

RAYCADENCO ECUADORENSIS Dodson

Raycadenco ecuadorensis Dodson, gen. et sp. nov.

Latin diagnosis: Habitus *Pachyphylo* H.B.K. similis, flores *Oncidio* Sw. similis et pollinarium *Lockhartia* Hook. similis, sed caudiculis divisus differt. Species haec floribus flavis, petalis porphyreo maculatis, sepalis petalisque liberis reflexis, labello quadrilobato callo tuberculato lamellato apice hirsuto et columna geniculata cucullata notabilis.

Type: ECUADOR: ZAMORA-CHINCHIPE: up the canyon of the Río San Francisco at km 25 on the road Loja to Zamora, 2200 m, 15 Nov 1988, collected by Raymond McCullough, Carl Withner, Dennis D'Alessandro, and Cordelia Head, *Dodson 17715* (Holotype - RPSC).

Epiphyte. Plant monopodial. Stem to 10 cm tall, surrounded by distichous, imbricating foliaceous sheaths. Leaves thick, narrowly elliptic, narrowing to the articulating junction with the sheath, 3.5 x 0.8 cm. Inflorescences racemose, axillary, glabrous, short, 2- to 3-flowered, to 3 cm long; floral bracts ovate; ovary to 2 cm long, terete, shallowly 3-winged. Flowers yellow blotched with red-brown on the petals and the callus of the lip; sepals free, reflexed; dorsal sepal narrowly elliptic, concave, 5 x 1 mm; lateral sepals obliquely elliptic, concave, 5.5 x 1 mm; petals reflexed, elliptic, 5 x 2.5 mm; lip 12 x 7 mm, 4-lobed, the lateral lobes cordate-sagitate, rounded, the apical lobes obliquely quadrate, truncate at the apex, deeply emarginate between the lobes, the callus with a pair of projecting, hirsute tubercles, with 4 shallow lamellae between them and a series of 3 warty lamellae running down to the midportion of the lip; column villose at the base, geniculately subterete, with a 3-lobed wing forming a clinandrial hood around the anther; pollinarium of 2 clavate pollinia attached to a Y-shaped caudicle attached to a round, flattened viscidium.

Epífita. Tallo monopodial, hasta 10 cm de alto, rodeado por vainas foliáceas, dísticas. Hojas gruesas, elípticas. Inflorescencia racemosa, lateral, corta; 2 a 3 flores; ovario 2 cm de largo, tri-alado. Flores amarillas con manchas café-rojo en los pétalos y en el callo del labio; sépalos y pétalos libres, reflexos; labio tetralobado, los lobos laterales cordato-sagitado, redondos, los lobos apicales cuadrados oblicuamente, truncados en el ápice, emarginados entre los lobos, el callo con un par de tubérculos salientes, hirsutos; columna geniculada, con alas formando una capucha clinandrial; polinario de 2 polinios adjuntos al caudículo en forma de Y.

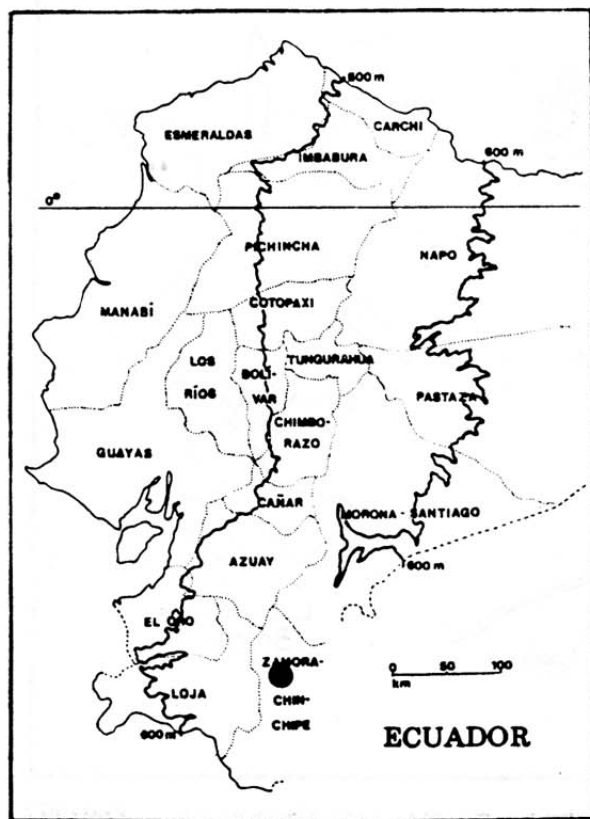
Distribution: Ecuador.

Etymology: Generic name proposed as a composite of collectors given names.

Observations: Similar to *Pachyphyllum* in plant habit, to *Oncidium* in floral features, and to *Lockhartia* in the divided caudicles of the pollinarium. This curious plant appears to be intermediate in characters between those 3 genera and probably indicates phylogenetic affinities.

Habitat: Twig epiphyte in upland tropical moist forest.

Illustration voucher: Dodson 17715.

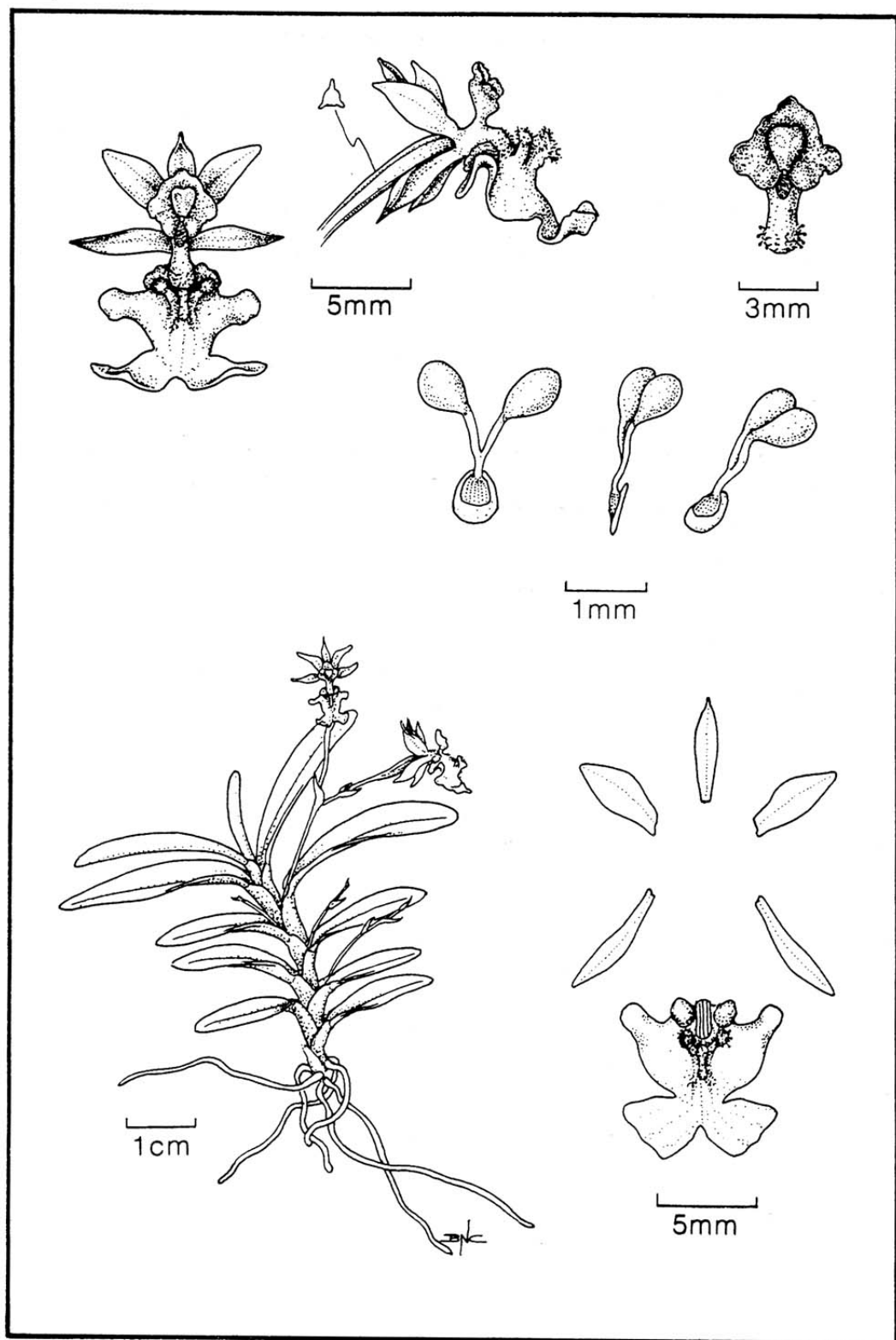


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