

## NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS

**Stelis propinqua** *Ames sp. nov.* Caules secundarii verisimiliter caespitosi, elongati, vaginati, monophylli. Folium pedunculo multo brevius, anguste oblongo-ellipticum, obtusum, coriaceum. Pedunculus singulus, e bractea spathacea oriens. Racemus elongatus, gracilis, laxiflorus. Flores

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sicci atropurpurei. Sepala lateralia late ovata, tri- vel quad-rinervia, intus minute glandulosa. Sepalum dorsale simile, quinquenervium. Petala cuneata, trans apicem truncatum valde incrassata, trinervia. Labellum rhombicum, obtusum, valde incrassatum. Columna generis.

Secondary stems 3 cm. or more long, partly concealed by an elongated loosely appressed sheath, monophyllous. Leaf including the short petiole 8–10 cm. long, 1.6 cm. wide, elliptic-oblong, obtuse, coriaceous, much shorter than the raceme. Peduncle solitary in the axil of the leaf, emerging from a spathaceous bract, with the raceme 17–21 cm. long, slender. Raceme 11–13.5 cm. long, up to 18-flowered. Bracts of the raceme 1.5–2 mm. long, infundibuliform, with a wide mouth. Pedicels slender, with the ovary about 3 mm. long. Flowers about 7 mm. across, dark purple when dry, fleshy. Lateral sepals 3 mm. long, 4 mm. wide, broadly ovate, asymmetrical, 3–4-nerved, minutely glandular on the inner surface. Dorsal sepal 4.5 mm. long, 5 mm. wide below the middle, broadly ovate, 5-nerved, minutely glandular on the inner surface. Petals about 1 mm. long, 2 mm. wide across the truncate apex, cuneate, thickened across the tip, 3-nerved. Labellum .5–.75 mm. long, about 1 mm. wide, rhombic, obtuse, very fleshy, with the margins more or less thickened and erect. Column dilated upward.

*Stelis propinqua* is closely allied to *S. curvata* Schltr., from which it differs in the larger flowers, and in the shape of the petals and labellum. *S. leucopogon* Reichb. f. is also closely allied, but has larger flowers in which the lateral sepals are distinctly 5-nerved, and the labellum different. In *Stelis propinqua* the lateral sepals are sometimes 3-nerved and 4-nerved in the same flower.

COSTA RICA, probably near Cachi, C. H. Lankester 468. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 26957.)