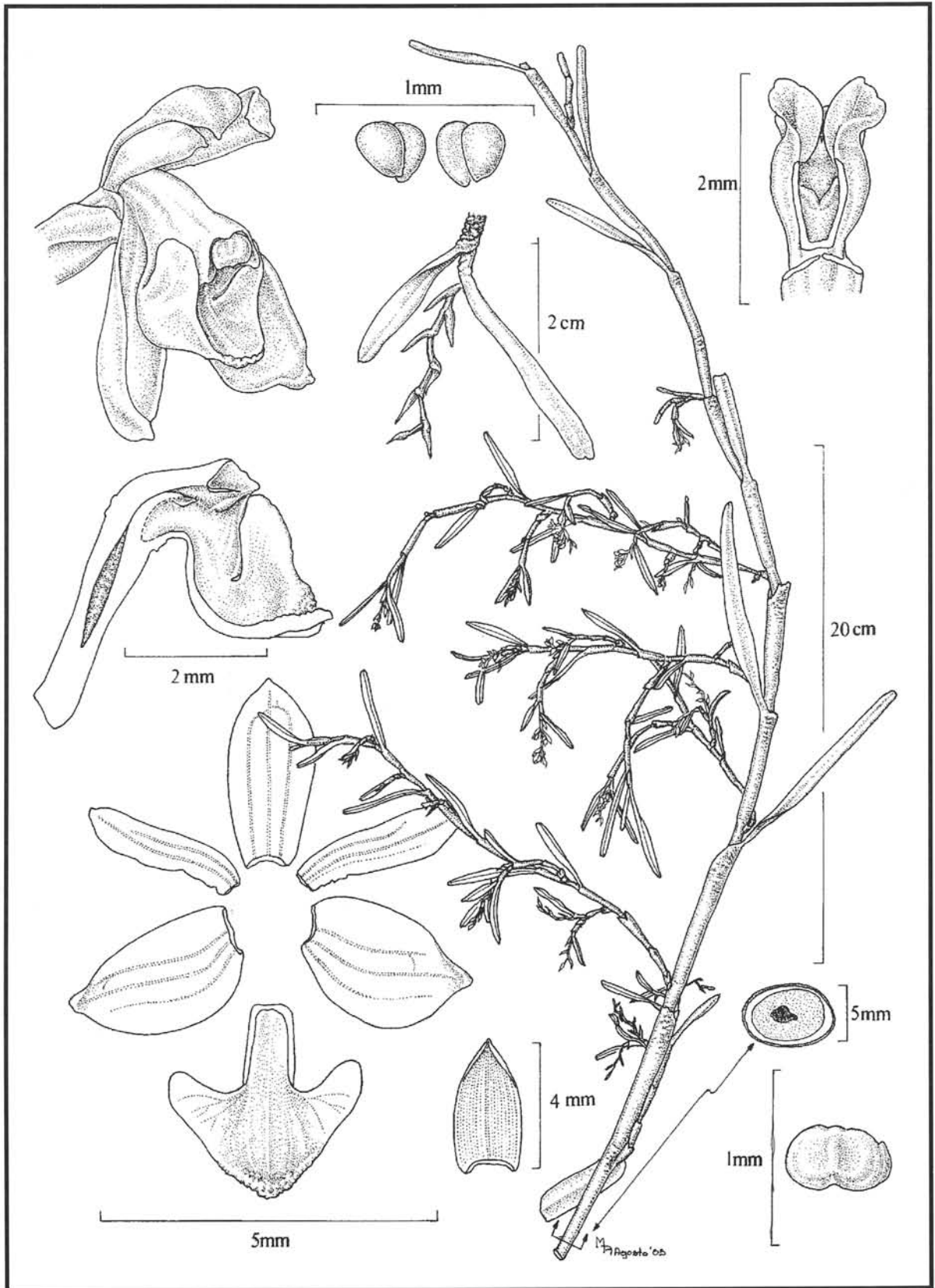




EPIDENDRUM PLATYSTOMUM Hágsater & L.Sánchez

Plate 873

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

Type: PANAMA: Chiriquí: Along Boquete Trail, Cerro Respinga, East of town of Cerro Punta, ca. 2000-2500 m, 11 September 1972, *Al Gentry 5948*. Holotype: MO 2142425! (Illustration voucher). Isotype: MO 3532269!

Epidendro sanchoi Ames simile sed floribus minoribus, sepalis trinervatis, dorsale obovato, lateralibus ovatis, labello late hastato, ad basem profunde cordato, ad apicem carnosus, minute papilloso, columna aperturam elongatam angustamque instar infundibuli elongati cum alis laminaribus prominentibus brevis ferenti, discedens.

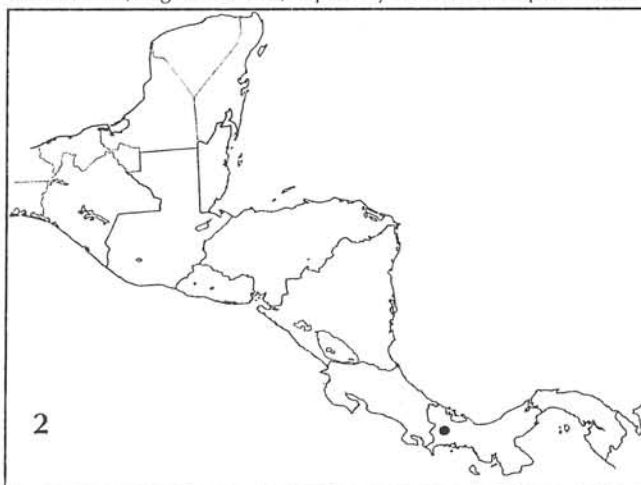
Hierba epífita, monopodial, ramificada, 20-50 cm ó más de alto. **Raíces** basales. **Tallos** ramificados, tipo caña, teretes, cubiertos por vainas rugosas, siendo éstas más evidentes hacia el ápice de cada vaina, el principal ca. 50 x 0.45-0.6 cm; los tallos secundarios 17-30 x 0.1-0.2 cm; los tallos terciarios o florales cortos, producidos principalmente de los secundarios y de un entrenudo superior del tallo terciario anterior, 1.5-2 x 0.05-0.1 cm. **Hojas** distribuidas a lo largo de los tallos; numerosas en el principal, 6-9 en los secundarios, 2 a 3 hojas en los tallos terciarios; vaina foliar tubular, rugosa, 0.5-5 cm de largo; lámina foliar articulada, linear lanceolada, oblicuamente bilobada, las del tallo principal 5-8.5 x 0.3-0.68 cm, las de los tallos secundarios, 3-6.5 x 0.2-0.45 cm, las de los tallos terciarios 1.5-3 x 0.18-0.25 cm. **Bráctea** espátacea ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical de los tallos secundarios y terciarios, racemosa, distica, arqueada, 1.5-2 cm de largo; pedúnculo muy corto, 1.5-2 mm de largo; el raquis en zigzag. **Brácteas florales** más largas que el ovario, conduplicadas, ovadas, obtusas a agudas, 2.8-4 x 1.3-1.6 mm. **Ovario** terete, no inflado, liso, 2.4-3 x 0.3-0.5 mm. **Flores** 2-6, simultáneas, no resupinadas, blancas, fragancia no registrada. **Sépalos** glabros, libres, entreabiertos, subcoriáceos, 3-nervados, margen entero, extendido, 2.3-2.7 x 1.3-1.7 mm; el dorsal obovado, agudo; los laterales oblicuos, ovados, redondeados. **Pétalos** glabros, libres, entreabiertos, algo adnados al sépalo dorsal, linear ligulados, obtusos, ligeramente arqueados en la base, 2-3 nervados, margen extendido, entero a sinuado en la zona basal del lado de los sépalos laterales, 2.0-2.5 x 0.4-0.5 mm. **Labello** oblicuamente unido a la columna, entero, coriáceo, ecalloso, anchamente hastado, base profundamente cordada, ángulos basales redondeados, ápice redondeado, carnosus, diminutamente papilloso; 1.8-2 x 2.7-2.9 mm. **Columna** corta, arqueada en la base, con una apertura apical larga y angosta formada por un par de alas laminares, prominentes, formando un embudo, margen apical ondulado, 1.3-1.7 mm de largo. **Clinandrium** reducido, entero. **Antera** reniforme, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, obovoides, caudículas suaves y granuladas, de longitud semejante a la de los polinios. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** cortos. **Nectario** poco profundo, sin traspasar el perianto, amplio, inflado, liso. **Cápsula** no vista.

Epiphytic, monopodial, branching herb. **Roots** basal. **Stems** branching, cane-like, terete, covered by rugose sheaths, especially towards the apex of each sheath, the main stem tall, the secondary stems, much shorter, and the tertiary or floral stems very short, produced mainly from the secondary stems, and from a subapical internode of the previous floral stem. **Leaves** distributed throughout the stems, numerous and large on the main stem, 6-9 and smaller on the secondary stem, and 2-3 small leaves on the tertiary, floral stems; foliar sheath tubular, rugose; blade articulate, linear-lanceolate, obliquely bilobed. **Inflorescence** apical from secondary and tertiary stems, racemose, distichous, arching, with a very short peduncle; rachis zigzag. **Floral bracts** longer than the ovary, conduplicate, ovate, obtuse to acute. **Ovary** terete, not inflated, smooth. **Flowers** 2-6, simultaneous, non-resupinate, white. **Sepals** glabrous, free, partly spreading, 3-veined, margin entire, spreading; the dorsal sepal obovate, acute, the lateral sepals oblique, ovate, rounded. **Petals** glabrous, free, partly spreading, somewhat adnate to the dorsal sepal, linear-ligulate, obtuse, slightly arching at the base, 2-3-veined, margin spreading, entire to sinuate along the lower border on the side of the lateral sepals. **Lip** obliquely united to the column, entire, coriaceous, ecallose, widely hastate, base deeply cordate, basal angles rounded, apex rounded, fleshy, minutely papillose. **Column** short, arching at the base, apical aperture long and narrow, funnel-shaped, formed by a pair of prominent laminar wings, apical margin undulate. **Clinandrium-hood** reduced, entire. **Anther** reniform, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, obovoid, caudicles short and granulose, as long as the pollinia. **Nectary** shallow, without penetrating the ovary, wide, inflated, smooth.

OTHER SPECIMENS: None seen.

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from Chiriquí, western Panama, at 2000-2500 m altitude, epiphyte in cloud forest. Flowering in August-September.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum platystomum* belongs to the Ramosum Group which is characterized by the monopodial, branching stems, the spike-like, distichous inflorescence, and the single callus, and the Rugosum Subgroup which has branching habit with few-flowered inflorescences from short, secondary stems, the leaf-sheaths rugose. The species has terete stems, rugose sheaths, especially towards the apex of each sheath, 2-6, small white flowers, sepals 2.3-2.7 mm long,



the widely hastate lip, the base deeply cordate, the angles rounded, and obliquely united to the column which has a pair of laminar wings forming an elongate funnel with the margin undulate. It is similar to *Epidendrum sanchoi* which has larger flowers, sepals 4.5-6.5 mm long and 5-veined, lanceolate, acute, and a proportionately narrower triangular-hastate, acuminate lip, and the union with the column straight and narrow. *Epidendrum trachythece* Schltr. has smaller flowers, sepals 1.5-3.5 mm long, 5-7 veined, the lip is reniform-apiculate, bicallose, the calli prominent, wide, and reaching the middle of the disc. *Epidendrum platystomoides* Hágsater & L. Sánchez is also quite similar, sepals 2.9-3.1 mm long, with the column arching throughout and a similar, elongate, funnel-shaped apex, also obliquely united to the lip which is proportionately more triangular than hastate, as wide as it is long.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD: Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek πλατυς, wide, broad, and στομα, mouth, opening, in reference to the widely elongate apical aperture of the column-lip which characterizes this species.