

Kefersteinia jarae D. E. Benn. & Christensen, sp. nov. (Fig. 7)

TYPE: PERU. Dept. Huanuco: Prov. Leoncio Prado, above Tingo Maria near Las Palmas, 900 m, 10 Nov 1990, *E. Jara P. ex D. Bennett 4752* (HOLOTYPE: NY).

Species haec *Kefersteiniae bertoldii* Jenny similis sed columna non alata, callo granulato et foliis lanceolatis anguste.

Caespitose, acaulous epiphytes to 9.5 cm tall, producing fan-shaped growths. *Leaves* several, lanceolate, mid-vein carinate, acuminate, articulated to conduplicate sheaths imbricating at base, to 8.0 × 1.4 cm, pale dull green. *Inflorescences* multiple axillary slender scapes. *Flowers* pale green-yellow with red-brown markings towards the base; labellum exterior whitish, interior with dark purplish red markings intensifying towards the center, the dark red colored areas consisting of short, small tuberculiform cells; column base clear green-yellow, foot white with dark red-brown markings; anther pale yellow mottled red-brown; pollinia yellowish white. *Sepals and petals* subsimilar, elliptic, apiculate, 1.15–1.4 × 0.45–0.55 cm, the petals and lateral sepals oblique. *Labellum* shortly clawed, 1.1 × 0.6 cm in natural position; callus transverse, retuse, densely granulate, minutely tuberculate. *Column* without wings, dorsal lower half sparsely pubescent, with a prominent, longitudinal, abaxial keel, 0.25 cm long, below stigma descending to become a low ridge dividing the concave base and foot, with 8–10 small blisters on each thickened margin, keel thicker and much wider on the foot. *Clinandrium* hooded; rostellum ligulate, angled forward; anther 0.23 × 0.21 cm. *Pollinarium* with 4 pollinia in 2 unequal pairs, clavate, straight, the larger pair 0.3 × 0.1 cm; stipe rhombic; viscidium transversely oblong.

Etymology: Named to honor the original collector of this species, Enrique Jara P.

Habitat: Montane wet forest. Flowering October–December and March–May.

Kefersteinia jarae is distinguished by the dark blood-red, granulate surface on the labellum interior; callus granulate, densely short tuberculate; column keel short; col-

umn base and foot concave, divided; pollinia straight, clavate; stipe and viscidium broad.

Generic limits within the Zygotetaliinae are both problematic and fluid. No consensus has been reached within the taxonomic community, and such a consensus is unlikely to be forthcoming in the near future. *Kefersteinia jarae* and its sister species, *Kefersteinia bertoldii* Jenny (as well as the next species, *K. licethyi*), are somewhat atypical species of *Kefersteinia* on the basis of their minimal column wings and labellum that lacks the typical deflexed broad margin. They have several characters in common with a problematic cluster of species, typified by *Chondrorhyncha caudata* Ackerman, that have been transferred to *Stenia* by Dodson and Bennett (1989), recognized as *Chondrorhyncha* section *Stenioides* Senghas & G. Gerlach (Senghas & Gerlach, 1991), and recently made the basis for the genus *Ackermania* Dodson & R. Escobar (Dodson & Escobar, 1993). A conservative approach to the taxonomy of these plants is recommended to limit the frequent and confusing transfer of species within the group.

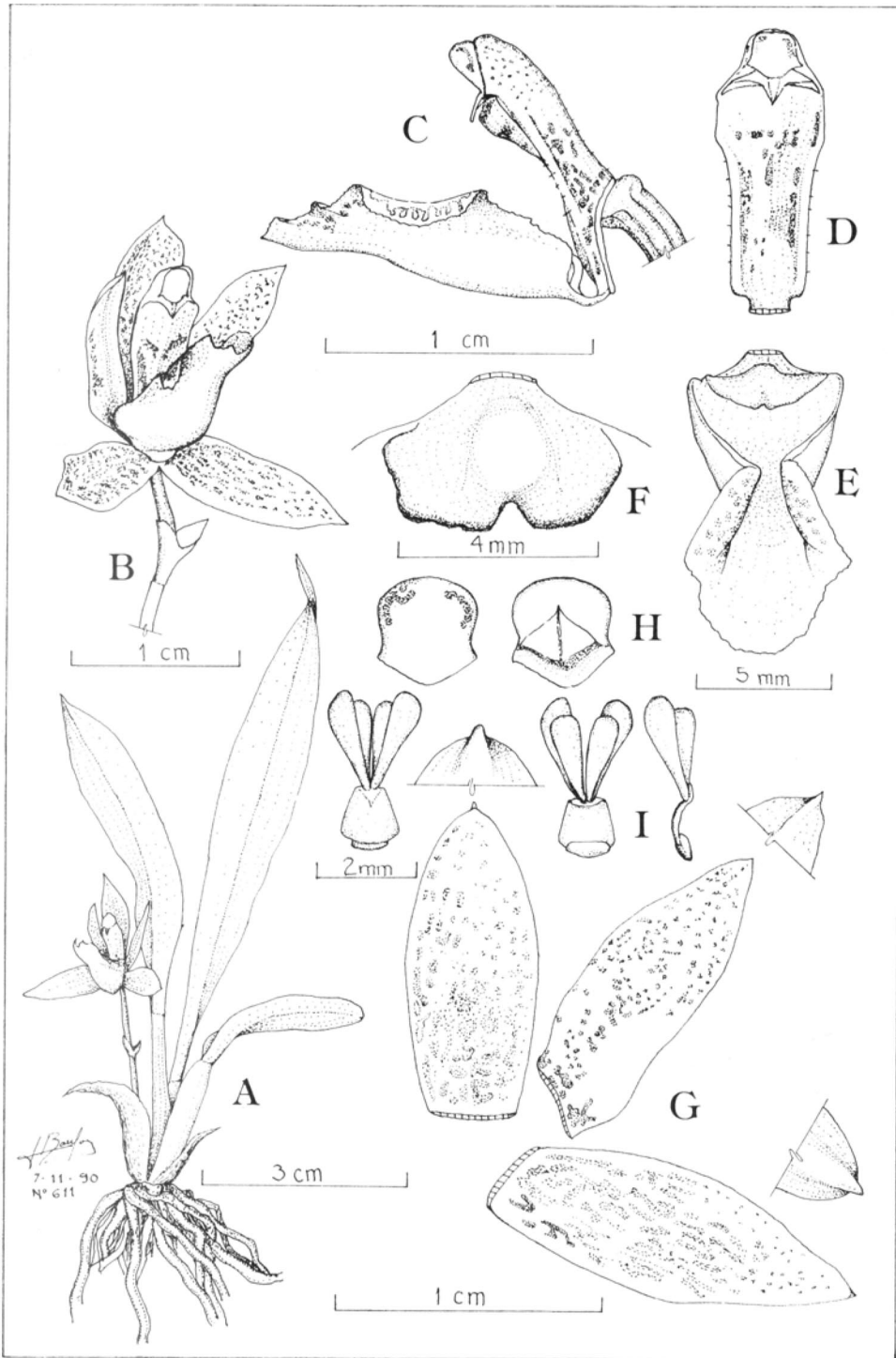


FIG. 7. *Kefersteinia jarae* (drawn from *Bennett 4752*). A. Plant in flower. B. Flower. C. Labellum and column in profile. D. Column from below. E. Labellum from above. F. Close-up of callus. G. Floral dissection with close-ups of apices. H. Anther cap. I. Pollinarium.