

Stelis eximia Ames sp. nov. Radices valde fibratae, glabrae. Caules secundarii caespitosi, vaginati, elongati. Folium anguste ellipticum, obtusum, apice inconspicue bilobulatum, coriaceum, in petiolum brevem contractum. Pedunculus cum racemo folio multo longior, multiflorus, bractea spathacea subtendenti. Bracteae racemi oblique infundibuliformes, pedicello breviores. Pedicellus cum ovario ascendens. Sepala lateralibus ovata, obtusa, quinquenervia. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala cuneata, apice

truncata et valde incrassata, trinervia. Labellum quadratum, valde incrassatum, subtus rotundatum, apice minute apiculatum, apiculo erecto.* Discus concavus, callo T-formi instructus. Columna supra medium dilatata.

Roots coarsely fibrous, whitish, smooth. Secondary stems densely caespitose, up to 12 cm. long, clothed to about the middle with several tubular sheaths, monophyllous. Leaf 16.5 cm. long, 3.5 cm. wide at the middle, narrowly elliptical, obtuse, with the apex minutely bidentate, narrowed toward the base into a short petiole which is about 2 cm. long. Peduncle with the raceme 23 cm. long, subtended by a closely appressed spathaceous bract which is 1.9 cm. long. Raceme many-flowered. Bracts of the raceme about 3 mm. long, infundibuliform, much shorter than the pedicellate ovary, about 7 mm. apart between the points of insertion. Pedicel with the ovary about 6 mm. long. Lateral sepals about 6 mm. long, 5-5.5 mm. wide, broadly ovate, obtuse, 5-nerved, fleshy. Dorsal sepal 6 mm. long, 5 mm. wide, 5-nerved. Petals 1 mm. long, 1.25 mm. wide at the summit, cuneate, much thickened and truncate at the apex. Labellum 1 mm. long, 1 mm. wide, quadrate, truncate at the apex, rounded beneath, with a minute erect apiculate process on the anterior margin. Disc concave, with a T-form slightly raised callus. Column equalling the petals, dilated above the middle.

A close ally of *Stelis cascajalensis* Ames, from which it differs in the differently proportioned sepals and in the smaller flowers.

PANAMA, Province of Chiriqui, "Caramilla," C. W. Powell 312. Grows in moderate sunlight on fallen tree-trunks. Flowers greenish white, darker green at the margin. Petals and labellum shining chocolate brown. Flowers in July. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 26979.)