

## KEFERSTEINIA HIRTZII Dodson

*Kefersteinia hirtzii* Dodson, sp. nov.

**Latin diagnosis:** Species haec *K. gemmae* Rchb. f. simile sed labelli callo basali elongato lamellato distinguitur.

**Type:** ECUADOR: MORONA-SANTIAGO: Río Palora, 800 m, Sept 1983, *Hirtz 1006* (SEL - holotype).

**Epiphyte.** Stems very short, completely surrounded by distichous, imbricating leaf bases. Leaves 5-7, narrowly oblong-obovate, acute to subacuminate at the apex, narrowed at the base to form a conduplicate petiole, to 14 x 2.5 cm. Inflorescences from the axils of the basal leaves, erect, 1-flowered; peduncle to 6 cm long with one or two nodes with small triangular sheaths to 3 mm long; floral bract ovate, to 5 mm long; pedicel terete, to 9 mm long. Sepals and petals green, the lip pinkish white. Sepals and petals free at the base, erect surrounding the column and lip; dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, obtuse at the apex, concave, 0.9 x 0.4 cm; lateral sepals obliquely oblong-ovate, obtuse at the apex, concave, 1.1 x 0.4 cm; petals obliquely obovate-spatulate, apiculate at the apex, concave, 1 x 0.5 cm; lip broadly obovate-reniform, emarginate at the apex, 1 x 1.3 cm, the callus 3-lobed, the basal lobes quadrate, the apical lobe an elongate keel-like lamella, 5 mm long; column erect, slightly geniculate and reflexed at the midpoint, flattened on the underside with a lateral swelling on each side at the point of the bend and with an indistinct infrastigmatic keel, the stigma slit-like; pollinia 4 in 2 superimposed pairs.

**Epífita.** Tallos muy cortos, rodeados por las bases de las hojas dísticas, imbricándose. Hojas 5-7, conduplicados en la base, subpecioladas. Inflorescencias desde las axilas de las hojas basales, unifloral. Sépalos y pétalos verde; labio blanco-rosáceo, anchamente obovado-reniforme, emarginado en el ápice, el callo trilobado, los lobos basales cuadrados, el lobo apical una

lamela alargado como quilla; columna erecta, ligeramente geniculada y refleja en la mitad, aplanada en el envés con una hinchazon lateral en cada lado en la mitad del dobléz y con una quilla infrastigmática indistincta, el estigma como partido.

**Distribution:** Eastern Ecuador.

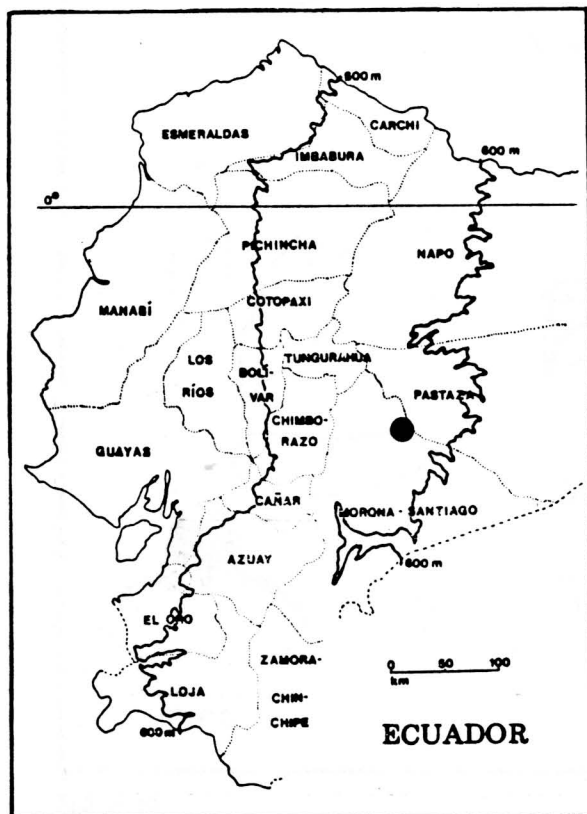
**Etymology:** Named in honor of Sr. Alexander Hirtz who collected the plant and has made major contributions to the knowledge of the orchids of his native land - Ecuador.

**Observations:** Similar to *K. gemma* Rchb. f. but with an elongate, keel-like callus at the base of the lip.

**Habitat:** Epiphyte in extremely wet montane forest.

**Flowering season:** June to November.

**Illustration voucher:** Hirtz 1006.



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**Illus:** B. Culbertson

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