

ORCHIDACEAE QUAEDAM AMERICANAЕ

Sarcoglottis orbiculata Ames sp. nov. Herba terrestris, foliis rosulatis, suborbicularibus vel orbicularibus. Scapus erectus, vaginatus vaginis arcte appressis acutis. Racemus densiflorus. Bracteae inflorescentiae permagnae, lanceolatae, acutae. Ovarium glanduloso-pubescentia. Sepala lateralia mentum formantia, ascendentia demum deflexa, curvata, subacuta. Sepalum dorsale cum petalis galeam formans. Labellum basi sagittatum, auriculis elongatis; lamina longe panduriformis, apice in lobum ovatum expansa. Gynostemium elongatum.

Plant about 30 cm. high, stout, with orbicular or suborbicular obtuse basal leaves and a short raceme of large flowers. Leaves 8–10 cm. long including the short petiole, up to 6.7 cm. wide, apparently rosulate. Peduncle with pubescent internodes, sheathed by several closely appressed bracts which are cylindrical at base and free above, acute.

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Raceme about 1 dm. long, 4–5 cm. in diameter; rachis pubescent. Bracts of the inflorescence 2–3 cm. long, lanceolate, acute. Ovary shortly pedicellate, about 2 cm. long. Lateral sepals decurrent on the column forming a distinct glandular-pubescent mentum, at first ascending then deflexed, 3.2 cm. long from tip to base of mentum, scimitar-shaped, tapering to the subacute apex. Dorsal sepal 2.2 cm. long, adnate to the petals and with them forming a narrow hood above the gynostemium. Petals slightly shorter than the upper sepal, narrowly oblong. Labellum ascending from the inside of the mentum, about 2.6 cm. long, sagittate at base, elongated-panduriform, simple, expanded above into a deflexed ovate obtuse lamina; auricles 4 mm. long, narrowly triangular subacute. Gynostemium slender below the stigma, reaching to the middle of the dorsal sepal.

Similar to *Sarcoglottis ochracea* (A. Rich. & Gal.) Schltr., but taller and stouter, with much larger leaves, denser raceme, and blunter labellum.

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