

EPIDENDRUM SPATHULIPETALUM Hágsater & Dressler
 THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 3

EPIDENDRUM SPATHULIPETALUM Hágsater et Dressler, *sp. nov.*

Type: PANAMA: Chiriquí: de arriba de Boquete, cultivada en Finca Dracula, Cerro Punta, 20 Aug. 1998, **Robert L. Dressler 6230**. Holotype: AMO! (illustration voucher). Isotype: PMA!

Epidendro cuneatoidi Dodson ex Hágsater simile sed floribus majoribus, perianthi segmentis patentibus, petalis spathulatis rotundatis erosis, labello trilobato, lobulo medio aciculari, lobulis lateralibus sub forma circuli quadranti vix vel profunde laciniatis recedit.

Hierba de 60 cm de alto. **Raíces** no vistas. **Tallos** erectos, sinuosos, tipo caña, lateralmente comprimidos, 44 x 0.3-0.4 cm. **Hojas** 9-13, distribuidas a lo largo de la mitad superior del tallo; vainas tubulares, ancipitosas, finamente estriadas, 1.6-3.3 x 0.4-0.5 cm; lámina angostamente elíptica, apiculada, margen entero, 6-9 x 1.0-1.4 cm. **Espata** ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, del tallo maduro, florece una sola vez, paniculada, erecta, sinuosa, 16 cm de largo; pedúnculo ancipitoso, sinuoso, 7.8 x 0.25-0.30 mm, provisto de 3 brácteas distribuidas en toda su longitud y progresivamente más cortas, tubulares en la base, agudas, 8-19 mm de largo; raquis ancipitoso, sinuoso. **Brácteas florales** más cortas que el ovario, ovadas, carinadas, agudas, margen entero, 1.5-4.0 mm de largo. **Flores** 27-100, sucesivas, no resupinadas; teñidas de rosa, en ocasiones con manchas rojas, fragancia no registrada. **Ovario** no inflado, no ornamentado, 7-9 mm de largo. **Sépalos** extendidos, ovado elípticos, agudos, 5-nervado, 7-8 x 2.5 mm; los laterales algo sigmoides. **Pétalos** extendidos, espatulados, redondeados, membranáceos, margen eroso, 4-nervados, 7 x 3.5 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, 3-lobado, cordado en la base, membranáceo, 5 x 7.5 mm, con un par de callos laminares que llegan a la base del lóbulo medio; lóbulos laterales 1/4 de circunferencia, erosos a profundamente divididos en 3 lacinas desiguales, la lateral ancha y corta, progresivamente más largas, angostas e incurvadas; lóbulo medio acicular, 3 x 0.8 mm. **Columna** recta, gruesa, 4.5 mm de largo, el margen apical truncado. **Clinandrio** truncado e irregularmente eroso dentado. **Antera** ovoide, apiculada, carnosas, 2-locular. **Polinios** 2, obovoides, lateralmente comprimidos; caudículas y viscidio no vistos. **Rostelo** no visto. **Nectario** apenas penetrando detrás del perianto. **Cápsula** no vista.

Herb to 60 cm tall. **Stems** erect, ancipitose. **Leaves** narrowly elliptic, apiculate. **Inflorescence** apical, erect, paniculate, flowers only once, peduncle long, ancipitous with 3 bracts, sinuous. **Floral bracts** much shorter than the ovary. **Flowers** 27-100, successive, non-resupinate, tinged pink, sometimes with red blotches. **Sepals** spreading, ovate-elliptic, acute, 5-veined. **Petals** spreading, spathulate, rounded, margin erose, 4-veined. **Lip** fleshy, 3-lobed, cordate, bicallose, the calli laminar and reaching the base of the midlobe; lateral lobes 1/4 of a circle, shallow to deeply 3-lobulate, the side lobe short and triangular, the others progressively longer, narrower and arcuate, midlobe acicular. **Column** straight, thick, the apex truncate and erose-dentate, including the clinandrium. **Pollinia** 2, obovoid, laterally compressed. **Nectary** penetrating slightly behind the perianth.

OTHER RECORDS: Slides of another live plant taken by Dressler at Finca Dracula in Panama, October/November 1999, Xerox at AMO!

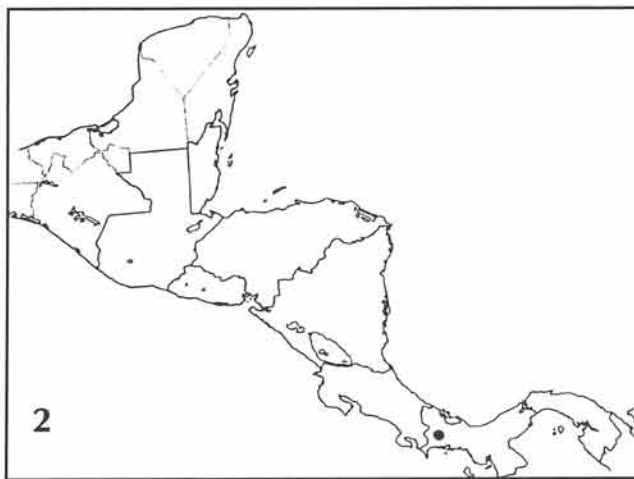
DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from the type locality, a cultivated plant. Flowering in August-November.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum spathulipetalum* belongs to the *Neowilliamsia* group, recognized by the ancipitose stems and peduncle, 2 pollinia and lip 3-lobed, lateral lobes 1/4 of a circle, shallow to deeply divided into 3 more or less digitate lobules, with the petals spathulate, rounded and the margin erose, the flowers tinged pink, sometimes with red blotches, especially on the petals. It is similar to *Epidendrum cuneatoides* which has an obdeltoid-flabelliform, truncate lip, somewhat 3-lobed, the sepals around 5-6 mm long, and the flowers white with a few purple spots near the apices of the segments. *Epidendrum alfaroi* Ames & C. Schweinf. also has the lip divided into 6-9 slender, linear divisions, but 4 pollinia and the petals brown or greenish brown. *Epidendrum wercklei* Schltr. has 3-5 finger-like divisions, 2 pollinia, flowers white or yellow spotted and barred with brown or red-brown.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD. Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek σπαθη re-formed into the Latin "spathulatis" in the shape of a spatula, and πτερον, leaf, in modern botany petal, in reference to the spathulate petals.

NOTE: The type was produced from a thin plant grown in a greenhouse, with the lip deeply lacinate and the petals spotted red. The second plant, later photographed by Dressler, had been tied to a tree and was much more robust, the flowers tinged pink, without any spotting, and the lateral lobes shallow erose; no specimen was prepared. The collector said they came from above Boquete, but plants were not labelled.



Authors: E. Hágsater & R. L. Dressler

Illustrator: M. López R.

Editors: E. Hágsater & L. Sánchez S.

Herbario AMO Apartado Postal 53-123, 11320 México, D.F., MÉXICO

ICONES ORCHIDACEARUM 4, 2001. Plate 486