

EPIDENDRUM SCHISTOSTEMUM Hágsater, S.Laube & L.Sánchez

Plate 1177

EPIDENDRUM SCHISTOSTEMUM Hágsater, S.Laube et L.Sánchez, *sp. nov.*

Type: PANAMA: Bocas del Toro: on a hill slope at Boca Chica creek (9°11'20"N; 82°32'13"W), 5.8 km south east of the community Charco La Pava at the Río Changuinola, 550 m, October 2007, **Stefan Laube 563**. Holotype: PMA! (Illustration voucher).

Epidendro gregorii Hágsater simile sed labello integro cordiformi, columna senibus lateralibus profundis, clinandrio integro margine dentato, discrepans.

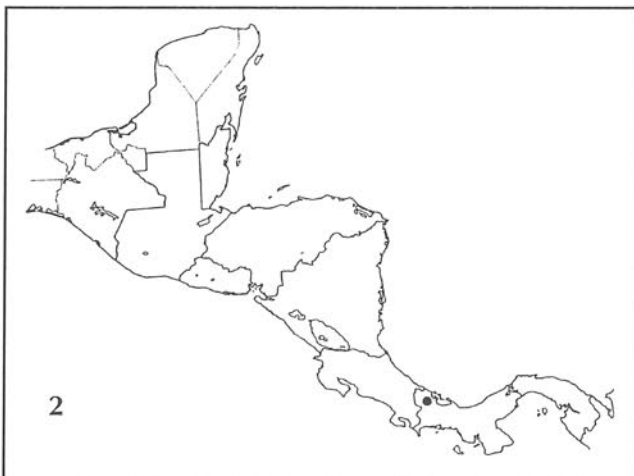
Hierba epífita, simpodial, cespitosa, 7-9.3 cm de alto incluyendo la inflorescencia. **Raíces** basales, filiformes, 1 mm de grosor. **Tallos** sencillos, tipo caña, teretes, recto, 2.5-4.0 x 0.1-0.2 cm. **Hojas** 2-4, distribuidas a lo largo del tallo, ascendentes; vaina foliar tubular, lisa; lámina conduplicada en la base, lanceolada, ápice obtuso, lisa, 2.5-5.0 x 0.3-0.5 cm. **Inflorescencia** apical, del tallo maduro, sésil, subcorymbosa. **Flores** 1-2, sucesivas, resupinadas, blancas, fragancia no registrada. **Bráctea floral** mucho más corta que el ovario, triangular, aguda, 1.5 mm de largo. **Ovario** no inflado, terete, no ornamentado, 18-20 x 0.3-0.4 mm. **Sépalos** entreabiertos, libres, obovados, membranáceos, glabros, 6-nervados, ápice agudo, margen entero, extendido; el dorsal 9.6 x 4.2 mm; los laterales con el ápice inflexo, 8.7-9.0 x 4.8-5.1 mm. **Pétalos** entreabiertos, oblanceolados, 3-nervados, membranáceos, ápice agudo, ligeramente inflexo, margen entero, extendido, 8.4-8.6 x 1.7-2.0 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, cordiforme, base cordada, ápice redondeado, margen entero, extendido, 9 x 8.3 mm; bicalloso, los callos subglobosos. **Columna** arqueada, con lobos laterales prominentes, obtusos, erosos y separado del labelo por senos basales profundos, 6.3 x 0.3 mm. **Clinandrio** prominente, entero, margen dentado. **Antera** obovoidea, 4-locular. **Polinios** no vistos. **Rostelo** no visto. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** no vistos. **Nectario** no visto. **Cápsula** no vista.

Epiphytic, sympodial, caespitose short **herb.** **Roots** basal, filiform, thin. **Stems** simple, cane-like, terete, straight. **Leaves** 2-4, distributed throughout the stem, ascending; foliar sheath tubular, smooth; blade conduplicate at the base, lanceolate, apex obtuse, smooth. **Inflorescence** apical, from the mature stem, sessile, subcorymbose. **Flowers** 1-2, successive, resupinate, white. **Floral bracts** much shorter than the ovary, triangular, acute. **Ovary** not inflated, terete, smooth. **Sepals** partly spreading, free, obovate, apex acute, membranaceous, glabrous, 6-veined, margin entire, spreading, the apex of the lateral sepals inflexed. **Petals** partly spreading, oblanceolate, 3-veined, membranaceous, apex acute, slightly inflexed, margin entire, spreading. **Lip** united to the column, cordiform, base cordate, apex rounded, margin entire, spreading; bicallose, the callus subglobose. **Column** arching, with prominent, obtuse, erose, lateral lobes separated from the lip by deep basal sinii. **Clinandrium-hood** prominent, entire, margin dentate. **Anther** obovoid, 4-celled.

OTHER SPECIMENS: None seen.

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Species known only from the type locality in western Panama, on the Atlantic slope. Flowering in October.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum schistostemum* belongs to the Difforme Group which is characterized by the caespitose, sympodial plants, fleshy, pale green to glaucous leaves, apical inflorescence, sessile, rarely with a short peduncle, one-flowered to corymbose, without spathaceous bracts, fleshy, green to yellowish green, rarely white flowers. The species can be recognized by its relatively short plants, terete stems, 1-2 white flowers, entire, widely cordiform lip, the column with prominent apical lateral, obtuse lobes, the margin erose, and separated from the lip by deep sinii, the clinandrium-hood entire, margin dentate. It is similar to *Epidendrum gregori* Hágsater which has 2-3 pale green flowers, a bilobed lip with a wide apical sinus and small oblique indentations on the distal margin; the column is blunt, not separated from the column by deep sinii, and the column-hood is split in three, the margin irregular-erose. *Epidendrum hammelii* Hágsater & L.Sánchez has larger flowers, the lanceolate sepals 35 mm long, a reniform lip, the disc thickened into 3 thick, short keels, the column is blunt without prominent lobes or sinii.



CONSERVATION STATUS: DD. Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek σχιστος, cleft, divided, and στῆμα, penis, stamen, in reference to the column which is deeply cleft on each side of the apex, a distinguishing feature from similar species.

REFERENCES: Hágsater, E. 1993. *Epidendrum gregori* in Hágsater, E., & G. A. Salazar. (eds.) *Icon. Orchid. (Mexico City)* 2. pl. 138. Hágsater, E. & L. Sánchez. 1993. *Epidendrum hammelii* in Hágsater, E., & G. A. Salazar. (eds.) *Icon. Orchid. (Mexico City)* 2. pl. 143.

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