

# A NEW TELIPOGON FROM COSTA RICA

BY  
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FROM ALEXANDER F. SKUTCH there has been received a rather distinct Costa Rican species of the genus *Telipogon* collected in 1937 at Vara Blanca de Sarapiquí. From a casual examination of the flowers, it would seem that this species is identical with *T. parvulus* as described by Charles Schweinfurth in 1937 in the fourth volume of the Botanical Museum Leaflets. But on close study it becomes quite clear that there are differences between it and *T. parvulus* which taken together constitute a new species. The petals and lip are broader, are more decidedly rhombic than in *T. parvulus*, and have fewer nerves; the gynostemium bears elongated setose hairs and is not merely pubescent. Furthermore, the labellum is characterized by dark-banded nerves. As originally described, *T. parvulus* was in part differentiated from its allies by having 9-nerved petals and a 14-nerved lip. In his monograph of the genus *Telipogon*, Fritz Kränzlin was inclined to regard the number of perianth nerves as a substantial means of differentiation, but from my studies it has become evident that the nerves vary from plant to plant of the same species if an abundance of material is available for study, and is consequently an unreliable guide to specificity. Therefore *T. parvulus* should not be separated from *T. setosus* by the difference in the number of perianth nerves, but rather by the form and color of the petals and lip and by the elongated setose hairs produced by the gynostemium.

***Telipogon setosus* Ames sp. nov.**

Herba parvula. Caulis vaginis foliorum distichorum omnino tectus. Folia lineari-lanceolata, coriacea, extus



per medium carinata, prope apicem glandulosa. Inflorescentiae axillares, laxe pauciflorae. Flores succedanei. Sepala acuta, extus per medium carinata, uninervia. Petala multo majora, rhombico-ovata, septemnervia, intus prope basim glandulosa. Labellum transverse ellipticum, latius quam longius, acutum, prope basim glandulosum, callo bullato utrinque ornatum. Columna inaequaliter setosa, dense et breviter glandulosa.

Roots vermiform, whitish, longitudinally sulcate when dry. Stems short, concealed by the sheaths of the distichous linear-lanceolate leaves, the entire plant including the inflorescence 10–14 cm. tall. Leaves 1–3 cm. long, up to 3 mm. or more wide, obliquely ascending, distinctly carinate when dry, acute, with the apical margin minutely glandulose. Peduncles axillary, together with the raceme 10–13.5 cm. or more long, smooth. Flowers 21–23 mm. across, opening in succession, usually two being simultaneously expanded, the rachis elongating as the buds mature. Bracts triangular, acute, fleshy, much shorter than the slender pedicels of the flowers. Pedicels together with the ovary about 1.6 cm. long when the flowers are fully developed. Sepals similar, about 7 mm. long, about 2 mm. wide, lanceolate, acute, distinctly carinate on the outer surface along the mid-nerve, cymbiform at the apex, 1-nerved. Petals about 11 mm. long and equally wide, rhombic-ovate with a finely ciliolate margin, conspicuously 7-nerved, provided with numerous glandular hairs on the inner surface near the base. Labelum about 1 cm. long, 1.3 cm. wide, transversely elliptic, acute, 10-nerved, minutely ciliolate on the margin, minutely glandular on the inner surface at the base with a bullate callus on each side near the base of the column. Column 3 mm. long, very fleshy, provided with numerous setose hairs on the dorsal surface and densely covered with shorter but conspicuously elongated hairs on the



## EXPLANATION OF THE ILLUSTRATION

**TELIPOGON SETOSUS** *Ames*. Plant drawn natural size from a dried specimen of the type. 1, flower enlarged. 2, column (anther removed) and basal part of the labellum much enlarged, showing the setose hairs on the column, one of the pulvinate calli and the glandular hairs on the labellum. 3, the two pairs of pollen-masses, stipe and viscid disc much enlarged.

*Drawn April 1938 by* **BLANCHE AMES**





anterior surface. Pollinia four, in pairs, separated from the strongly arcuate viscid disc by an elongated stipe.

COSTA RICA: Vara Blanca de Sarapiquí, north slope of Central Cordillera. At 1500-1750 meters altitude. On branches of tree. Flowers yellowish veined with maroon. July to September, 1937. *Alexander F. Skutch 3246* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 46702).