ORCHIDACEAE QUAEDAM AMERICANAE

Sarcoglottis pubilabia Ames sp. nov. Herba terrestris radicibus fasciculatis, valde incrassatis, aphylla. Scapus elongatus, vaginatus in racemum sublaxum productus. Racemus multiflorus, elongatus. Bracteae inflorescentiae lanceolatae, acuminatae. Sepala lateralia triangulari-oblonga. Sepalum dorsale cum petalis galeam valde concavam formans. Labellum basi conspicue sagittatum, prope apicem in lobum suborbicularem constrictum. Discus glanduloso-pubescens. Gynostemium abbreviatum rostello denticulato.

Terrestrial herb, apparently very variable in height, the type 62 cm. tall, leafless at anthesis. Roots fasciculate, extraordinarily fleshy, 5-11 cm. long, up to 8 mm. in diameter. Scape about 60 cm. tall, rather stout, with several sheathing bracts which are prolonged into a free triangular

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acute tip. Raceme 11-22 cm. long, barely 2 cm. in diameter, many-flowered, buds and faded flowers simultaneously present: rachis glandular-pubescent. Bracts of the inflorescence glandular-ciliate on the margin, lanceolate, acuminate, acute, 1 cm. or more long. Ovary shortly pedicellate, densely glandular-pubescent, about 9.5 mm. long. Lateral sepals decurrent on the ovary, scarcely 1 cm. long from tip to base of mentum, about 3 mm. wide, triangular-oblong, obtuse, 3-nerved. Dorsal sepal 6 mm. long, adherent to the petals and with them forming a deeply concave hood over the gynostemium, glandular-pubescent on the exterior surface, narrowly elliptic-lanceolate, obtuse. Petals about 6 mm. long, falcate-lanceolate, obtuse, 3-nerved, glandularciliate on the outer margin. Labellum about 8 mm. long, sagittate at the base, constricted near the apex to form a suborbicular terminal lobe 2 mm. long and 3.5 mm. wide; lamina 5 mm, wide below the point of constriction, rounded above, gradually tapering to the wide sagittate base. Disc conspicuously glandular-hairy below the middle; auricles nearly 2 mm. long, flattened, very fleshy. Gynostemium 4 mm. long measured from the base of the dorsal sepal to the denticulate tip of the slender rostellum.

Allied to Spiranthes Schaffneri Reichb. f., from which it differs in the 3-lobed labellum and absence of leaves at flowering time. From Sarcoglottis zamororae Ames it is distinguished by the glandular hairs on the disc of the labellum and by the more strongly concave cucullate dorsal sepal.

Mexico, C. G. Pringle 8867. (Type in Herb. Ames No. 6648.)