

Spiranthes Valerioi A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba terrestris, gracilis. Radices magnae, tuberosae, lanuginosae. Folium singulum, basale, marcidum. Caulis glaber, vaginis quattuor vestitus. Racemus pusillus, laxiflorus. Sepala lateralia linearia, obtusa. Sepalum dorsale oblongum. Petala sepalo dorsali adhaerentia, lineari-spathulata. Labellum in circuitu quadratum, prope apicem obscurissime trilobatum, ad basim utrinque calloso-incrassatum.

Plant small, terrestrial, about 17 cm. tall. Roots relatively large and stout, tuberous, lanuginose. Leaf solitary, basal, withered and decayed at flowering-time. Stem slender, altogether glabrous, clothed with 4 tubular scarios sheaths. Raceme very slender, 5 cm. long, loosely 6-flowered, glabrous throughout. Floral bracts lanceolate, long acuminate, scarios, the lowermost and largest 1.55 cm. long, erect and clasping the ovaries. Flowers inconspicuous, pinkish white, horizontal. Sepals minutely erose at the apex of the involute margins. Lateral sepals linear, 5-6 mm. long, about 1.6 mm. wide, obtuse, oblique at base, conspicuously 1-nerved and dorsally unicarinate. Dorsal sepal oblong, about 5 mm. long, up to 2 mm. wide, obtuse or acute, 1-nerved with a pair of short less prominent lateral nerves. Petals conspicuously shorter than the dorsal sepal and adherent to it, linear-spatulate, about 5 mm. long, 1.5 mm. wide beyond the middle, obtuse or subacute, upper half more or less oblique with margins irregularly erose. Labellum oblong-quadrate in outline, about 5 mm. long, 2.6 mm. wide in the middle where broadest, sessile with basal auricles broadly rounded and callose-thickened, the anterior third suborbicular and crenulate-crispate. Disc 3-nerved, inner surface pubescent on the basal and anterior parts. Column characteristic of the genus, shortly pubescent on the anterior face.

Spiranthes Valerioi is apparently related to *S. parasitica* A. Rich. & Gal., and to *S. transversalis* A. Rich. & Gal., but it differs from both plants in the form of the lip. It has larger flowers and different petals from *S. nutantiflora* Schltr.

A single herbarium specimen furnished this diagnosis.

COSTA RICA, Province of San José, Cerro de las Vueltas, Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio 43952, December 29, 1925-January 1, 1926. 2700-3000 meters altitude. "Wet forest, terrestrial; flowers pinkish white. One plant found." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33214.)