

*Trigonidium riopalenquense* Dodson, sp. nov.

(Plate 15:D).

*Trigonidio egertoniano* Rchb. f. ex Benth. & Hook. similis, sed floribus roseis et foliis multiangustioribus differt.

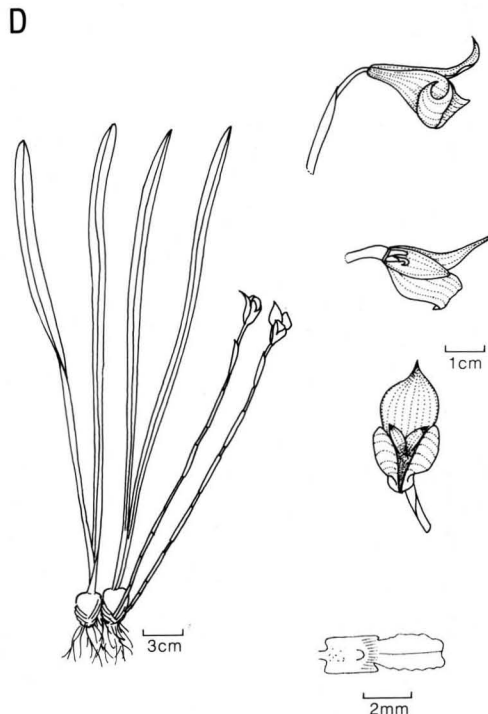
Plant epiphytic with a short or creeping rhizome. Pseudobulbs ovoid, flattened, with a rib on each side, 2.5-3 cm long, 1.5-2 cm wide, bifoliate at the apex. Leaves linear, acute at the apex, gradually narrowed at the base to form a petiole, 30-35 cm long, 1.2 cm wide. Scapes arising from the base of the pseudobulb, erect, 1-flowered; peduncle 15-18 cm long, mostly concealed by 4 or 5 clasping sheaths; flower erect, pink with brownish veins; dorsal sepal obovate, acute, 2.5-3 cm long, 1.4 cm wide, recurved to a 90° angle for upper half; lateral sepals similar, slightly broader than the dorsal sepal, abruptly recurved to lie against its base; petals much smaller than the sepals, 2 cm long, 1 cm wide, erect, obliquely elliptic, thickened at the apex; lip erect, 3-lobed below the middle, the mid-lobe elliptical, 1 cm long, 0.25 cm wide, the apical half recurved, the lateral lobes erect, narrow, the disc through the lower half with a median, linear callus; column erect, semi-terete, 5 mm long.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for the Río Palenque Science Center where it is a common species.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: LOS RÍOS: Epiphyte in top of mature forest, Río Palenque Science Center, km 56 Quevedo-Santo Domingo, alt. 220 m, 23 Mar. 1973, C. H. Dodson 5251 (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED: *ECUADOR*: PICHINCHA: Epiphytic in tree by Río Toachi, 15 km above Santo Domingo, alt. 1000 m, 28 Feb. 1975, C. Luer & R. Kent 248 (SEL).

This species is similar to *Trigonidium egertonianum* Rchb. f. ex Benth. & Hook., but the pseudobulbs are smaller, and the leaves much narrower. The flowers are pink with brown veins rather than yellow with brown veins, and the plant is dark green rather than yellow-green. The population of *T. riopalenquense* seems to be restricted to the wet forest region while *T. egertonianum* occurs in the dry forests around Guayaquil. When plants of both species grow under comparable conditions the distinctions remain.



*Trigonidium riopalenquense*

CHO