

## ORCHIDACEAE QUAEDAM AMERICANAE

**Stelis colombiana** *Ames sp. nov.* Herba caespitosa, caulibus secundariis elongatis. Folium elliptico-oblongum. Racemus multiflorus. Sepala late ovata, trinervosa. Petala suborbicularia. Labellum crassum, usque ad medium incrassato-callosum, infra apicem excavatum. Columna antice bilobata.

Roots coarsely fibrous, white, smooth, about 1 dm. long. Secondary stems caespitose, about 1 dm. long, the upper half surrounded by a closely appressed, tubular sheath, monophyllous. Leaf narrowly elliptic-oblong, obtuse, tapering from about the middle toward both ends, with the petiole 6–11 cm. long, 1.5–1.8 cm. wide, coriaceous, midnerve prominent beneath. Petiole about 2 cm. long, sulcate above. Peduncles single or in pairs, emerging from a complanate

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sheath, about 7 cm. long, floriferous nearly to the base. Racemes slender, bearing as many as twenty-five brown-purple flowers. Floral bracts 2–3 mm. long, obliquely infundibuliform, acute, enclosing the rachis, equalling the persistent pedicel. Pedicel and ovary 3 mm. long. Flowers about 2 mm. apart, distichous, reddish brown when dry. Sepals coherent at base, about 2.25 mm. long, broadly ovate from a wide base, obtuse, 3-nerved. Petals 1 mm. long, 1.5 mm. wide near the end, flabellate-semiorbicular, apical margin much thickened, 3-nerved, nerves clavate in outline. Labellum fleshy, about 1 mm. long, transversely elliptical from a wide cuneate base, obtusely apiculate, callose-thickened to about the middle, with a foveola in front of the callus. Column fleshy, dilated above into rounded lobes, one on each side.

Allied to *Stelis crassilabia* Schltr.

COLOMBIA, State of Cauca, Headwaters of Rio Lopez, Rio Palo basin, Tierra Adentro, *H. Pittier 1093*, January 1906. 2500–3000 meters altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 7968.)