

**Scaphyglottis punctulata** (Reichb.f.) C. Schweinf.  
var. **Summersii** (L. O. Wms.) C. Schweinfurth comb.  
nov.

*Scaphyglottis Summersii* L. O. Williams in Bot. Mus.  
Leafl. Harvard Univ. 9 (1940) 14, t. 3, figs. 4-7.

After careful study, I have concluded that the plant described as *Scaphyglottis Summersii* cannot be considered as specifically distinct from the species that was first published as *Ponera punctulata*. There are, however, several discrepancies between the two concepts which make a varietal separation seem advisable.

In the first place, *Scaphyglottis Summersii* commonly presents a very different vegetative appearance from *S. punctulata*. It usually has much branched stems, with the upper portion of the stem-members commonly conspicuously surpassing the uppermost leaf-sheath, whereas *S. punctulata* has simple or few-branched stems which are distichously leafy with only the uppermost part emerging as a short, naked portion above the upper leaf-sheath.

There are also marked differences in the flowers. The lip of *S. Summersii* always seems to have a short but distinct claw, and the base of the lamina is more or less rounded to subcordate, whereas the lip of the species has a sessile cuneate base. Finally, the column of *S. Summersii* is always shorter than that of *S. punctulata*.

This concept, as *Scaphyglottis Summersii*, was first described from Ecuador, but it has been subsequently detected from Colombia, Peru and Bolivia.