

Ornithidium Pittieri Ames sp. nov. Rhizoma lignosum, elongatum, vaginis arcte appressis vestitum. Folia ligulata, coriacea, basi conduplicata, articulata. Flores numerosi, congesti, axillares. Sepala similia, carnosa, vix patentia, ovato-lanceolata, apice incrassata, mentum formantia. Petala quam sepala breviora, subcarnosa, ovato-oblonga, obtusa. Labellum simplex, lanceolatum, apice valde incrassatum, basi excavato-concavum, ecalosum. Columna valida, in pedem brevem producta.

Rhizome or primary stem elongated, rigid, about 7 mm. in diameter, terete, clothed with tubular closely appressed sheaths, branching, bearing at intervals tufts of coriaceous rigid leaves that are articulated with conduplicative persistent imbricating bases: leafy shoots arising 10 cm. apart. Leaves ligulate, 7-14 cm. long, up to 2 cm. wide, tapering gradually to the apex, conduplicate at base where they are jointed with a persistent base from which they are soon deciduous, ring of articulation protuberant; leaf-base conduplicate, up to 2.5 cm. long. Flowers axillary in dense tufts, arising from crowded sheath-like bracts. Pedicels exceeding the bracts, rugose in dried specimens, rigid, with the ovary about 1 cm. long. Perianth 8-9 mm. long, with the segments hardly spreading. Lateral sepals about 8 mm. long, about 4 mm. wide near the base, concave, ovate-lanceolate, conspicuously thickened at the subobtuse tip, forming with the base of the labellum a blunt rounded mentum, 5-nerved. Dorsal sepal similar. Petals shorter than the sepals, 7 mm. long, about 3 mm. wide below the middle, ovate-oblong, obtuse, concave. Labellum very fleshy, simple, 4.1 mm. long, lanceolate, obtuse, thickened dorso-ventrally above the middle, rostriform at the apex, the apical margin membranaceous and involute, very slightly thickened, but shortly concave below the middle, 3-nerved, ecallose. Column fleshy, 2.5 mm. long, erect, produced at base into a thick foot. Pollinia four, attached to a membranaceous subquadrate disc, sessile, pyriform.

COSTA RICA, San Isidro de Heredia, *H. Pittier* (Herb. Instit. physico-geogr. nat. costaricensis No. 14048), September 1900. Arbres du les pâturages de Las Lajas. 1500 meters altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 21754.)