

## ORCHIDACEAE QUAEDAM AMERICANAE

**Stelis chihobensis** *Ames sp. nov.* Herba caespitosa. Caules secundarii elongati, monophylli. Folium ligulatum, utrinque attenuatum. Pedunculus cum racemo folium excedens. Sepala lateralia ovata, obtusa, margine ciliolata. Petala subrhomboidea. Labellum carnosum, late reniforme, in medio disci callo ornatum. Columna usque ad apicem dilatata.

Roots fibrous, about 1 mm. in thickness, whitish, smooth. Secondary stems caespitose, erect, about 2 mm. in diameter, up to 7 mm. long, longitudinally sulcate when dry, trivaginate. Sheaths brownish, prominently nerved, the lower one concealing the base of the stem, closely appressed, tubular; middle sheath 16–20 mm. long, truncate; upper sheath from 2.5–3 cm. long, loosely appressed, tubular, truncate, concealing the central portion of the stem. Leaf conspicuously petiolate; lamina 6–7 cm. long, about 1 cm.

## ORCHIDACEAE QUAEDAM AMERICANAE

wide, ligulate, attenuated at each end, obtuse, coriaceous. Petiole 1–1.5 cm. long, sulcate above. Peduncles slender, arising singly or in pairs from a complanate sheath, with the raceme 10–12 cm. long. Sheath about 12 mm. long. Raceme up to 8 cm. long, flowers 2.5 mm. apart. Floral bracts 1.5 mm. long, obliquely infundibuliform, acute, embracing the stem, shorter than the pedicellate ovary, brownish when dry. Pedicel with the ovary 2 mm. long. Flowers distichous. Lateral sepals 2 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, broadly ovate, obtuse, 3-nerved, glandular-pubescent, margins minutely ciliolate. Dorsal sepal similar. Petals hardly 1 mm. long, subrhomboidal from a wide base. Labellum 1 mm. long, about 1 mm. wide, very fleshy, broadly reniform from a short claw, rounded in front, concave, near the middle traversed by a thickened ridge, minutely papillose. Column fleshy, dilated toward the summit.

Allied to *Stelis conmixta* Schltr. and *S. perplexa* Ames, having a very similar labellum. From the former it is readily distinguished by the dissimilar floral bracts, from the latter it is very different in having elongated secondary stems and distinctly ciliolate sepals.

GUATEMALA, Department of Alta Verapaz, Chihob, Harry Johnson 939, October 23, 1920. Epiphyte. 3000 feet altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 22089.)