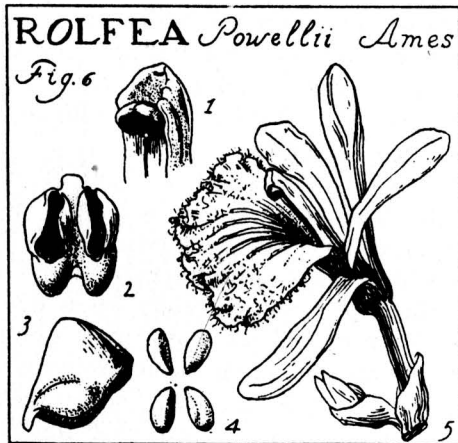


Rolfea Powellii Ames *sp. nov.* Herba terrestris, elata, foliosa. Radices valde fibratae, amplae. Caules erecti, graciles. Folia papyracea, prominenter nervosa, in petiolos vaginantes contracta, patentia, anguste lanceolato-elliptica, oblique ascendunt, acuminata, acutissima. Inflorescentiae laterales vel terminales, pauciflorae. Bracteae inflorescentiae ovatae, acutae, nervosae. Pedicellus cum ovario gracilis, elongatus. Sepala lateralia spathulata, subacuta, extus nervo medio prominenti. Sepalum dorsale spathulatum, obtusum, anguste unguiculatum. Petala oblongo-spathulata, obtusa, margine aliquando obscure crenulata, leviter curvata. Labellum basi cum columna per medium cohaerens, abrupte dilatatum, late flabelliforme, antice trilobatum; lobis lateralibus obtusis, rotundatis; lobo medio profunde bilobulato. Discus praecipue prope apicem et basim labelli copiose pilosus, multinervius, supra medium quinquelamellatus. Columna gracilis, intus prope basim pilosa. Clinandrium valde cucullatum. Anthera postice valde carnosa et antice breviter rostrata. Stigma ut in *Arethusa* profunde excavatum. Capsula longe cylindracea, columna persistenti coronata.

Terrestrial herb. Stems leafy, about 30 cm. tall, 2-3 mm. in diameter near the base, arising from a mass of coarse fibrous spreading roots. Leaves alternate, 10-32 cm. long, up to 5 cm. wide, plicate, prominently many-nerved, narrowly lanceolate-elliptic, chartaceous when dry, long acuminate, acute, contracted at base into slender petioles which sheath the slender stem. Inflorescences lateral and terminal, racemose, 3.5-5 cm. long, sometimes branched, rachis smooth. Bracts of the raceme 5-6 mm. long, ovate, acute, prominently nerved. Flowers about eight, opening in succession, of brief duration, creamy white. Lateral sepals hardly 1.5 cm. long, 3 mm. wide above the middle, asymmetrically spatulate, subacute or obtuse, membranaceous, middle nerve prominent on the outer surface. Dorsal sepal 1.5 cm. long, 3 mm. wide, spatulate, obtuse, subtruncate at the apex. Petals 1.5 cm. long, about 3 mm. wide near the rounded tip, spatulate, somewhat curved, margin sometimes obscurely crenulate above the middle. Labellum embracing the column, 1.7 cm. long, 1.5-1.6 cm. wide at the middle when spread out, abruptly dilated above the base, rotundate-flabelliform, 3-lobed in front, with the lateral lobes

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rounded and the middle lobe deeply bilobulate. Disc pilose, especially near the apex and at the base, with five lamellae, of which the middle one extends almost to the apex of the middle lobe. Column about 1.2 cm. long, slender, for about one-third of its length adnate to the labellum, densely pilose on the ventral surface near the base, hardly dilated above. Clinandrium strongly cucullate, entire. Anther fleshy posteriorly, produced at the apex into a rostrate appendage between the cells. Pollinia four, ovate, strongly flattened, becoming pulveraceous. Stigma deeply concave, declinate, similar to the stigma of *Arethusa bulbosa*. Capsule terete, about 3 cm. long, with the column persistent at its summit.



Mr. Powell reports that the flowers fall very shortly after expanding and that one must be alert to secure them in good condition.

Readily distinguished from *Rolfea elata* Zahlbr. by its smaller flowers and 5-lamellate labellum. [Fig. 6, fl. $\times 2$.]

PANAMA, "Juan Diaz," near Panama City, C. W. Powell 325, August-September, 1923. Found in damp places in dense shade. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 27036.)