

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS

Stelis nubis *Ames sp. nov.* Caules secundarii caespitosi, vaginati, vaginis laxè adpressis elongatis tubulatis, monophylli. Folia caulibus secundariis breviora, coriacea, anguste elliptica, utrinque attenuata, apice bidentata, nervo

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medio producto. Racemus cum pedunculo vix folium aequans, floribus plus minusve secundis. Pedunculus paucivaginatus. Bracteae racemi oblique infundibuliformes, acutae. Sepala lateralibus trinerviis, late ovata, subacuta vel obtusa, leviter concava, extus glabra, intus sparse glandulosa. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala valde carnosae, apice transverse triangulari, glandulosae. Labellum valde carnosum, breviter unguiculatum, triangulare, obtusum, extus minute et dense glandulosum, trans medium valde calloso-incrassatum, callo bilobulato. Columna usque ad apicem dilatata, apice utrinque lobulato.

Epiphytic herb 15–20 cm. tall with spreading, fibrous, whitish roots. Secondary stems densely caespitose, 2–6 cm. long, slender, almost entirely concealed by loosely appressed tubular sheaths, monophyllous. Sheaths up to 3.6 cm. long, dilated upward, truncate or obliquely truncate-acute. Leaf narrowly elliptical, attenuated at both ends, passing into a slender elongated petiole; lamina 3–6 cm. long, 1.5–2.1 cm. wide; petiole about 2.5 cm. long. Inflorescence about 7 cm. long (in the type), sometimes 8 cm. or more long, scarcely equaling the apex of the leaf, partly concealed at base by an elongated tubular bract of the stem. Raceme itself about 4.5 cm. long. Flowers greenish yellow, about 3.5 mm. apart, more or less secund, shortly pedicellate, subtended by hyalinescent infundibuliform bracts. Lateral sepals united almost to the middle, 3 mm. long, 3 mm. wide, broadly ovate from a broad base, obtuse, smooth outside, sparsely glandulose within, 3-nerved, somewhat concave, fleshy. Dorsal sepal 4 mm. long, 4 mm. wide, broadly ovate from a wide base, subacute or obtuse, somewhat thickened at the tip, smooth on the outer surface, sparsely glandulose within, 3-nerved. Petals 1 mm. long, 1.25 mm. wide, .75 mm. thick at the truncate summit, rhomboid, triangular in cross-section at the apex, distinctly and densely glandulose above the middle, equaling the column. Labellum 1 mm. long, 1 mm. wide, triangular in outline in front of the abbreviated claw, about 1 mm. thick, with a transverse thickening across the middle, more or less glandulose outside and inside, blunt at

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the apex, 3-nerved. Column about as long as the petals, dilated upward, 3-lobed at the summit; clinandrium entire.

From the closely allied *Stelis Alfredii* Schltr. distinguished in part by the form of the labellum and by the racemes being shorter than the leaves. In the shape of the leaves it resembles closely some of the forms of *S. Cooperi* Schltr., but is a much taller and more robust species.

COSTA RICA, Province of San José, Las Nubes, *Paul C. Standley* 38643 (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 29331.), 38570, 38595, March 20-22, 1924. 1500-1900 meters altitude.