

Maxillaria arachnitiflora A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba valida, caespitosa. Pseudobulbi monophylli, cauliformes. Folia oblongo-elliptica, prominenter petiolata. Inflorescentiae valde numerosae, uniflorae, quam folia multo breviores. Flos grandis, sepalis patentibus. Sepala lineari-lanceolata, valde attenuata, mento prominenti. Petala sepalis simillima sed breviora. Labellum prope apicem leviter trilobatum, per partem basalem callo excavato ornatum.

Plant stout, caespitose, up to 38 cm. tall to the tip of the longest leaf. Roots fibrous, flexuous, glabrous, numerous. Pseudobulbs monophyllous, cauliform, complanate-cylindric, appearing merely as a continuation of the stout petiole, up to 4.5 cm. long, surrounded by distichous ancipitous leaf-bearing sheaths. Leaf petioled; lamina oblong-elliptic, 14–23 cm. long, 3.4–5.2 cm. wide, acute or subacute, cuneate-narrowed at base, coriaceous, mid-nerve more or less sulcate above and conspicuously carinate beneath; petiole 4.5–10 cm. long, conspicuous, conduplicate. In-

florescences numerous, much shorter than the leaves, 1-flowered, erect. Peduncle up to the pedicellate ovary 8–10 cm. long, mostly concealed by 4–6 sheaths which are erect, convolute, loose, and finely pustulose especially the lower ones. Pedicellate ovary terete, channeled, 2.3–3 cm. long, enveloped and somewhat exceeded by the scarios concave bract. Flowers large and showy. Sepals widely spreading, petals porrect and crossing in natural position. Lateral sepals obliquely lanceolate-linear, about 7.4 cm. long, long attenuate with an acute apiculate tip, forming a prominent mentum about 1.3 cm. wide, carinate on the outer side toward the apex. Dorsal sepal very similar, concave at base. Petals similar to the lateral sepals but shorter, attenuate-lanceolate, 5.1–5.6 cm. long from the center of the oblique base, basal portion broadly lanceolate with slightly undulate margins, 8–9 mm. wide. Labellum erect and parallel to the column with incurved sides in natural position, slightly 3-lobed near the apex, oblong-obovate in outline when expanded, 1.9 cm. long, about 1.15 cm. wide across the lateral lobes; lateral lobes (free portion) bluntly angled at the apex, erose on the anterior margins; middle lobe semiorbicular, erose on the margins, a fleshy boss on the under surface near the tip. Disc below the middle with an obovate excavated callus, pubescent on the inner surface. Column arcuate, very short, extended into a stout foot, about 1.8 cm. long including the foot, semicylindric in cross-section, anterior surface flattened and marked with reddish. Anther mitriform. Pollinia 4, in 2 unequal pairs, complanate-ellipsoid.

Maxillaria arachnitiflora has a distinct South American alliance, being most closely related to *M. lepidota* Lindl. It differs from that species, however, in its relatively broader leaves, in having peduncles that are subequal to the petioles, and in being nearly smooth on the outer surface of lip. It differs also in the much broader basal callus of the lip. Among Central American species, it approaches *M. Endresii* Reichb. f., but is distinguished by its slender inconspicuous pseudobulbs, longer more attenuate sepals and dissimilar lip.

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS.

The specific name was suggested by the form of the perianth.

The description was drawn from a dried specimen together with flowers preserved in formalin.

COSTA RICA, Navarro (flowered at Las Concavas, August 1928), *C. H. Lankester 1212*. 4000 feet altitude. "Sepals wax yellow (Ridgway XVI), petals white, lip lemon yellow, front of column and stigmatic surface maroon, anther-cap ochraceous orange." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 34212.)