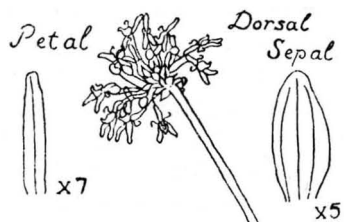


Malaxis aurea Ames *sp. nov.* Herba terrestris, monophylla, floribus subumbellatis. Caulis basi tumidus, vaginis amplis mox in fibras solutis vestitus. Folium ellipticum, subobtusum, basi amplexicaule, membranaceum, viride. Pedunculus elongatus, bialatus, infra racemum nudus. Flores congesti, subumbellati, in racemum valde abbreviatum dispositi. Pedicelli bracteas subtendentes multo excedentes, graciles. Sepala lateralia lineari-oblonga, margine valde revoluta, explanata oblongo-elliptica, uninervia. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala linearia, subcircinnata. Labellum valde concavum, intus lineis incrassatis instructum, a latere complanatum, in rostrum hamatum terminans, apice a latere visum caput elephantinum subjiciens, explanatum orbiculari-cordatum, longe apiculatum. Columna generis.

Terrestrial herb found in pastures, 16 cm. tall in the single specimen which constitutes the type, monophyllous. Stem about 4 cm. long including the tumid rooting base. Leaf 5.8 cm. long, about 3 cm. wide, elliptical, rounded at the base where it clasps the peduncle, tapering rather abruptly from above the middle to the subacute tip. Petiole about 1.5 cm. long, ample, conduplicate. Peduncle including the subumbellate raceme 11.5 cm. long, naked, conspicuously bialate, scarcely 2 mm. thick in greatest diameter. Raceme 5 mm. long, many-flowered, subumbellate. Flowers apricot-yellow when alive. Floral bracts about 1 mm. long, green, much shorter than the slender pedicels, apparently deflexed. Pedicels up to 7 mm. long, obliquely ascending. Lateral sepals 2.5 mm. long, linear-oblong (oblong-elliptical obtuse when forcibly spread out), margins strongly revolute, 1-nerved. Dorsal sepal similar. Petals 2 mm. long, linear, obtuse, somewhat coiled. Labellum fleshy, about 2 mm. long, laterally compressed, strongly complanate-concave, margins more or less inflexed, apex thickened, apiculate-rostrate from beneath the tip, when spread out orbicular-cordate in front of the rostrate appendage, inside with three thickened ridges, the central one broader than the laterals. Column minute.

The floral structure suggests *Malaxis Tonduzii* (Schltr.) Ames, but the petals and sepals are different, and the solitary leaf is larger with a noncrispate margin. *Malaxis linguella* (Reichb. f.) Ames, a native of Mexico, but with a very different labellum, is similar vegetatively. [Fig. 1.]

COSTA RICA, Cóncevas, C. H. Lankester 346. Flowers apricot-yellow, leaf and rachis yellowish oil-green. (Colors according to Ridgway's standards. Pl. V.) (TYPE in Herb. Kew.)



MALAXIS
aurea Ames

