



EPIDENDRUM AMAZONICORIFOLIUM Hágsater
THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 3

EPIDENDRUM AMAZONICORIIFOLIUM Hágsater, *sp. nov.*

Type: VENEZUELA: Bolivar: Caroní, Cerro Acopán, 1600 m, Octubre 1947, *F. Cardona* 2324. Holotype: US! (illustration voucher). Isotypes: NY! P!

Epidendro allochro Hágsater similare sed foliis 3-4(6) angustioribus, bracteis multo longioribus et acutis, apice acuto ad rhachim parallelo, petalis lineari-lanceolatis uninervatis recedens.

Hierba epífita, cespitosa, 25-65 cm de alto. **Raíces** basales, carnosas, gruesas, 3 mm de grosor. **Tallos** sencillos, tipo caña, rectos, lateralmente comprimidos, 8-41 X 0.7-1.2 cm. **Hojas** 3-4(6), dísticas, distribuidas en la mitad apical del tallo, subcoriáceas; vainas tubulares, lateralmente comprimidas, ancipitosas, estriadas, 1.5-7.5 cm de largo; lámina articulada, angostamente oblonga, ápice desigualmente bilobado, margen entero algo revoluto, lisa, verdes, (9)15-28 x 1.5-2.8 cm. **Espata** ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, del tallo maduro, florece una sola vez, racemosa (excepcionalmente ramificada), dística, erecta, flexuosa, ca. 13-35 cm de largo (se desarrolla progresivamente); raquis lateralmente comprimido, ancipitoso, no ornamentado; brácteas del pedúnculo hasta 7, semejantes a las florales pero mucho más largas, casi paralelas al pedúnculo, imbricadas, conduplicadas, 25-81 x 5-8 mm. **Brácteas florales** mucho más largas que el ovario, conduplicadas, ovadas, agudas, 18-43 mm de largo; se desarrollan progresivamente, después de anthesis son extendidas, no imbricadas. **Flores** hasta 20, sucesivas, no resupinadas, desarrollándose y abiertas una o dos a la vez, verdes, fragancia no registrada. **Ovario** grueso, terete, no ornamentado, 20-22 mm de largo. **Sépalos** entreabiertos a más o menos extendidos, libres, quilla dorsal prominente en los laterales, glabros, coriáceos, elípticos, aristados, margen extendido, 5-7 nervados, 18-22 x 5-7.5; el dorsal reflexo; los laterales más anchos que el dorsal. **Pétalos** libres o plegados a los sépalos laterales, linear-lanceolados, agudos, margen extendido, 1-nervados, 17-18 x 1.5-2 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, obreniforme, emarginado y mucronado, margen entero a finamente eroso, 10-14 x 13-20 mm; ecalloso; carinado, la carina gruesa y roma formando el mucrón grueso. **Columna** recta, gruesa, 10-14 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** reducido, entero. **Antera** ovoide, aguda, con una quilla roma al frente, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, obovoides, lateralmente comprimidos, subiguales; caudículas suaves y granuladas, más largas que los polinios. **Rostelo** subapical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** 1/4 del largo de la cavidad estigmática. **Cápsula** elipsoide, 48 x 28 mm, pedicelo y cuello reducidos.

Epiphytic, caespitose herb. **Stems** simple, laterally compressed, ancipitose, erect. **Leaves** 3-4(6), distichous, narrowly oblong, apex unequally bilobed, subcoriaceous, green. **Inflorescence** apical from mature growth, racemose (exceptionally 1-branched), distichous, erect, flexuose; rachis laterally compressed, ancipitose. **Floral bracts** much longer than the ovary, conduplicate, acute, not imbricated, except for the basal bracts which are much longer and imbricating. **Flowers** up to 20, successive, developing and open one or two at a time, green. **Ovary** thick, terete. **Sepals** elliptic, aristate, dorsally keeled, 5-7-veined. **Petals** linear-lanceolate, acute, free or adnate to lateral sepals, 1-veined. **Lip** obreniform, emarginate-mucronate, margin entire to finely erose; ecallose. **Column** straight. **Clinandrium** reduced. **Anther** ovate, acute, 4-celled, with a low keel in front. **Rostellum** slit. **Capsule** ellipsoid, with reduced pedicel and neck.

OTHER SPECIMENS: BOLIVIA: *Bang* s.n. NY! FRENCH GUYANA: *Berg* 6609 CAY! GUYANA: *Cardona* 2324 NY! *Christenson* 1939 BRG! US *Kelloff* 1356 BRG! *Maguire* 35381 N! *Renz* 14100 Herb. *Renz*! PERU: *Vargas* 5542 AMES! CUZU *Killip* 24618 AMES! US! *Schunke* 1291, 1884 F! VENEZUELA: *Steyermark* 106006 AMES! NY! *Dunsterville* 403 K! *Cardona* 2048 US! *Ibid.* 2324 P! US! *Pannici* 1915 AMES! *Phelps* s.n. NY! *Steyermark* 364 NY! *Ibid.* 1199 AMES! NY! *Ibid.* 60223 AMES! *Ibid.* 75081 AMES! *Ibid.* 88042 AMES! *Ibid.* 92285 AMES! NY! F! K! *Ibid.* 104267 AMES! *Tate* 1226 NY! *Renz* 8685, 9568 Herb. *Renz*!

OTHER RECORDS: PERU: *Bennett* 6561, illustration, xerox, AMO!



DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Widespread around the upper reaches of the Amazon Basin from the French Guyana to Bolivia, in cloud forests, elfin forests, and other wet forests, epiphytic or terrestrial, 950-1950 m altitude (reported at 300 m in French Guyana in Kaeiteur Falls National Park). Flowering throughout the year.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum amazonicoriiifolium* is distinguished by caespitose growth, stems with 3-4(6) coriaceous, strap-like leaves, the erect, distichous, ancipitose inflorescence with open, long acute floral bracts, the apex pointed parallel to the rachis, successive flowers, produced 1-2 at a time, and 1-veined, linear-lanceolate petals. It is closely related to *Epidendrum villotae* Hágsater & Dodson from the Pacific lowlands of Colombia and Ecuador, which can be distinguished by the 3-veined, oblanceolate petals and wider leaves. *Epidendrum coriifolium* Lindl., with semiterete, thick leaves is endemic to Costa Rica and northern Panama. *Epidendrum allochro* Hágsater has 2-3(4) leaves which are wider (1.9-3.2 cm), and the floral bracts are rounded and extended, the apex not pointing inwards. *Epidendrum imitans* Schltr. from the eastern slope of the Andes in Central Ecuador has closely imbricating floral bracts with the apex rounded, several flowers flowering simultaneously, linear petals and a subtriangular lip.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD. The species is widespread. **ETYMOLOGY:** In reference to the Amazon basin where the species is widespread along the upper reaches, and *E. coriifolium*.

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