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A NEW LIPARIS FROM GUATEMALA

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Liparis fantastica *Ames & Schweinfurth, sp. nov.*
Herba terrestris, humilis. Caulis supra medium unifoliatatus. Folium suborbiculari-cordatum, acutum. Inflorescentia brevis, crassa, grandiflora. Perianthii partes late patentés. Sepala lateralia lanceolata, acuminata, obliqua, reflexa. Sepalum dorsale persimile. Petala valde reflexa, filiformia. Labellum singulare, in circuitu lanceolatum, valde acuminatum, basi utrinque breviter lobatum, deinde sagittato-cornutum, prope medium dilatatum lateribus laciniatis involutis. Columna generis.

Plant terrestrial, up to 18.3 cm. tall. Roots fibrous, lanuginose. Stem decumbent at the slightly swollen base, provided near the base with two loose membranaceous sheaths of which the upper is elongate, bearing near its apex a single leaf, striate-angulate in the dried specimen. Leaf suborbicular-cordate, 4–6.5 cm. long to the sharp sinus, 4.2–6.4 cm. wide, abruptly acute, membranaceous, widely spreading, the mid-nerve carinate beneath. Peduncle below the inflorescence up to 3.8 cm. long. Raceme subclax, about 21-flowered or less, 2–3.9 cm. across in the dried specimen; rachis 1.4–3.8 cm. long; floral bracts minute, triangular, acuminate, concave, spreading. Pedicellate ovary slender, up to 11 mm. long. Flowers large for the plant, deep maroon. Lateral sepals reflexed

and parallel to each other, lanceolate, acuminate, 8.5–10.8 mm. long, about 2–3 mm. wide, asymmetrical below, with revolute margins, 3-nerved with the mid-nerve more or less prominent beneath. Dorsal sepal very similar. Petals strongly reflexed in natural position, filiform from a triangular base, about 8–9 mm. long, 1-nerved. Lip lanceolate in outline, 7.5–9.3 mm. long, about 3.2 mm. wide near the middle when expanded, with a pair of erect semicircular more or less undulate lobules at the base; just in front are two fleshy retrorse horns; the central part of the disc is abruptly broadened and irregularly laciniate with inrolled sides; the apex is long-acuminate, the margins below the middle with short irregular teeth; the disc is fleshy-thickened between the erect basal lobules and is further provided with a linear fleshy callus extending about to the middle. Column characteristic of the genus, arcuate, 2.5–3 mm. long in natural position, dilated at the base, rather broadly winged above.

This is a most unusual *Liparis* with apparently no allies in the American tropics. In the peculiar structure of the flower, it recalls the otherwise dissimilar *Liparis angustiflora* J. J. Sm., a native of Java.

GUATEMALA, Department of Chimaltenango, Santa Elena. Terrestrial on moss-covered ground beneath young cypress trees, rooted very shallowly among decaying litter. At 9,700 feet altitude. Flowers deep maroon, column green. July 18, 1933. *Alexander F. Skutch 448* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 39544. DUPLICATE TYPE in U.S. Nat. Herb. No. 1585824.)

ILLUSTRATION: Plant natural size, drawn from the type. 1, flower much enlarged. 2, labellum spread out showing the basal and central callus-like thickenings and irregularly laciniate margin. 3, flower much enlarged, side view, showing the lobules, retrorse horns and the irregularly laciniate inrolled margin.

Drawn from dried specimens by Blanche Ames

LIPARIS *fantastica*

Ames & Schweinf.

