

**Epidendrum ramosissimum** A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba ramosissima. Caules leviter flexuosi vel fractiflexi. Vaginae foliorum valde verrucosae. Folia teretia, canaliculata. Inflorescentiae perbreves, laxe pauciflorae. Sepala lateraliter oblique lanceolata. Sepalum dorsale simile sed angustius. Petala linearia. Labellum triangulare, carina tridentata ornatum. Columna brevis, crassa.

Plant 37–55 cm. or more tall (summit of stem missing). Roots fibrous, numerous, 1.8 mm. in diameter at the stout base, gray, glabrous. Stem distichously branched at every node, the lateral branches usually forking several times, 2.5–3.5 mm. in diameter below, partially concealed by verrucose leaf-sheaths, sulcate-rugose and shining in the dried specimen; branches commonly incline in one direction as though wind-blown. Leaves terete, deeply channelled, striate-rugose in the dried specimen, obtuse or acutish, the lower and larger 7–14 cm. long, the average 2–3 cm. long, the smallest 8 mm. long, all 1–1.5 mm. wide. Inflorescences very short, racemes at the tips of lateral branches (lateral branchlets sometimes minute and consequently the inflorescence appears to be lateral), laxly 1–3-flowered; rachis slender, fractiflex, with the peduncle about 1.5 cm. long, 1-sheathed at base. Floral bracts about 5 mm. long, scarious, spreading, striate-nervose, dorsally carinate. Flower small, 6.8 mm. long, perianth parts rigid-nervose. Lateral sepals obliquely lanceolate, about 6.8 mm. long, 2 mm. wide below the middle, acuminate, apical margins complicate, 5-nerved. Dorsal sepal similar, narrowly lanceolate, slightly narrower. Petals linear, 6 mm. long, .75 mm. wide near the base, obtusish. Labellum sessile, tubular-involute in natural position, when expanded triangular, lightly constricted above the middle, 4 mm. long, 3 mm. wide at the subcordate base, a 3-toothed keel in the middle, the central tooth extending nearly to the acute apex of the labellum. Column short and stout, 3 mm. long.

*Epidendrum ramosissimum* is allied to *E. lancilabium* Schltr., but is distinct in its smaller flowers, 3-nerved petals, and 3-carinate lip. [Plate 24: habit life size. 1, labellum and column, side view  $\times 3$ . 2, dorsal sepal  $\times 2 \frac{1}{3}$ . 3, lateral sepal  $\times 2 \frac{1}{3}$ . 4, petal  $\times 2 \frac{1}{3}$ . 5, labellum, front view  $\times 3 \frac{1}{3}$ .]

COSTA RICA, El Calvario, Ujarras, C. H. Lankester 581, January 12, 1924. 3600 feet altitude. "Very common at this wind swept locality." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 28129.)