

*Hexisea sigmoidea* A. & S. sp. nov. Herba insignis. Caules ex internodiis gracilibus constant, in nodis ramosi. Folia bina in nodis, anguste oblonga. Flores singuli, in apice internodii summi. Sepala ovato-lanceolata. Petala angustiora. Labellum sigmoideum; basis anguste concava; deinde lamina latere utrinque auriculata, parte anteriore abrupte reflexa cuneata late truncata. Columna crassa, antice in medio tumefacta.

Stems branching at the nodes; internodes successively shorter from base upward, .6 (uppermost)–21.3 (lowermost) cm. long (perhaps more), 2–2.5 mm. in diameter (the lower-**the fibrous remains of sheaths, the uppermost internodes more or less completely enveloped by a few rigid tubular imbricating sheaths; nodes with a pair of subopposite leaves, the lower nodes producing a tuft of fibrous verrucose grayish roots.** Leaves oblong-linear or oblong, up to 9 cm. long and 9.5 mm. broad (the uppermost sometimes 1.5 cm. long and about 4 mm. wide), rounded and bilobed at apex, a minute apicule between the lobules, subsessile at base, coriaceous, the median nerve sulcate on the upper surface and carinate beneath. Flower apparently solitary at the summit of the uppermost internode. Pedicellate ovary slender, often 2 cm. long, concealed by a few imbricating sheaths. Lateral sepals ovate-lanceolate, 1.5 cm. long, 7.1 mm. wide below the middle, obtuse or acute, strongly concave below the middle, 13-nerved, five of which are conspicuous. Dorsal sepal similar, about 1.4 cm. long, 7.75 mm. wide below the middle. Petals similar, narrower, lanceolate, 1.35 cm. long, 5–6 mm. wide below the middle, obtuse, 5–7-nerved. Labellum in natural position strongly sigmoid; basal portion fleshy, narrowly and deeply concave, about 4 mm. long, subparallel with the column; central portion abruptly dilated into the lateral lobes between which are two approximate very fleshy keels; forward portion sharply reflexed and produced into a lamina; lateral lobes membranaceous, erect, 3–4 mm. long, embracing the summit of the column; anterior portion about 8 mm. long, very broadly truncate and lightly retuse when spread out, in natural position oblong toward the base and cuneate-flabellate above, margins strongly plicate and crenate-erose. Column short, stout, about 7 mm. long, the concave anterior face continuous with the fleshy base of the labellum, a conspicuous conical boss in the middle, margin slightly dilated in the middle on each side; clinandrium irregularly crenate.

There are no near relatives of *Hexisea sigmoidea*, but its habit recalls *H. oppositifolia* Reichb. f.

COSTA RICA, Santa Clara de Cartago, C. H. Lankester 570, December 23, 1923. "Whole flower Flame Scarlet, Pl. 2 [Ridgway], semitranslucent or gelatinous, . . . —rare." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 28120.)