

Scaphyglottis punctulata (*Reichb.f.*) *C. Schweinfurth* *comb. nov.*

Ponera punctulata Reichenbach filius in *Bonpl.* 3
(1855) 220.

Records of *Ponera punctulata* from the Reichenbach Herbarium in Vienna show that this concept is clearly referable to the genus *Scaphyglottis* Poepp. & Endl. It has the relatively elongate, apically biauriculate column that is characteristic of the genus, rather than the abbreviated exauriculate column of *Ponera*. Moreover, it shows that the two apical leaves are subopposite as in *Scaphyglottis*, and they are borne at some distance from the lower distichous leaves, although not so far remote as is common in the latter genus.

Three collections from Peru and one from Puerto Rico are referred to this concept. All of these collections, as well as the typical *Ponera punctulata* from Venezuela, have distichously leafy stems, although the lower portions bear only imbricating, leaf-bearing sheaths.

In order to clarify this little known species, the following diagnosis is given, based chiefly on the Peruvian and Puerto Rican collections.

Plant terrestrial in moss or epiphytic, caespitose, up to 52 cm. high to the tip of the uppermost leaf. Stems distichously leafy, for the most part entirely concealed by imbricating leaf-sheaths, either simple or with one to three short branches (when with only a single branch, appearing to have one continuous axis), the uppermost portion naked, short and terminated by a pair of subopposite leaves, up to about 43 cm. high. Leaves erect-spreading, linear to linear-lanceolate, up to 12.9 cm. long and 9 mm. wide (often much smaller, especially below), gradually narrowed to an obtuse or bilobulate apex, clasping at base. Inflorescence terminal on the stem or branches, abbreviated, racemose, 1- or more commonly 2-flowered, issuing from a pair of erect, imbricating, evanescent spathes. Pedicellate ovary long and slender, 1.6 cm. or more in length (up to 3.5 cm. long including the ripened ovary). Flowers rather small, campanulate,

lavender tinged with green, or green dotted with pink or dark violet and a greenish white lip. Dorsal sepal ovate-oblong, concave, acute or short-acuminate, about 7-9 mm. long and 3-4 mm. wide. Lateral sepals obliquely lanceolate-ovate, acute or short-acuminate, about 7-8.7 mm. long and 2.8-4 mm. wide near the base which is decurrent on the column-foot. Petals lanceolate-oblong or elliptic-oblong, more or less oblique, abruptly subacute to acute or apiculate, 6.1-8.9 mm. long, 2-3 mm. wide. Lip slightly exceeding the sepals, articulated to the column-foot without a claw, obovate-pandurate in outline with a cuneate base, either truncate or very broadly rounded and apiculate or lightly retuse and apiculate in front, arcuate-recurved below, with more or less incurved sides, about 7-8.5 mm. long when expanded and 3.4-6.3 mm. wide across the apical portion; disc below with a more or less prominent, large, fleshy, concave or sulcate callus which is extended into verruculose lines above. Column conspicuous, arcuate, prominently auriculate-dilated at the apex, about 5-6.6 mm. long, produced into a short foot.

PUERTO RICO: El Yungue, on trees near summit of Mt. Britton, in fruit, June 22, 1952 (flowered in greenhouse March 30, 1953), *D.S. Correll & H. F. Winters s.n.*

VENEZUELA: *Geitner s.n.* (type of *Ponera punctulata*).

PERU: Huánuco, Sierra Azul, on Pucallpa Road, at 3500 feet altitude, in road cut, terrestrial in moss, December 1, 1945, flower "lavender tinged green," *R. J. Seibert 2252*.—Junín: Pichis Trail, Eneñas, at 1700 meters altitude, epiphyte in open sphagnum swamp, July 1, 1929, *E. P. Killip & A. C. Smith 25675, 25690*.