

EPIDENDRUM VULGOAMPAROAU Hágsater & L.Sánchez

Plate 898

EPIDENDRUM VULGOAMPAROANUM Hágsater et L.Sánchez, sp. nov.

Type: COSTA RICA: Alajuela: Entre Río Grande de Atenas y Balsa, 400-485 m, colectada por Clarence Kl. Horich, 20 XII 1982, prensado de material cultivado 13 octubre 1983, *Hágsater 6963*. Holotype: INB! Isotype: AMO!

Epidendrum amparoanum of Authors not *Epidendrum amparoanum* Schltr., Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. Beih. 19:34. 1922. (= *E. barbeyanum* Kraenzl.)

Epidendro yojoaense Hágsater & L.Sánchez simile sed plantis floribusque viridibus non glaucis, petalis ellipticis usque oblanceolatis, labello obscure trilobato, discrepans.

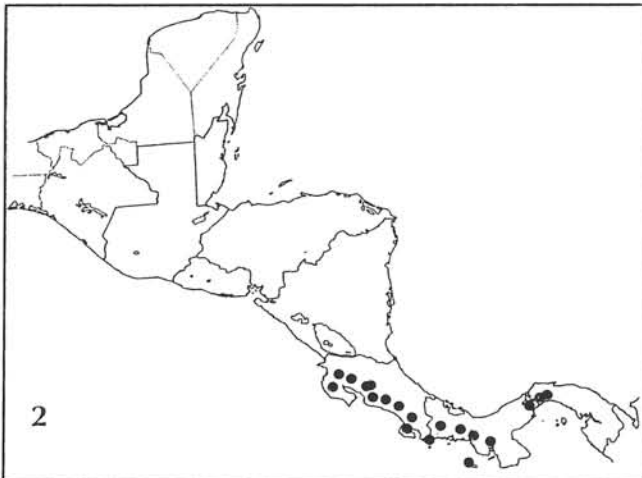
Hierba epífita, simpodial, cespitosa, 15-35 cm de alto. **Raíces** basales, carnosas delgadas, 1.0-1.5 mm de grosor. **Tallos** sencillos, tipo caña, lateralmente comprimidos, 11-21 cm de largo. **Hojas** 5-9, equidistantes a lo largo del tallo; vaina foliar lateralmente comprimida, no ornamentada, 2-3 cm de largo; lámina elíptica a ovada, ápice asimétricamente bilobado, no ornamentada, carina dorsal ausente, margen entero, verde, 3-13 x 1.5-6.5 cm. **Bráctea** espátacea ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, en el tallo maduro, florece una sola vez, sésil. **Bráctea floral** mucho más pequeña que el ovario, triangular, aguda, 2.5-3 mm. **Flores** (1-2)3-5(10), simultáneas, resupinadas, verdes a verde-amarillentas; fragancia ligera, polvorosa. **Ovario** inflado, terete, no ornamentado, 30-60 mm de largo. **Sépalos** libres, abiertos, glabros, subcoriáceos, elípticos, agudos, 7-nervados, margen entero; el **dorsal** 21.5-33 x 6.2-8.2 mm; los **laterales** oblicuos, carina dorsal ausente, margen revoluto, 21-31 x 5.5-10 mm. **Pétalos** parcialmente abiertos, elíptico a oblanceolados, agudos, 3-nervados, margen entero, extendido, 20-30 x 4-7 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, anchamente obovado, oscuramente trilobado, base profundamente cordada, margen ligeramente ondulado, 14.5-21 x 25-38 mm; bicalloso, los callos pequeños, subglobosos; lóbulos laterales oblicuamente semiobliculares, con numerosas venas engrosadas en la base; lóbulo medio corto, oscuramente bilobado. **Columna** recta, 6-12 mm de largo. **Clinandrio** prominente, entero, margen eroso fimbriado. **Antera** subsférica, no ornamentada, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, subiguales, obovoides, lateralmente comprimidos; caudículas suaves y granuladas, más pequeñas que los polinios; viscidio viscoso, translúcido. **Rostelo** subapical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** penetrando 3/4 de la cavidad estigmática. **Nectario** penetrando 1/2 de la longitud del ovario, no ornamentado. **Cápsula** no vista.

Epiphytic, caespitose herb. **Stems** cane-like, laterally compressed. **Leaves** 5-9, laterally compressed shade; blade elliptic to ovate, apex unequal bilobed, unornamented, margin entire, green. **Inflorescence** apical, flowering only once, sessile. **Floral bracts** smaller than the ovary, triangular, acute. **Flowers** (1-2)3-5(10), simultaneous, resupinate, green; fragrance light, dust-like. **Ovary** inflated, terete, smooth. **Sepals** free, spreading, glabrous, subcoriaceous. **Dorsal sepal** elliptic, acute, margin entire, 7-veined. **Lateral sepals** obliquely elliptic, acute, margin entire, revolute, 7-veined. **Petals** elliptic to oblanceolate, margin entire, spreading, 3-veined. **Lip** united to the column, entire, widely obovate, obscurely 3-lobed, cordate base, margin undulate; bicallose, the calli small, subglobose; lateral lobes obliquely semiobicular, with many thickened veins at the base; midlobe small, obscurely bilobed. **Column** straight. **Clinandrium-hood** prominent, entire, margin erose-fimbriate. **Anther** subspheric, unornamented, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, subequal, obovoid, laterally compressed; caudicles soft and granular, smaller than the pollinia; viscidium viscosous, translucent. **Rostellum** subapical, slit. **Lateral lobes of the stigma** penetrating 3/4 of the stigmatic cavity. **Nectary** penetrating 1/2 of the ovary. **Capsule** not seen.

OTHER SPECIMENS AND OTHER RECORDS: See appendix.

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known from the Pacific watershed of Costa Rica and Panama. Epiphyte, in dry forest and secondary forest along the Pacific coast; from 0 to 500 altitude. Flowering throughout the year.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum vulgoamparoanum* belongs to the Difforme Group which is characterized by the caespitose, sympodial plants, fleshy, pale green to glaucous leaves, apical inflorescence, sessile, rarely with a short peduncle, one-flowered to corymbose, without spathaceous bracts, fleshy, green to yellowish-green rarely white flowers. The species has laterally compressed stems, elliptic to ovate leaves, 7-veined sepals, a widely obovate, obscurely 3-lobed lip, with many thickened veins; the midlobe somewhat bilobed, and the prominent, erose-fimbriate clinandrium-hood. It is similar to *Epidendrum yojoaense* which grows in rain-forests on the Atlantic slope of Honduras, and has light glaucous-green plants and flowers, a reniform lip, rhombic petals. Differs from *Epidendrum barbeyanum* Kraenzl., which has ancipitose stems, lanceolate sepals, distinctly 3-lobed lip, prominent flabelliform lateral lobes, midlobe smaller than the lateral lobes, and separated from it by deep sinij, forming two, divergent, triangular to subrectangular, acute to rounded lobes, and a reduced, entire clinandrium-hood. *Epidendrum romero-castanedae* Hágsater & L.Sánchez from the inland hills around the Golfo del Darién in eastern Panama and northern Colombia has narrower leaves and narrowly elliptic petals.



CONSERVATION STATUS: No threatened. This species is very common along the Pacific coast from Costa Rica to central Panama, in primary and secondary, seasonally dry forest.

NOTE: Unfortunately the name used for this common and well-known species *Epidendrum amparoanum* Schltr. corresponds to the larger species found in and around San José, *Epidendrum barbeyanum* Kraenzl. Though the type was lost in the Berlin fire, the description of the very large and peculiar lip clearly and without doubt identifies what the author had in front of him.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *vulgo*, commonly, generally, and *amparoanum*, in reference to the fact that this species has been generally identified as *E. amparoanum* Schltr. but does not conform to the original description.

REFERENCES: Hammel, B. E., et al. 2003, *Manual de Plantas de Costa Rica Vol. III*. Missouri Botanical Garden Press. pg. 114.