

Polystachya Powellii Ames sp. nov. Caules plus minusve elongati, vaginis foliorum omnino obtecti. Folia ligulata, utrinque angustata, apice obtuse bilobulata. Pedunculus folia excedens, vaginis tubulatis obtectus. Racemi plures, breves, secus rachin communem dissiti, paniculam angustam laxam formantes. Sepala lateralia mentum formantia, ovata, acuta, concaviuscula. Sepalum dorsale oblongum, acutum. Petala lineari-spathulata, uninervia. Labellum e basi cuneata dilatatum, supra medium trilobatum; lobis lateralibus obtusis; lobo medio abrupte in apicem acuminatum valde deflexum contracto. Discus prope basim callo permagno ceroso ornatus. Columna abbreviata.

Roots coarsely fibrous. Stems up to 8 cm. long, slender, entirely concealed by tubular bracts and the sheaths of the leaves. Leaves 10–14.5 cm. long, up to 2.2 cm. wide, usually three, approximate, crowded near the summit of the stem, ligulate, gradually narrowed toward the obtuse bilobulate apex, coriaceous, ascending. Peduncle up to 18 cm. long, clothed with elongated ancipitous closely appressed sheathing bracts, loosely paniculate, with the divisions of the panicle 2.5–3.5 cm. long. Flowers olive-green with purple markings. Pedicel with the ovary about 3 mm. long. Lateral sepals about 4 mm. long, forming a blunt mentum which is 2 mm. long, broadly ovate, acute, reticulate-nerved, with the middle nerve more or less prominent on the outer surface. Dorsal sepal 4 mm. long, narrower than the laterals, oblong, acute. Petals 3 mm. long, narrowly spatulate, emarginate at the apex or unequally bidentate. Labellum 3.5 mm. long, about 3 mm. wide across the lateral lobes, dilated to about the middle from a cuneate base, trilobed in front, with the lateral lobes much smaller than the terminal lobe; lateral lobes obtuse; middle lobe rounded, abruptly contracted into an acuminate tip. Disc with a large conical waxy callus at the base. Column about 3 mm. long.

Polystachya Powellii, in habit, resembles *P. luteola* Hook., but is quite different from it in the structure of the labellum. It differs from *P. lineata* Reichb. f. in having smaller flowers and in having the middle lobe of the labellum subequal to the lateral lobes and abruptly contracted into a slenderly acuminate tip.

PANAMA, Province of Chiriqui, west side of Caldera River, in gulch opposite Lino, C. W. Powell 343. Flowering at Balboa under cultivation in September 1923. Lip very fuzzy, as if it were frosted. 4000 feet altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 27177.)