

***Maxillaria janiceae* Christenson, sp. nov.**

TYPE: COLOMBIA. Chocó, Serranía del Baudó, Cerro Mecana, 700 m, G. Misas U. 153 (holotype: HPUJ)

*Species haec Maxillaria chartacifolia Ames & C. Schweinf. similis sed sepalis petalisque albis, glabri columna, callo dissimili differt*

Epiphytes with fan-shaped growths lacking pseudobulbs. Leaves 6+, overlapping at the base, lanceolate, strongly conduplicate toward the base, acute-acuminate, the blades to ca. 27 × 4 cm. Inflorescences short axillary scapes, the flowers held at a distance by highly elongate ovaries, the floral bracts tubular, much shorter than the ovaries, ca. 1.5 cm long. Flowers cupped, the sepals and petals white, the lip pale yellow. Dorsal sepal elliptic, acute, ca. 2.1 × 0.8 cm, the lateral sepals lanceolate, acute, ca. 2 × 0.8 cm. Petals elliptic, subacute, asymmetric, ca. 1 × 0.6 cm. Lip obscurely 3-lobulate, rhombic-elliptic, obtuse, ca. 1.6 × 0.8 cm, the callus a longitudinal pilose strip from the base of the lip to nearly the apex with a small bald patch at the middle. Column arcuate, clavate, glabrous, 0.9 cm long, the column foot very short, the anther unadorned, the pollinia 4, in two unequal pairs, sessile on a U-shaped viscidium. Pedicel and ovary slender, ca. 6 cm long.

Etymology: Named for Janice Swab, American botanist and relentless advocate for the importance of science education.

*Maxillaria janiceae* is most similar to *M. chartacifolia* but differs by having white sepals and petals (yellow in *M. chartacifolia*), a glabrous column base, and the lip is pilose with a small central bald patch. Misas reports only finding this species once and published a line drawing and color photograph (pp. 390-391).