

Stelis vestita Ames sp. nov. Radices crasse fibratae, elongatae, glabrae, albae. Rhizoma valde abbreviatum. Caules secundarii caespitosi, erecti, vaginis elongatis tubulatis laxe appressis omnino obtecti, monophylli. Vaginae in sicco plurisulcatae, brunneae, apice plus minusve truncatae. Folium valde coriaceum, anguste oblongo-ellipticum, apice inaequaliter bilobatum, basi in petiolum gracilem contractum, pedunculo cum racemo multo brevius. Pedunculus singulus, valde elongatus, gracilis, e bractea spathacea oriens. Flores in racemo laxo dispositi. Bracteae racemi inaequaliter infundibuliformes, in sicco scariosae. Pedicelli graciles, bracteas subtendentes multo superantes. Sepala lateralia late ovata, subacuta, trinervia, carnosa, intus conspicue glanduloso-pubescentia. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala cuneato-flabellata, valde carnosa, trinervia. Labellum rhombicum, obtusum, valde incrassatum, infra medium glanduloso-pubescent, callo transverso in medio disci. Columna dilatata, apice trilobata.

Roots very coarsely fibrous, spreading, copious, whitish and smooth. Rhizome abbreviated. Secondary stems caespitose, erect, 4-6 cm. long, entirely concealed by ample tubular loosely appressed sheaths. Sheaths two, the upper one 3-4 cm. long, brownish when dry, reaching to the base of the petiole of the leaf, prominently nerved. Leaf with the petiole 6-9 cm. long, up to 2 cm. wide, narrowly oblong-elliptic, obtusely bilobulate at the tip, very coriaceous, much shorter than the inflorescence. Peduncle with the raceme 16-20 cm. long, emerging from a brownish spathaceous bract in the axil of the leaf. Raceme 8-12 cm. long, with a slender flexuose rachis. Flowers dull purple, about 5 mm. apart. Bracts of the raceme about 1.75 mm. long, unequally infundibuliform, shorter than the slender pedicels of the flowers. Lateral sepals about 2 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, broadly ovate, acute or subacute, densely glandular-pubescent on the inner surface, 3-nerved, very fleshy. Dorsal sepal 2 mm. long, similar to the laterals, densely glandular-pubescent within. Petals 1 mm. long, 1.5 mm. wide across the tip, very fleshy, cuneate-flabelliform, 3-nerved. Labellum 1 mm. long, 1 mm. wide, rhombic in outline, conspicuously thickened through the middle with the margins more or less hyaline. Disc glandular-pubescent on the basal half behind the transverse callus which extends forward almost to the apex of the labellum. Column fleshy, dilated upward, 3-lobed at the summit.

Stelis vestita is closely allied to *S. Endresii* Reichb. f., from which it differs conspicuously in having much smaller flowers. From *S. glandulosa* Ames it differs in the shape of labellum, which is conspicuously glandular-pubescent on the basal half and in having much smaller flowers.

COSTA RICA, Zarcero, C. H. Lankester & Oton Jimenez 460, April 1923. Sepals dull purple, with a narrow hyaline margin. Leaves very thick and succulent. 6500 feet altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 26959.)