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A New Species of *Catasetum* Rich. ex Kunth (Orchidaceae) From Colombia.

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Abstract
A new species of *Catasetum* Rich. ex Kunth (Orchidaceae) is described for Colombia.

The determination of the number of species in the genus *Catasetum* has been a controversial issue. Romero-Gonzalez (2009) list 130 taxa (including species and natural hybrids), however the World Check List of Selected Plant Families lists 181 taxa and 29 for Colombia. The center of distrubution of the genus is in the Brazilian Amazon with a total of 120 taxa for Brazil. Ortiz (2015) and Betancourt et al. (2015) recognized 37 species and the latest updated list of *Catasetum* species for Colombia lists 38 taxa (Bonilla et al 2016). In spite that Colombia has the richest orchid flora in the world it has a surprising low number of taxa of *Catasetum*. However, Colombia has also been one of the least explored South American countries. As explorations are made new species of orchidaceae are being found almost daily. This the case with two new species of *Catasetum* recently discovered, one of which is described here.

Catasetum yariguii*, Uribe-Velez & Sauleda, *sp. nov.

TYPE: Colombia. Santander*, Jimenez, s.n.,* (Holotype, HPUJ).
Cultivado por Alvaro Diaz Jimenez recolectado Cañon del Rio Chicamocha.

Description: Plants epiphytic; rhizomatous, secondary stems modified into pseudobulbs to 27 cm long, 2.7 cm thick, stout, aggregate, multi-annulate, multifoliate, fusiform, erect, with a abruptly acuminate apex, covered by scarious imbricated-leaf sheaths; leaves 5-6 on each pseudobulb, to 22 cm long, 2 cm wide, membranous, oblong-lanceolate, apically acute and basally narrowed, with entire margins, with several thin ribs; inflorescence from base of pseudobulb, to 57 cm tall. Male flowers: raceme multiflowered, to 20 flowers, erect; floral bracts 1.9 cm, long 4 mm wide, linear, acute, tightly sheathing the pedicels; pedicel 1.9 cm long, 3 mm thick, cylindrical, gently curved; staminate flowers non-resupinate, to 5.1 cm wide, 5.6 cm tall, green with a bluish tint when opening, turning greenish-yellow; dorsal sepal to 2.7 cm, long 1.2 cm wide, slightly concave, elliptic, acute, partially covering the petals; lateral sepals to 2.9 cm long, 1.3 cm wide, concave, oblong-elliptic, acute, with several dark green veins, , margins reflexed on the dorsal sepal; petals to 2.9 cm long, 1.3 cm wide, concave,

oblong-elliptic, acute, with several dark green veins; labellum to 2.3 cm wide, 2.6 cm tall, fleshy, orbicular, saccate, side borders turned inward, terminating in one apical fleshy point with two smaller lateral points on either side, light green, with at mid-length, a narrow and deep (9-10 mm) sacciform portion, center of cavity yellow with 8 fleshy raised ridges; column green, to 2 cm long, 1 cm wide, fleshy, operculate, elliptic, apiculate towards the apex; rostellum 5 mm wide, recurved; antennae 1.9 cm long, parallel; anther cap 9 mm long, 5 mm wide, rectangular with a beak; pollinia 2, 4 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, yellow. Female flowers not seen.

Diagnosis: *Catasetum yariguii* is similar to *Catasetum discolor*, from which it mainly differs by the lateral edges of the labellum of *C. yariguii* having a smooth edge and more turned inward to form more of a pouch, the labellum of *C. yariguii* has a green edge, the column is more elongate and arcuate in *C. yariguii* than in *C. discolor*, the apex of the labellum in *C. discolor* terminates in one fleshy point where in C. *yariguii* there is one terminal point and two lateral points. In *C. yariguii* the apex of the petals flare outward where in *C. discolor* the petals are completely covered by the dorsal sepal.

Etymology: This species is named to honor the indigenous nation of the Yariguies which was located in an extensive forested area of the Magdalena River Valley, in the western portion of the current department of Santander in Colombia. The boundaries of their territory were the Minero River to the south, the Sogamoso River to the north, the Magdalena River to the west, and the Cordillera Oriental to the east.

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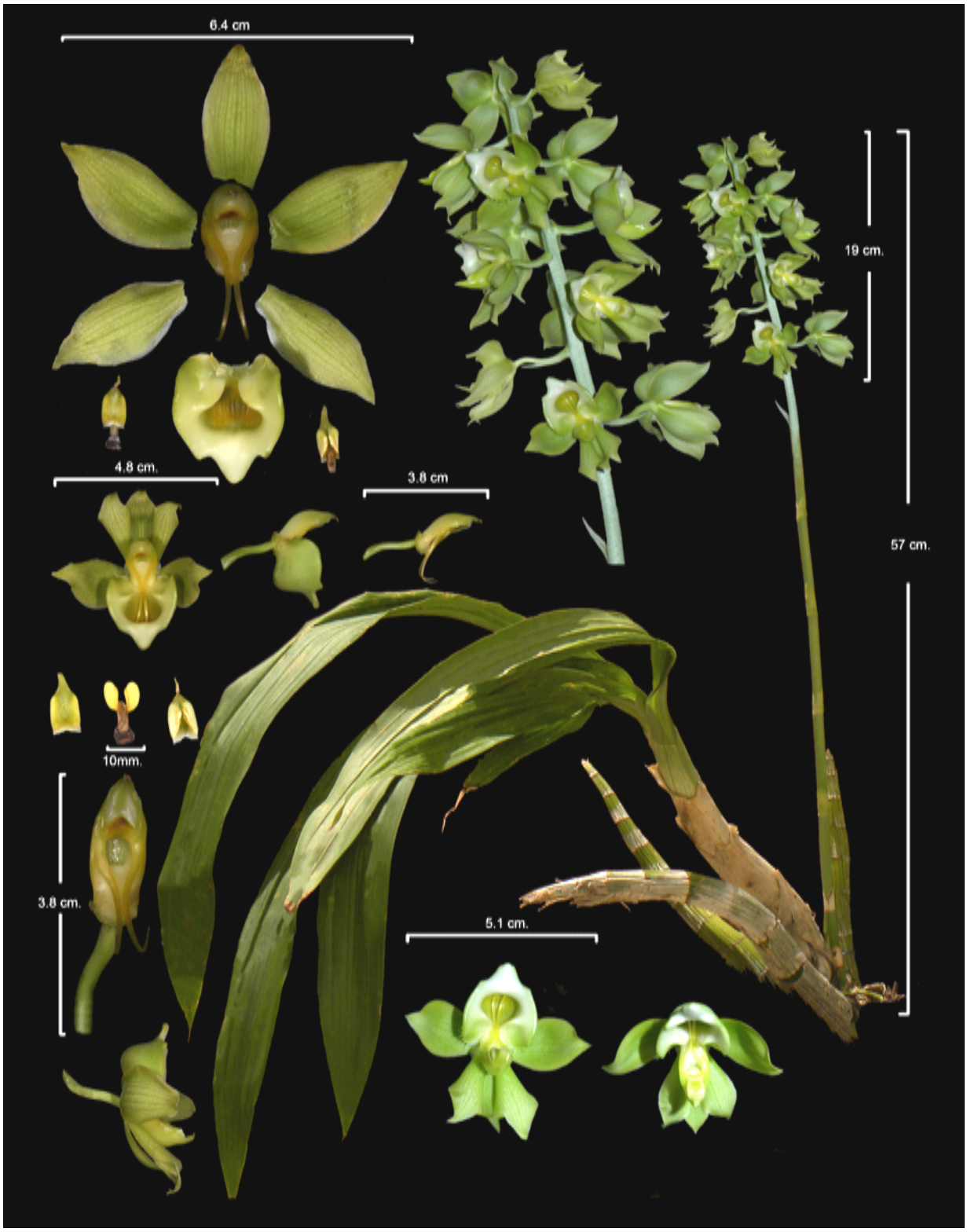

***Catasetum yariguii*, Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.**

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