

## ***Maxillaria foetida* Bennett & Christenson, sp. nov.**

TYPE: PERU. Dept. Cusco, La Convención, District of Echarate, Cumpirusi river basin, Shell Corporation helipad #23, 1245 m, Oct 1998, *M. Cavero ex Bennett* 7847 (holotype: MOL)

*Species haec Maxillaria chartacifolia* Ames & C. Schweinf. similis sed floribus coloribus differt.

Epiphytes with fan-shaped growths lacking pseudobulbs. Leaves 6+, linear-lanceolate, strongly conduplicate at the base, acute, 20-55 × 2-3.5 cm. Inflorescences axillary scapes, the peduncles 10-15 cm long, the floral bracts lanceolate, acute, less than ½ the length of the ovaries. Flowers foetid, cream white with dark purple spots, the column and anther unmarked. Sepals lanceolate, acute, spreading, 2-2.5 × 0.6-0.7 cm. Petals elliptic, obtuse, strongly inflexed forming a chamber around the column with the lip, 1.2 × 0.5-0.6 cm. Lip unlobed, ovate, acute, 1.2 × 0.5 cm in natural position, 0.9 cm wide when expanded, the lateral margins suberect, the callus oblong, obtuse-rounded, from the base of the lip to the middle, surrounded by papillae. Column lightly arcuate, clavate, 0.9 cm long, the foot short, ca. 3 mm long, the clinandrium smooth, the anther with a low rounded crest, the pollinia 4, in two unequal pairs, sessile on a U-shaped viscidium. Pedicel and ovary 4 cm long (Fig. 1).

Etymology: Named for the unpleasant odor of the flowers.

*Maxillaria foetida* is distinguished by its spotted sepals and petals, unique in the section. We illustrated this species for Peru earlier as *M. chartacifolia* (*Icon. Orchid. Peruv.* pl. 97. 1993) but now feel it is distinct. Known from Colombia and Peru, the record for Colombia is based on *R. Escobar* 3982 (*Native Colombian Orchids*, vol. 3:319. 1991).

Finally, two species described from Ecuador, *Maxillaria napoensis* Dodson and *M. williamsii* Dodson, are reduced to synonyms of earlier names.

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### **Fig. 1 : *Maxillaria foetida* Bennett & Christenson**

(front page)

originally published as *Maxillaria chartacifolia*  
(*Icon. Orchid. Peruv.* pl. 97. 1993)  
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