

ORCHIDACEAE QUAEDAM AMERICANAE

Pelexia subaequalis *Ames sp. nov.* Caulis subnullus. Folium longe petiolatum, ellipticum, acutum, chartaceum in sicco, quam scapus vix brevius. Scapus erectus, bracteosus. Racemus laxus. Bracteae inflorescentiae lineares. Sepala lateralia linearia, acuta, glanduloso-pubescentia. Sepalum dorsale anguste ellipticum. Petala lineari-lanceolata, ad sepalum dorsale affixa. Labellum elongato-panduriforme, basi sagittatum, intus basim supra dense glanduloso-

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pubescens. Gynostemium elongatum, gracile, rostello producto.

Roots stout, about 4–5 mm. in diameter, villiferous. Leaf long-petiolate; petiole apparently rising from the roots; lamina 15 cm. long, 6.7 cm. wide near the middle, elliptic, apex triangular-acuminate, acute, rounded at base where it is abruptly contracted into the sulcate petiole, chartaceous when dry; petiole 16 cm. long, slender. Scape 30 cm. long, clothed at the base by several tubular loosely appressed sheaths, above the base ornamented with about three sheathing alternate acute bracts which are 3.7–3.9 cm. long; below the inflorescence there are three linear acute bracts which are obliquely ascending and mostly free. Raceme about 9 cm. long, elongating during anthesis, lax, about 4.5 cm. in diameter; rachis glandular-pubescent. Bracts of the inflorescence about 2 cm. long when the flowers are expanded, linear, acute, ascending, somewhat glandular-pubescent near the base. Pedicel abbreviated, with the glandular-pubescent ovary about 1 cm. long. Lateral sepals, including the free spur-like mentum, about 2 cm. long, linear-oblong, glandular-pubescent, spreading. Mentum blunt. Dorsal sepal about 1.5 cm. long, narrowly elliptic-lanceolate, 3.5 mm. wide near the middle, tapering gradually to a broad base, acuminate from above the middle to form a blunt tip, densely glandular-pubescent, 3-nerved. Petals adherent to the dorsal sepal, about 1.4 cm. long, linear-lanceolate, acute, glandular-pubescent on the outer margin. Labellum 1.8 cm. long, constricted near the apex where it is 3-lobed, when spread out elongated-panduriform with a sagittate base; lateral lobes rounded, small, hardly 1 mm. wide (at the base of the middle lobe the lamina of the lip is about 4 mm. wide); middle lobe 3 mm. long, 3.5 mm. wide; above the sagittate base the limb of the labellum is densely glandular-hairy and about 1.75 mm. wide. Gynostemium about 1 cm. long, very slender below the dilated summit; rostellum about 1.5 mm. long.

From *Pelexia Funckiana* (A. Rich. & Gal.) Schltr., with which it is allied, the broader leaf with elongated petiole and relatively shorter scape are differentiating characters.

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GUATEMALA, Department of Alta Verapaz, Cubilquitz,
H. v. Tuerckheim (John Donnell Smith Distribution No.
7994), May 1901. 350 meters altitude. (TYPE in Herb.
Ames No. 6930.)