

BOTANICAL MUSEUM LEAFLETS

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A NEW EPIDENDRUM FROM SPANISH HONDURAS

BY

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From Mr. J. B. Edwards, who has been collecting in the vicinity of San Juancito, Honduras, there has been received a species of *Epidendrum* which appears to be undescribed. It is closely related to *E. arbuscula* Lindl. differing from it in both vegetative and floral characters. The unbranched stems, linear-lanceolate leaves, shorter floral bracts and pedicels, and the somewhat smaller flowers in a paniculate rather than racemose inflorescence are conspicuous differentiating characters. In *E. arbuscula* the naked portion of the peduncle is very short and stout, while in the new species the peduncle below the flowers is elongated and very slender.

***Epidendrum Edwardsii* Ames, sp. nov.**

Herba terrestris. Radices albae, glabrae, carnosae. Caules plus minusve erecti, foliosi, foliis distichis lineari-lanceolatis, infra folia vaginis persistentibus arcte adpressis. Pedunculus elongatus, satis gracilis, basi bractea scariosa vaginanti instructus. Inflorescentia laxa paniculata, pauciflora. Sepala similia, oblonga, acuta, patentia. Petala spathulata, acuta. Labellum

trilobatum, columnae adpressum et cum ea in tubum adnatum; lobi laterales subdolabriformes, margine irregulariter denticulato; lobus medius subsimilis, emarginatus cum apiculo obtuso interjecto; discus prope apicem columnae conspicue bicallosus, per medium leviter carinatus. Columna sectionis.

Plant 4.5–6 dm. high. Roots whitish, smooth, coarsely fibrous. Stems slender, erect, about 4 mm. in diameter near the base, concealed by the tubular closely appressed sheaths with which the leaves are articulated. Leaves numerous, distichous, the lower ones 3–6 cm. long and 1 cm. wide, lanceolate, acute, their sheathing bases 3.5–5.5 cm. long, tinged with violet-purple, the upper ones up to 16 cm. long, 1–1.7 cm. wide, linear-lanceolate, acute, chartaceous when dry, 1.5–2 cm. apart on the stem. Inflorescence erect, subpaniculate, terminal, 6.5–12 cm. long. Peduncle with the rachis 5.5–11 cm. long, provided with one or more sheathing acute scarious bracts. Flowers 5 to 7, fleshy. Pedicels about 8 mm. long, smooth, slender. Bracts of the panicle 3.5–10 mm. long, usually much shorter than the pedicels, linear to triangular, strongly concave. Ovary about 5 mm. long, smooth. Lateral sepals 10–11 mm. long, 2.75 mm. wide, oblong, acute, spreading, margins strongly revolute. Dorsal sepal similar, 12 mm. long, erect. Petals 11–11.5 mm. long, 2–3 mm. wide, spatulate, acute. Labellum distinctly 3-lobed, including the basal part that is adnate to the column 11–12 mm. long; free portion up to 8 mm. long, 10 mm. wide across the lateral lobes, with a more or less clearly defined central keel on the upper surface, and with 2 hemispherical complanate calli on the disc in front of the apex of the column; lateral lobes sub-dolabriform, about 5 mm. wide with an irregularly dentate or crenulate margin; middle lobe up to 11.5 mm. wide, about 3.5 mm. long,

emarginate with a blunt apicule, margin entire, undulate or sometimes sparsely dentate. Calli 1.5 mm. long, 1 mm. high. Column 6 mm. long, very slender toward the base, dilated upward; margin of the clinandrium dentate, tinged with purple.

REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS, Department of Tegucigalpa, Vicinity of San Juancito, old lumber road at Rosario. Terrestrial on exposed rocky ledges at 5000 feet altitude. Sepals and petals white to pale pink; lip white with purple dot. February 14, 1932. *J. B. Edwards 122.* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 37891.)

Illustration of the type, from
Botanical Museum Leaflets, 3
Feb 24, 1933
pages 6–7

EPIDENDRUM EDWARDSII

SINCE the publication of *Epidendrum Edwardsii* Ames in Botanical Museum Leaflets, No. 2 (1932) 1, a drawing has been made from the type material to illustrate the general habit of the plant and the details of floral structure. This drawing is reproduced on the following page.

ILLUSTRATION: Plant drawn natural size. A single flower much enlarged.

EPIDENDRUM *Edwardsii* Ames

