

TRICHOCENTRUM CAPISTRATUM, *Lind., Rchb. f.*

Foliis oblongo-lanceolatis acuminatis purpuratis ; pedunculis unifloris ; sepalis linearibus acutis ; tepalis paulo latioribus apice revolutis ; labello ligulato obtuse acuto, basi in calcar brevissimum depressum pentaceras extenso ; columna breviori bialata alis ligulatis obtusis, androclinio postice bidentato ; anthera semilunata hispida.

This little plant is one of the greatest curiosities I have ever seen. There are many Orchids with two spurs—the *Satyria*, *Diplocentra*, *Comparettias*,—there is something comparable to two spurs in *Rodriguezias* and *Scelochilus* now and then ; but an Orchid enjoying five spurs at once was never seen before. Hence I looked with a certain feeling of reluctance on the small yellow flower, which has a white lip, bearing some purplish dots and spots on the sides of the wings and on the anterior side of column, and one purplish blotch at the base. I saw the plant in good health in September, 1868, in Director Linden's establishment. Was it not a monster ? This suspicion was the reason of my not publishing the plant. Now, however, the scene has changed totally. Mr. Endres, the excellent Costa Rica traveller, has found since 1867, in Costa Rica, another *Trichocentrum*, bearing the same most remarkable spurs, and also broad ovate acute leaves, brown sepals and petals, and a rhomboid white lip, with purplish numerous spots, a shorter column, with rhomboid wings (*T. caloceras*, *Endr., Rchb.*) The *T. capistratum* would appear to have been also collected in Costa Rica by Wallis. *H. G. Rchb. fil.*

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