

***Stenia* Lindl.**

***Stenia christensonii* D. E. Benn., sp. nov.**  
(Fig. 3)

TYPE. PERU. Pasco: Oxapampa, Puerto Bermudez, Sector Milagros along Pichis River, coll. 10 Nov 1991, 280 m, leg. *O. del Castillo*, *Bennett 5387* (HOLOTYPE: NY; ISOTYPE: USM).

Species haec *S. wendiae* D. E. Benn. & Christenson similis sed petalis suborbiculatis, callis basalis papillosis, et columna arcuata cum pede acutangulato faciens differt.

Caespitose acaulous epiphytes with fan-shaped growths. *Leaves* 5–7, spatulate-ob lanceolate, attenuate, acute, midvein carinate, stiff to subcoriaceous, progressively larger from the base, to  $14.5 \times 3.7$  cm, dark green. *Inflorescences* ascending axillary scapes, the solitary floral bract tubular to 0.6 cm long. *Flowers* campanulate with overlapping segments, the sepals, petals and column pale clear green, the labellum pale yellowish green with scattered pale brownish spots on the exterior of the lateral lobes,

interior markings pale reddish brown, the anther pale cream. *Sepals* very broadly elliptic, obtuse, apiculate, concave,  $1.7\text{--}1.9 \times 1.4$  cm, the lateral sepals longer. *Petals* suborbicular, apiculate, concave,  $1.6 \times 1.5$  cm. *Labellum* 3-lobed, saccate, 7.5 mm long, attached to the foot by an elongate, oblong basal papillose claw sharply recurved-conducuplicate in the middle and held in close proximity or touching the rear surface of the callus, the lateral lobes erect, obliquely semiovate with an acute fold near the center of the labellum, the leading margin with a pronounced semielliptic undulation, the midlobe broadly triangular, conducuplicate, the callus biseriate, the posterior callus erect, high, 3-tiered, papillose, extended along the midvein as a low thick rib, the anterior callus a transverse, repand, ribbonlike lamella, inner surface colliculate. *Column* fleshy, stout, arcuate, obscurely winged,  $12.5 \times 6.7$  mm, with scattered short trichomes over the surface, forming an acute angle with the 8 mm long column foot, the anther transverse, broadly cordate, 4-celled,  $2.5 \times 2.7$  mm, the pollinarium 3.6 mm long, the pollinia in 2 unequal pairs, obliquely obovate, convex-concave,  $1.2\text{--}1.6 \times 0.8\text{--}0.9$  mm, the stipe rhombic with denticulate margins, the viscidium elliptic. *Ovary* 6-sulcate. *Fruit* not seen.

*Habitat*.—*Stenia christensonii* is native to tropical and cool wet forest. It has flowered in late August during three years of cultivation in Lima.

Other specimen examined. PERU. Dept. Pasco: Prov. Oxapampa, Villarica, Canal de Piedra, 1830 m, leg. *O. del Castillo*, flowered in cultivation by E. Edwards, 11 Sep 1994, *Bennett 6745* (USM).

This species is most similar to *S. wendiae* D. E. Benn. & Christenson but is distinguished by the nearly round petals, the undulate labellum margin; the high, broad, 3-tiered, papillose basal callus; the anterior, ribbonlike, transverse callus; the colliculate inner surface; and the acute angle formed by the column and the foot of the column.

Named to honor Dr. Eric A. Christenson, whose taxonomic expertise is contributing greatly to a hitherto unsuspected very much larger, diverse Peruvian orchid flora and especially the genus *Stenia*.