

***Sobralia atropubescens* A. & S. sp. nov.** Herba stricta. Caulis gracilis, vaginis arctis dense pubescentibus maxima pro parte inclusus. Folia disticha, late lanceolata, abrupte acuminata, subtus pubescentia. Flos singulus, terminalis, bracteis imbricantibus vestitus. Sepala lateralia elliptico-oblonga, acuta. Sepalum dorsale oblanceolato-oblongum, acutum. Petala oblanceolata, acuta. Labellum in circuitu obovatum, in basi breviter bicarinatum.

Plant small for the genus, 28 cm. high to the tip of the erect flower. Stem (incomplete) 22 cm. long, slender, woody, mostly invested by close leaf-sheaths which are longitudinally striate-nervose and densely dark-pubescent. Leaves distichous, ovate-lanceolate, lanceolate, or elliptic-lanceolate, 7.1–11.6 cm. long, 2.25–4 cm. wide, abruptly acuminate, sessile with a more or less rounded base, subcoriaceous and plicate in the dried specimen, apparently glabrous above when mature, rather closely dark-pubescent on the under surface, 7–9 nerves rather prominent beneath with the outer ones marginal, widely spreading at intervals of 3.2–3.7 cm. Inflorescence 1-flowered, terminal; pedicellate ovary enclosed by 4 pubescent imbricating sheaths of which the outer pair are leaf-bearing with very unequal spreading blades and the inner 2 are erect inconspicuous tubular-involute and narrowly lanceolate. Flower small for the genus. Lateral sepals elliptic-oblong, 3.45 cm. long, 9.2 mm. wide, acute with a thickened complicate apex, slightly oblique, 14-nerved near the base. Dorsal sepal rather similar, oblanceolate-oblong, about 3.3 cm. long, 8.5 mm. wide beyond the middle, acute and mucronate at the thickened apex, 11-nerved near the base. Petals oblanceolate, 3.2 cm. long, 9.1 mm. wide above, sharply acute, 11-nerved near the base, upper margins slightly irregular. Labellum tubular-involute in natural position, obovate when spread out, about 3.1 cm. long, about 2.3 cm. wide near the apex, very broadly rounded in front with undulate-crenulate margins, very obscurely 3-lobed, abruptly acute or mucronate in the center, cuneate at base. Disc many-nerved, with a basal pair of short fleshy keels forming a V-shaped callus and scattered inconspicuous papillae from the base to the center. Column slender, clavate, about 2.2 cm. long, terminating in a tridentate wing of which the central tooth is broadly ovate and cucullate, the lateral ones falcate blunt and retrorse. Anther pyriform, 2-celled.

Sobralia atropubescens is distinct from *S. neglecta* Schltr. in having very hairy leaf-sheaths and under surfaces of the leaves and differently colored flowers. It differs from *S. decora* Batem. in its more conspicuous pubescence, its dissimilarly colored flowers and approximately equal width of sepals and petals.

The description was made from dried specimens and from a flower preserved in formalin.

COSTA RICA, Pejivalle, C. H. Lankester 928 (1109), June 1924. (Flowered at Las Concavas, December 1925.) Sepals Old Gold (Ridgway XVI), cream-colored at tips and centrally along keel to apical fourth. Petals similar, a warmer tinge. Lip vinaceous purple, fringes and edges above whitish, beneath amber-yellow. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 35585.)