

Pleurothallis aperta (Kränzl.) Ames comb. nov.

Masdevallia aperta Kränzl. in Fedde Repert. 17 (1921) 430.

Pleurothallis hamata Rolfe in Orch. Rev. 24 (1916) 187, nomen; Ames Sched. Orch. 3 (1923) 8.

Pleurothallis Hunteriana Schltr. in Fedde Repert. Beihefte 17 (1922) 20.

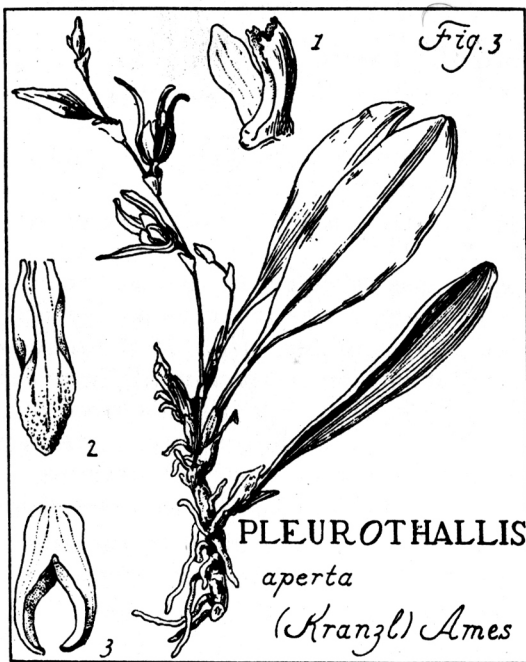
This species was collected for the first time by Endres in Costa Rica, where it was found along the Rio Paquita above the San Marcos bridge. Until 1921 Endres' material lay in the Reichenbachian Herbarium at Vienna as an unidentified species. In 1921, Kränzlin described it under the name *Masdevallia aperta*. Unfortunately, in his description, Dr. Kränzlin misinterpreted the floral structure. He mistook the outer half of each deeply keeled lateral sepal for a keel and described the inner surface as carinate, ("Die 3 Sepalen haben die Kiele nicht aussen, sondern innen,"). In December 1922, Schlechter, working on material submitted to him by C. W. Powell, described a new species of *Pleurothallis* as *P. Hunteriana*. The Powell specimens are inseparable from *Masdevallia aperta*. In January 1923, before Schlechter's description of his new species reached me, I supplied a description for the *Pleurothallis hamata* of Rolfe, a species which was found by C. H. Lankester in Costa Rica, and successfully cultivated in the Royal Gardens at Kew.

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After an examination of the type specimens of the species proposed by Rolfe, Kranzlin and Schlechter, it became very evident that they belonged to a single species.

The flowers of *Pleurothallis aperta* are somewhat variable, but the chief discrepancies between descriptions are accounted for by the readiness with which the lateral sepals become free almost to the base, and in the petals being either 2- or 3-nerved.

I am unable to agree with Dr. Kränzlin's treatment of the generic position of this species. Its affinities are surely with *Pleurothallis*, not with *Masdevallia*. [Fig. 3.]



COSTA RICA, C. H. Lankester 350. Flowering in Hort. Bot. Reg. Kew, July 3, 1916. (TYPE of *Pleurothallis hamata* Rolfe.): Rio Paquita above the San Marcos bridge, Endres, November–December. Flowers yellow striped with purple. (TYPE of *Masdevallia aperta* Kränzlin.)

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PANAMA, Province of Chiriqui, C. W. Powell 277. Flowering in February 1923. Flowers orange with longitudinal rows of brown dots. 4500 feet altitude: Powell 245, October. Flowers yellow with brown dots in stripes. 4000 feet altitude. (TYPE of *Pleurothallis Hunteriana* Schltr.): Powell 109, July 6, 1919. Spotted with rosy brown in longitudinal lines. (Specimen in Herb. Hort. Bot. Reg. Kew.)