

XYLOBIUM SUBPULCHRUM Dressler, sp. nov.

Species haec X. colleyi (Batem. ex Lindl.) Rolfe similis, sed floribus minoribus et multioribus, labello 3-lobato, lobulo medio verrucoso recedit.

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Caespitose, epiphytic; roots 1.5-3 mm in diameter; pseudobulb ovoid, 4-6.5 x 2.5-3.5 cm, with fibrous sheaths, monophyllous or sometimes diphyllous; petioles 2.5-7.5 cm; blades elliptic or obovate-elliptic, acute or abruptly acute, with 5 major veins, 25-40 x 8-15 cm; inflorescence subequal to the pseudobulb, with 8-12 flowers; peduncle 0-2.5 cm, with ovate to suborbicular bracts 11-14 x 13-20 mm; floral bracts obovate, cuneate, 9-13 x 6-10 mm; pedicel and ovary 5-8 mm; dorsal sepal oblong or ovate, obtuse or acute, 11-14 x 5-9 mm; lateral sepals obliquely



Xylobium colleyi
(Batem. ex Lindl.) Rolfe
Plant from Panamá, Santa Fé de
Veraguas



Xylobium subpulchrum Dressler
Huánuco, Perú



Xylobium subpulchrum Dressler
Mocoa, Colombia

	<i>X. subpulchrum</i>	<i>X. colleyi</i>
Pseudobulbs	ovoid	globose
Abscission	base of petiole	at mid petiole
Flowers	8-12	4-5
Color of Sepals and petals have red specks	white or pink, may	yellow-tan with red-brown spots
Midlobe	brownish red	chestnut or cherry-red
Sepals	10-14 x 5-9 mm	20 x 10-11 mm
Petals	8-10 x 4 mm	16 x 8 mm
Lip Form Base rel. midlobe Surface	12-12.5 x 6.5-7 mm 3-lobed wider rugose to warty	20 x 8 spatulate narrower smooth or slightly bullate, shiny
Chin	clearly retrorse	at nearly 90(to the ovary
Callus	of 5 keels, low keels continuing	smooth, tongue-like, the apex abrupt, concave
Odor	strong, putrid, of rotten meat	mild, agreeable, of fruits
Distribution	Belize, Panama, Venezuela, Guianas, coast of Brazil	eastern slope of Andes

Table 1. A comparison of the major features that distinguish *Xylobium subpulchrum* from *Xylobium colleyi*.

ovate, acute, keeled apically, 11-15 x 7-9.5 mm, decurrent on the column foot, forming a retrorse, obtuse mentum, about 8 mm; petals triangular-ovate, obtuse or acute, 8-10 x 4-5 mm; lip 12-15 x 6.5-7 mm, three-lobed, the lateral lobes erect, elliptic, callus of 5 keels on the midlip, surface of the lip with low keels, these more verrucose toward the apex; midlobe 3.5 x 4 mm, concave, strongly verrucose; column about 3 mm, foot about 8 mm.

HOLOTYPE: Perú, Huánuco, Tingo María, purchased from Enrique Jara by H. Hills. flowers creamy white, greenish basally, midlobe rust-red on both surfaces; Florida museum of natural History living accession no. F1662; Pressed from cult. R. L. Dressler, June 1999. MO, Isotypes: AMES, FLAS, SEL, USM.

The various features of plant and flower that distinguish these two species are listed in Table 1. One of the accompanying photos is of a plant from the region of Mocoa, Colombia (Jorge Mario Múnera B. photo N° 700 in Native Colombian Orchids, courtesy of Editorial Colina), and the other is of the Peruvian plant here designated as type. Dodson and Dodson (1989) and Bennett and Christenson (1993) have published drawings of *Xylobium subpulchrum* (as *X. colleyi*) and list other herbarium specimens from Ecuador and Perú. The epithet "*subpulchrum*", or almost pretty, refers to the contrast between these two species. *Xylobium subpulchrum* is not, perhaps, a flower of great beauty (it is, after all, still a *Xylobium*), but it is undoubtedly much less ugly than *X. colleyi*. Besides, our plant is very floriferous, having flowered repeatedly in the last four months.