



Opposite *Brassia forgetiana*, which has been recorded for Venezuela and Peru, is now documented for Colombia.

Above left *Maxillaria aureoglobula* is among the three new *Maxillaria* species described here. The specific epithet *aureoglobula* refers to the globose golden flowers.

Above The flowers of *Maxillaria rufescens* from Colombia are more orange-yellow than pure yellow as in other parts of its range. *Maxillaria rufescens* is characterized by its broad dorsal sepal and strong vanilla fragrance.

similis sed floribus aureis, sepalis petalisque ellipticis differt.

Ascending epiphytes. Pseudobulbs ellipsoid, compressed, becoming grooved and wrinkled with age, to 1.8 x 0.6 inches (4.6 x 1.6 cm), subtended by small papery bracts. Leaves one, lanceolate, sessile, acute, to 7.7 x 1.2 inches (19.8 x 3 cm). Inflorescences very short scapes to 1.2 inches (3 cm) long, the floral bracts to 0.4 inches (1.1 cm) long. Flowers cupped, faintly fragrant of melon rind, bright yellow, the lip with red spots, suffusion and

Maxillaria aureoglobula Christenson, *sp. nov.*

TYPE: COLOMBIA. *Hort. Orquideas del Valle s.n.* (holotype: CUVV).

Species haec *Max. acutifolia* Lindl.



transverse bars. Sepals and petals elliptic, obtuse, the dorsal sepal concave, to 0.6 x 0.3 inches (1.4 x 0.8 cm), the lateral sepals to 0.4 x 0.3 inches (1.1 x 0.8 cm), the petals to 0.4 x 0.2 inches (0.9 x 0.6 cm). Lip three-lobed, to 0.5 inches (1.2 cm) long, the lateral lobes small, obliquely triangular, the midlobe oblong, notched at the apex, to 0.2 inches (0.4 cm) wide across the base, the callus linear, from the base of the lip to above the base of the midlobe. Column arching, fleshy, almost winged at the apex, to 0.4 inches (1.1 cm) long. Pedicel and ovary to 0.9 inches (2.4 cm) long.

Etymology: From the Latin for golden globe referring to the globose golden flowers.

This is one of the many species previously included in an overly broadly defined *Maxillaria rufescens* Lindl. It is similar to the brown-flowered *Maxillaria acutifolia* Lindl. from the Guianas and adjacent areas and *Maxillaria suarezorum* Dods. from Ecuador, but differs from both by the shape of its sepals. It is most similar to the Ecuadorian *Maxillaria chacoensis* Dods., but differs by having an obtuse dorsal sepal with a small keel at

the apex on the back (carinate), elliptic lateral sepals without revolute margins, and a much shorter floral bract to less than half the length of the ovary. In *Max. chacoensis*, the dorsal sepal is notched at the apex, the lateral sepals are oblong-ovate, and the floral bract is longer than the ovary and cups the base of the flower.

Maxillaria aureoglobula is also recorded from Venezuela by the color photograph in Dunsterville and Garay (1961: opposite page 161, as *Max. rufescens*). That plant was said to come from the cloud forests near Maracay.