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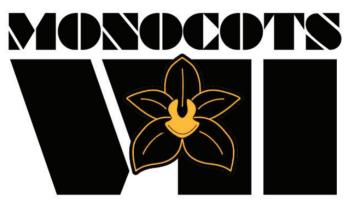
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AMENDED DESCRIPTION OF THE SUMATRAN ENDEMIC DENDROBIUM BANDII (ORCHIDACEAE) WITH NOTES ON ITS CONSERVATION STATUS AND ECOLOGY

Mark Arcebal K. Naive^{1,2,6}, Yuda Rehata Yudistira³, Malcolm Victoriano⁴ & Paul Ormerod⁵

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ABSTRACT. *Dendrobium bandii* is a poorly known species endemic to the island of Sumatra, Indonesia. We studied living specimens and we provide here an amended description of the species, colour photographs, as well as information on distribution, ecology, and its provisional conservation status.

KEY WORDS: Dendrobieae, Epidendroideae, Malesian Flora, plant taxonomy, Sumatran biodiversity

Introduction. *Dendrobium* Sw., belonging to the tribe Malaxideae, subtribe Dendrobiinae, is the third largest orchid genus encompassing about 1600–1800 species distributed from Sri Lanka throughout tropical Asia and the Pacific region, north to Japan, east to Tahiti and south to New Zealand (Schuiteman & Adams 2014, Chase *et al.* 2015, Ormerod 2017). At present, the number of *Dendrobium* species in Indonesia is around 680 species (Ormerod unpubl. data). In Sumatra, the genus is represented by approximately 140 species and future fieldwork would probably result in the discovery of more species either endemic or as new records from neighbouring countries and islands (Juswara *et al.* 2018).

In the recent floristic survey conducted in the westernmost province of Indonesia by the second and third authors, an unknown *Dendrobium* species was collected in the province of Aceh, Sumatra. Upon detailed morphological examination and comparison to the relevant literature and digitized type specimens of *Dendrobium* from Indonesia and neighbouring countries, the species matches with *D. bandii* Cavestro, a poorly known species recently described.

A careful analysis of our recently collected specimen revealed that the description and line drawing provided by Cavestro (2020) are not entirely accurate: the diagnosis and some morphological characters recorded by the author (e.g. acute to obtuse leaf apex, oblong-triangular lateral sepals, broadly ovate midlobe of the labellum, column length, among others) are probably more variable than the protologue suggests, and some morphometric features were omitted in the original description (e.g. column foot measurement, claw measurement, stelidia shape and measurement and many more). Thus, to further clarify the identity of this taxon, we present here an amended description of *D. bandii*, a colour photograph to aid accurate identification, ecological notes and its provisional conservation status.

Materials and methods. The measurements and descriptions were based on freshly collected material deposited at Herbarium Bogoriense (BO). The general plant descriptive terminology follows Beentje (2016). Informal conservation status category was assessed by range size (B criterion), following IUCN Standards and Petitions Subcommittee (2019) recommendations. The extent of occurrence (EOO) and area of occupancy (AOO) were estimated using GeoCAT (Bachman *et al.* 2011).

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Dendrobium bandii Cavestro, Orchidee (Hamburg) 6(120): 176, 2020. TYPE: INDONESIA. North Sumatra: District of Aceh, elev. ca. 1300–1600 m,

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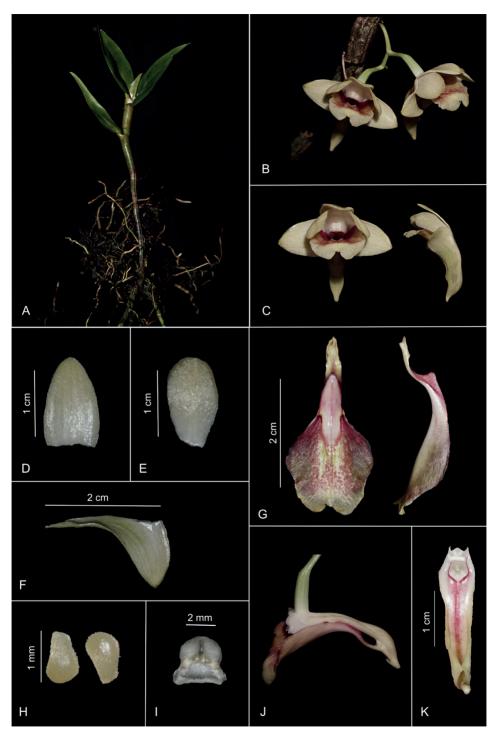


FIGURE 1. Dendrobium bandii Cavestro. A. Habit. B. Inflorescence. C. Flower (left, front view; right, profile view). D. Dorsal sepal. E. Petal. F. Lateral sepal. G. Labellum (left, top view; right, profile view). H. Pollinia. I. Anther cap. J. Pedicel with ovary, profile view of column, column foot and labellum. K. Ventral view of column and column foot. Photos by Y. R. Yudistira.

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18 February 2020, *W. Cavestro and A. Marup s.n.* (holotype, ANDA). Fig. 1.

Epiphytic, pendent, herb. Roots elongate, ca. 1.5 mm long, glabrous. Stem slightly flexuous, 15-40 cm long by 0.3-1.2 cm in diameter, terete at the base, slightly flattened in ²/₃ of the upper part, young stem rounded, green; internodes ca. 1.5-4 cm long. Leaves distichous, deciduous; sheaths tubular, clasping the entire internode, brown; leaf blades lanceolate-elliptic, 9.5 cm long by 3.0 cm wide, with 4 veins, chartaceous, green, glabrous, margin entire, apex subacuminate to acuminate. Inflorescence 2- or 3-flowered, arising from the older, leafless stems; peduncle 10-11 mm long, terete, glabrous. Flower 2.5 cm across, apricot or orange pink to yellow or greenish yellow with crimson spots on the labellum and the ventral side of the column foot. Pedicel and ovary 13 mm long, corrugated, glabrous, pale green, whitish near apex. Dorsal sepal 3-veined, incurved, nodding, ovate, 15 mm long by 8-9 mm wide, glabrous, covering the column, margin entire, apex obtuse. Lateral sepals 7-veined, spreading, broadly falcate, 15-16 mm long by 20-23 mm wide, glabrous, forming a mentum with the column foot 20-21 mm long, margin entire, apex acute, cucullate. Petals 1-veined, pointing forward, obovate, 15 mm long by 5-7 mm wide, glabrous, covering the column, margin entire, apex rounded. Lip 3.2 cm long by 1.8 cm wide; claw ligulate-oblong, subsigmoid in lateral view, basal 2-3 mm excavate and joined to column foot, free part ca. 7-8 mm long, in total ca. 10 mm long by 2-3 mm wide; blade weakly trilobed, broadly rhombic, 13-15 mm long by 12-14 mm wide, glabrous, margins slightly undulate to entire, fleshy, apex broadly, obtusely bilobed; callus oblong, shallowly canaliculate, base raised, obtuse, slightly retrorse, beginning midway on the claw and terminating on the basal quarter of the blade; mentum narrowly-conical, 2.0-2.1 cm long, curved, acute. Column stout, 3-4 mm long, with a crimson stripe on the underside; column foot 20-21 mm long; stelidia triangular, 1.0-1.5 mm long; pollinia 2, each pair can be divided into two parts, 1 mm long by 1.3 mm across, yellowish; anther-cap cucullate, 3 mm across, subhyaline. Capsule not seen.

DISTRIBUTION: Restricted to four localities, including its type locality and the highlands of Aceh Province at an

elevation of 800–1600 m a.s.l., from Aceh Tengah to Bener Meriah and Nagan Raya.

HABITAT: Growing epiphytically on trees in primary forests and secondary forests, and also found thriving in coffee plantations.

PHENOLOGY: Flowering almost all year round.

EPONYMY: The specific epithet was derived after the discoverer of the species, Subandi Bandi.

PROVISIONAL CONSERVATION STATUS: There are four localities known for this species, including the type locality. Each locality has a few populations in a limited area, giving an approximate Area of Occupancy (AOO) of 12 km² when calculated in the GeoCAT system (Bachman *et al.* 2011). Following the Red List criteria of the IUCN Standards and Petitions Subcommittee (2019), the species would fall into the IUCN category of Endangered [EN B2ab(ii)].

SPECIMEN EXAMINED: INDONESIA. Sumatra: Aceh Province, Aceh Tengah Regency, Jagong Jeget, elev. 1500 m, 20 January 2020, *Victori 004* (BO!, including spirit collection).

Dendrobium bandii was originally compared to another Sumatran species, D. transtilliferum J.J.Sm., but the latter taxon differs in having a broader, more open mentum, a cuneate (not clawed) labellum, and a flat, truncate suprabasal (vs. a raised rounded) callus. Dendrobium bandii is closer to D. sanguinoletum Lindl., sharing with it a similar mentum shape, and similar labellum shape with the callus placed in about the same area on the claw. However, D. bandii differs significantly in having forward-pointing, obovate petals (vs. spreading, spatulate petals in D. sanguinolentum), a narrowly conical, subacute mentum (vs. oblongoid, truncate mentum in D. sanguinolentum), and a labellum with an obtuse, slightly retrorse callus base (vs. acute, strongly retrorse, spinelike callus base in D. sanguinolentum). It also differs in having an apricot to yellow or greenish-yellow coloured flowers with crimson spots or colouration in the labellum, whereas D. sanguinolentum has a yellow ochre or buff flower colour with or without a variable amount of rosered colour on the tips of sepals, petals, and lip.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. We would like to thank Nur Rohman for accompanying the second author during fieldwork, Ba Vuong Truong for providing us some relevant literature used in this study, and Wewin Tjiasmanto of Tjiasmanto Conservation Fund for his unwavering support.

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A NEW *PSEUDOLEPANTHES* (PLEUROTHALLIDINAE: ORCHIDACEAE) FROM NORTHWEST ECUADOR

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ABSTRACT. A new species of the genus *Pseudolepanthes* discovered in Carchi province, northwest Ecuador, is described here. The new species is compared with *P. zunagensis* from which it is distinguished by a longer inflorescence with successive vinaceous or pale-yellow flowers, an elongate arcuate column, and a lip with an erect, thick, widely rectangular central callus.

RESUMEN. Una nueva especie del género *Pseudolepanthes* descubierta en la provincia del Carchi, noroccidente de Ecuador, es descrita aquí. La especie nueva se compara con *P. zunagensis* de la cual se distingue por tener una inflorescencia más larga con flores sucesivas, vináceas o amarillo pálido, la columna alargada, arqueada y el labelo con un callo central erecto, grueso y ampliamente rectangular.

KEYWORDS/PALABRAS CLAVE: Dracula Reserve, EcoMinga, Reserva Dracula, Trichosalpinx, Trichosalpinx pseudolepanthes

Introduction. The group of species now recognized as belonging to the genus Pseudolepanthes (Luer) Archila was initially placed in Trichosalpinx Luer, under the subgenus Tubella sect. Pseudolepanthes Luer (1986), then elevated to subgenus Pseudolepanthes Luer (1997) to accommodate all species of Trichosalpinx with small habit and non-proliferating ramicauls with lepanthiform sheaths. Morphologically, the species in the genus have successively-flowered and progressively-elongated racemes longer than the leaves, the sepals more or less membranaceus, ciliate or spiculate with lateral sepals free or variously connate below the middle; petals entire or lobed at the base; simple lips with the disc bearing a large, verrucose callus with the broad, unguiculate base firmly attached to the base of the column, the footless column is short and suberect with the anther and stigma on the front surface, except for the arcuate column of Pseudolepanthes spathulata Luer (Luer 1997, Karremans & Vieira-Uribe 2020). Recent phylogenetic studies which included molecular data

supported *Pseudolepanthes* as a correct genus for the species which share the characters mentioned above and also share the presence of a large, verrucose callus on the disc of the lip (Luer 1986, 1997, Bogarín *et al.* 2018, Bogarín *et al.* 2019, Karremans & Vieira-Uribe 2020). Currently, *Pseudolepanthes* includes 10 species distributed along the Andes of Colombia and Ecuador (Luer 1997). Here we present a new species of *Pseudolepanthes* discovered in a poorly explored forest protected by EcoMinga Foundation in northwest Ecuador.

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Pseudolepanthes bihuae M.F.Monteros & Baquero, *sp. nov.* (Fig. 1–2).

TYPE: Ecuador. Carchi: Reserva Dracula, 2042 m, 29 January 2019, *M. Monteros 203* (holotype, QCNE!).

DIAGNOSIS: *Pseudolepanthes bihuae* is most similar to *P. zunagensis* (Luer & Hirtz) Archila, but it can be

distinguished by its vinaceous or pale yellow flowers (*vs.* orange), an elongate, arcuate column (*vs.* erect, stout, shorter), the lateral sepals connate in the base, slightly free to the apex and oblique (*vs.* a shortly bifid synsepal), petals with sparsely tuberculate margins (*vs.* entire), and a lip with an elliptical blade bent down from the middle (*vs.* straight, elliptical-ovoid blade), with an erect, thick, widely rectangular central callus almost as wide as the blade (*vs.* oblong, subclavate callus much narrower than the blade).

Plant epiphytic, sympodial, caespitose herb up to 7 cm tall without inflorescence. Roots ca. 0.7 mm in diameter. Ramicauls erect, slender, stout, 3.5-4.0 cm, enclosed by 5-6 ciliate lepanthiform sheaths, 6-8 mm long. Leaf erect, coriaceous, green, suffused with purple beneath, elliptical, with two ribs parallel and close to the entire margin of the blade, the apex subacute to obtuse, emarginate, apiculate, the base cuneate into a petiole, $2.0-2.5 \times 0.9-1.2$ cm. Inflorescence a slightly sinuose, loose, successively-flowered raceme, up to 13–15 cm long, borne by a filiform, spiculate peduncle 0.5-1.0 cm long, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts spiculate, acuminate, 2-3 mm long; pedicels 1 mm long. Ovary sparsely spiculate, costate, 1 mm long. Sepals vinaceous or pale vellow, longspiculate abaxially, slightly carinate to carinate along the veins on the abaxial surface. Dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, attenuate, concave, 3-veined, $8.0-9.0 \times 1.5$ mm. Lateral sepals narrowly ovate, attenuate, oblique, shallowly concave, connate at the base, 1-veined, 5-6 × 3 mm. Petals vinaceous to pale yellow, narrowly ovate, falcate, reflexed, acute, 5×1 mm, 1-veined, with the entire margins sparsely tuberculate. Lip flamecoloured, fleshy, elliptic, with an acute apex, bent down at the middle and with a thick, widely rectangular, papillose at the apex callus, the basal half with two flaps at each side lowering in height towards the base of the lip, $3.0 \times 1.3-1.5$ mm, the blade covered with several elongate, capitate processes at the apical half, the base smooth, shallowly concave, firmly adnate to the base of the column. Column green to cream, terete, slender, elongate, arcuate, 2 mm long, the anther apical and stigma ventral but facing forward. Anther cap yellowish, obovate, cucullate, 0.4 mm long. Pollinia 2, yellow, pyriform, attached to a detachable viscidium, 0.4 mm long. Capsule not seen.

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EPONYMY: Named in honor of Bihua Chen, founder of Cormorant Asset Management in Boston, USA. Bihua loves the natural world and has fond memories of the native orchids of her childhood home in China. She has given important help to the Rainforest Trust for its efforts to preserve this new species and other orchids in Fundación EcoMinga's Dracula Reserve.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY: Pseudolepanthes bihuae is, as far as we know, endemic to northwestern Ecuador, within a region that stands out for its high diversity of orchids. Only one population of this species has been found, with plants growing as epiphytes on the trunk of a tree at 2 m above the ground, in extremely humid cloud forest at 2000 m of elevation in an unexplored area within the limits of the Dracula Reserve. Other species of the subtribe Pleurothallidinae, like Brachionidium imperiale Luer & R.Escobar, Lepanthes generi Luer & Hirtz and Lepanthes gloris Luer & Hirtz, were found growing with P. bihuae. Although we compared P. bihuae with P. zunagensis, these are separated geographically; P. zunagensis was found in the eastcentral slopes of the Andes of Ecuador, while P. bihuae is found in the northwest Ecuadorian Andes.

PARATYPES: Ecuador. Carchi: Reserva Dracula, 2042 m, 31 September 2019, *M. Monteros 204* (paratype, QCNE-Spirit!). Ecuador. Carchi: Reserva Dracula, 2042 m, 31 September 2019, *M. Monteros 205* (paratype, QCNE!).

PHENOLOGY: This species has always been observed blooming in its habitat throughout the year, where the humidity stays constant.

Pseudolepanthes bihuae is recognized by its vinaceous or pale yellow flowers, elongate, arcuate column, and also by its lip with an elliptical blade bent down from the middle with an erect, thick, widely rectangular central callus. *Pseudolepanthes bihuae* shares with *P. zunagensis* a few characteristics, such as the long spiculate, concave, ovate, acute dorsal sepal and the slender, falcate, reflexed petals, but *P. bihuae* is easily distinguished by the vinaceous or pale yellow flowers (*vs.* orange flowers in *P. zunagensis*), the elongate, arcuate column (*vs.* short, erect, stout column in *P. zunagensis*) and the lip with an erect, thick, widely rectangular central callus (*vs.* with a

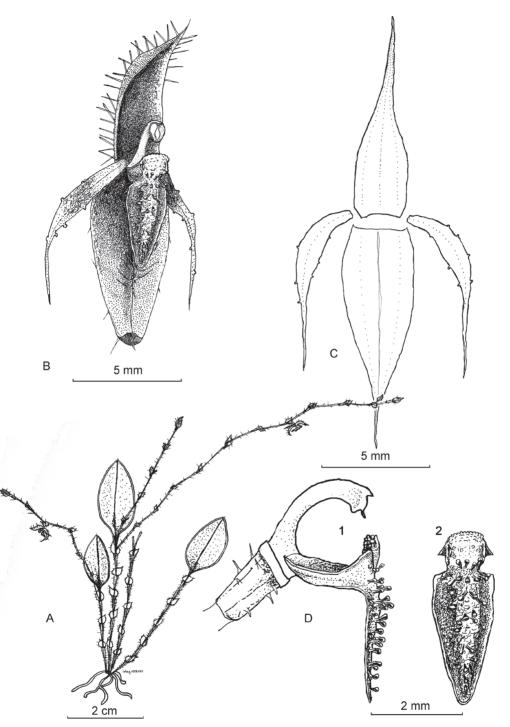


FIGURE 1. Illustration of *Pseudolepanthes bihuae* M.F.Monteros & Baquero. A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Dissected Perianth. D1. Column and lip, lateral view. D2. Lip, frontal view. Drawn by Marco F. Monteros and Luis E. Baquero from the plant that served as the holotype. (*MFM 203*, QCNE).

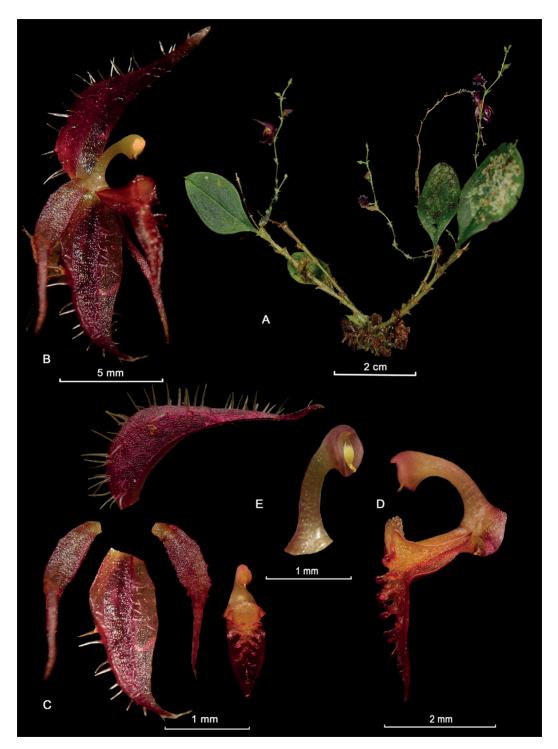


FIGURE 2. Lankester composite dissection plate of *Pseudolepanthes bihuae* M.F.Monteros & Baquero. A. Habit. B. Flower, ³/₄ view. C. Dissected perianth. D. Column and lip, lateral view. E. Column and anther, ³/₄ view. F. Peduncle and floral bract. Photographs by Marco F. Monteros from the plant that served as the holotype. (*MFM 203*, QCNE).

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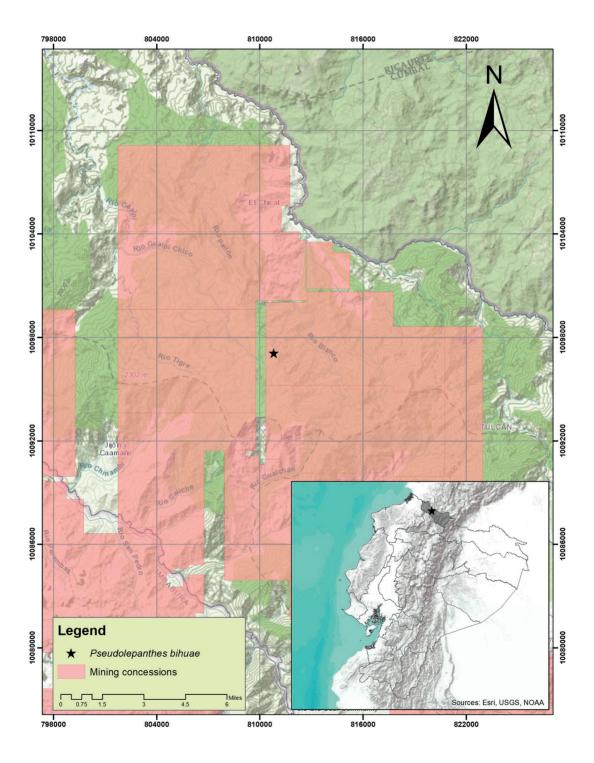


FIGURE 3. Distribution map of *Pseudolepanthes bihuae* M.F.Monteros & Baquero. Distributed in Carchi province northwest of Ecuador and mining threats. Map created by Marco F. Monteros.

verrucose callus slightly clavate at the rounded apex in *P. zunagensis*).

Pseudolepanthes bihuae represents the first record of the genus in northwest Ecuador. Nonetheless, most species of the *Pseudolepanthes* are from the western Andes of Colombia where apparently, the endemism center of this genus is located (Luer 1997). Finally, it is important to emphasize that the small population of *P. bihuae* in Ecuador is threatened, mainly by the illegal extraction of species and the mining projects that directly affect its distribution area in northwest Ecuador (Roy *et al.* 2018). For this reason, it is important and necessary to evaluate and categorize this species under the IUCN red list criteria (Fig. 3).

CONSERVATION STATUS: The principal threats to *Pseudolepanthes bihuae* are mining activity and illegal extraction of species. In Ecuador, the government owns the subsoil rights and has sold concessions in the Dracula Reserve to mining companies. Some of these mining concessions are becoming active now, and under Ecuadorian law they can work even in private

protected areas such as the Dracula Reserve, where this species lives. Also, illegal mining and associated deforestation are becoming a problem in this area. We suggest considering this species as "Critically endangered" following criteria B1a, B1b(iii) IUCN (2012) since it has only been found at a single locality in Carchi province, in northwest Ecuador. If the mining activity is not controlled, the only population of *P. bihuae* will be strongly affected by the loss of natural forest. Therefore, this population possibly might disappear in the following years (Fig. 3).

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FIRST RECORD OF A WILD POPULATION OF *LAELIA DAWSONII* F. *DAWSONII* (ORCHIDACEAE) FOR THE STATE OF JALISCO, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT. The existence of a wild population of *Laelia dawsonii* f. *dawsonii* is recorded for the first time in the Mexican State of Jalisco. *Laelia dawsonii* has a wide geographical distribution throughout the Sierra Madre del Sur (Oaxaca, Guerrero, and Jalisco); however, the populations are very isolated, and each one has very few individuals. Until now, no wild populations of this species had been registered outside of the State of Oaxaca. The population found in Jalisco is composed of about 100 plants. Due to its horticultural importance, *L. dawsonii* has been frequently extracted from the field, and its Oaxacan populations have been decimated since the end of the 19th century. Currently, this species is considered endangered in Mexico.

RESUMEN. Se registra por primera vez la existencia de una población silvestre de *Laelia dawsonii* f. *dawsonii* en el estado de Jalisco. *Laelia dawsonii* tiene una amplia distribución geográfica a lo largo de la Sierra Madre del Sur (Oaxaca, Guerrero, y Jalisco); sin embargo, sus poblaciones están muy aisladas y cada una cuenta con muy pocos individuos. Hasta ahora, no se habían registrado poblaciones silvestres de esta especie fuera del estado de Oaxaca. La población encontrada en Jalisco cuenta con alrededor de 100 ejemplares. Debido a su importancia hortícola, *L. dawsonii* ha sido frecuentemente extraída del campo y sus poblaciones oaxaqueñas fueron diezmadas desde finales del siglo XIX. Actualmente, esta especie se considera en peligro de extinción en México.

KEYWORDS/PALABRAS CLAVE: biogeografia, biogeography, conservación, conservation, Laeliinae, Laelia anceps

Introduction. Among all the Mexican orchids, *Laelia dawsonii* (J.Anderson) De B.Crawshay is perhaps one of the most important from the horticultural perspective (Hágsater *et al.* 2005). However, its taxonomic recognition has been unclear, and many aspects of its life history and its distribution remain unknown (Anderson 1868, Crawshay 1902, Soto-Arenas 2008, Pérez-García 2020). Part of the lack of taxonomic clarity of this species lies in its great horticultural value, particularly because of its similarity to some cultivars of *Laelia anceps* Lindl. Until recently, *L. dawsonii* was considered a subspecies of *L. anceps* (Soto-Arenas 1993, Pérez-García 2020).

In 1836, John Lindley described *Laelia anceps* from plants imported to England from Mexico by the London firm Loddiges and Sons. These plants had no exact place of origin (Halbinger & Soto-Arenas 1997), but most likely, they came from the state of Veracruz.

The flowers of the type had the predominant coloration of that species in the Sierra Madre Oriental, which is lilac with the lip apex in a stronger tone (Fig. 1A).

Laelia anceps has a wide distribution in the Gulf of Mexico slope, from Tamaulipas to the center of Veracruz, and in the states of Guanajuato, Hidalgo, Puebla, Querétaro, San Luis Potosí, and Oaxaca's Sierra Norte (or Sierra de Juárez). In addition, there are small populations of this species on the border between Chiapas and Guatemala, but they usually have a slightly different coloration (Archila *et al.* 2014). The plants of Guatemala and Honduras have recently been considered a different species, *Laelia mottae* Archila, Chiron, Szlach. & Pérez-García. The beauty of *L. anceps* flowers has made it one of the most cultivated Mexican orchids in the world (Rose 1987, Bechtel 1990). Likewise, many horticultural varieties have been found, which have been described as taxonomic

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varieties (Rolfe 1922, Soto-Arenas 1993). This most likely has been one of the problems that has led to the non-recognition of *L. dawsonii* as a correct species, particularly because of the presence of cultivars of *L. anceps* with alba and semialba flowers (Cetzal-Ix *et al.* 2020, Pérez-García 2020).

Laelia dawsonii.- In 1865, John Tucker sent to Europe several plants classified as L. anceps from the state of Oaxaca, particularly close to the city of Juquila. These specimens were mostly semi-alba flowers, with rhombic petals, thicker lip callus and three to five terminal keels, and with the mid-lobe concave and longer, it was visually a more beautiful shape (Soto-Arenas 1993, Halbinger & Soto-Arenas 1997, Pérez-García 2020). The first plant to bloom was described as L. anceps var. dawsonii by J. Anderson in 1868, and later, some other varieties were described, which to date are considered taxonomic synonyms but that in horticulture still have some use (like the sanderiana variety named by H. G. Reichenbach in 1887). Tucker never revealed the location of the wild populations of this new variety, and by 1892, Henry Frederick Conrad Sander would relate that all these plants would have been bought from the Oaxacan indigenous people who had cultivated them in towns near the Pacific coast for several centuries (Soto-Arenas 2008).

In 1947, Thomas MacDougall collected specimens in their natural habitat, again without revealing their location, although it is inferred that it was at some point in the Chontal region of Oaxaca (MacDougall 1943, 1948), and although the area was subsequently explored on different occasions, no wild populations have been found in that area (Halbinger & Soto-Arenas 1997). In 1987, some specimens were found in southern Oaxaca, it was a very small and threatened population, which consisted of only 12 genets (individuals or horticultural clones; Soto-Arenas 2003), but apparently, this locality has already been extirpated. Laelia dawsonii has just been recognized as a distinct species from L. anceps and was characterized as an endangered species in the most recent update of the list of threatened species in Mexico (SEMARNAT 2019). Laelia dawsonii presents an important morphological variation and two different forms are recognized: L. dawsonii f. dawsonii and L. dawsonii f. chilapensis (Halbinger & Soto-Arenas 1997, Cetzal-Ix et al. 2020).

Laelia dawsonii f. chilapensis (Soto Arenas) Pérez-García & Cetzal.— This form of *L. dawsonii* has a limited geographical distribution since it is only known from some specimens traditionally cultivated in the Chilapa region, Guerrero. These plants have pale pink flowers with velvety dark purple lips (Fig. 1B). To date, wild populations of *L. dawsonii* f. chilapensis have not been documented, which is why it is considered as probably extinct in nature (Soto-Arenas 1993, 2008, Halbinger & Soto 1997, Pérez-García 2020).

Laelia dawsonii f. dawsonii.- This form generally has white tepals, although some specimens have slightly pinkish tones. The lip is white with the throat with purple lines, the mid-lobe of the lip can vary in extension and be white (Fig. 1C) or magenta in different degrees of color intensity (var. sanderiana, Fig. 1D). It is an orchid in danger of extinction in nature (Soto-Arenas 2008). Before this publication, it was only known from a few wild populations and cultivated plants in the state of Oaxaca (Huerta Espinoza 2014). Due to its attractive flowers, many specialists and hobbyists have searched intensively for L. dawsonii in the wild without finding it. The dawsonii form was considered endemic to Oaxaca since it had only been collected from the wild in that state. However, for some time, the existence of some specimens cultivated by the locals in the state of Jalisco has been known. This prior knowledge motivated Federico Halbinger to go in 1994 to the state of Jalisco in search of these plants. In this botanical expedition, Halbinger was accompanied by Ignacio Contreras, a passionate lover of orchids from Jalisco, but they only found cultivated specimens and none in the wild.

Subsequently, several other collectors interested in the orchids of Jalisco have made expeditions in search of this species without success. For example, Salvador Rosillo de Velasco, from Guadalajara, purchased it in a house in Chiquilistlán, and made countless field trips, collecting orchids in Jalisco and neighboring states, and never found it in the wild. Likewise, Roberto González Tamayo, another prominent orchidologist at the Botanical Institute of the University of Guadalajara, explored the state of Jalisco for more than 40 years and never found it. After the expedition with F. Halbinger, Ignacio Contreras continued for more than 18 years in search of this orchid in its habitat, without being able

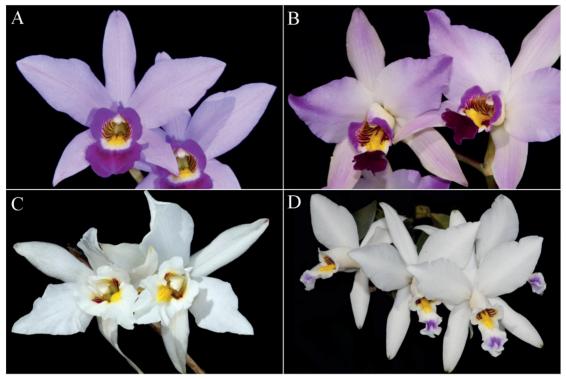


FIGURE 1. A. Laelia anceps type. B. Laelia dawsonii f. chilapensis. C. Laelia dawsonii f. dawsonii cultivated by locals in Jalisco. D. Laelia dawsonii f. dawsonii "var. sanderiana".

to do so. In 1985, Rogers McVaugh only recorded the following five species of the genus *Laelia* Lindl. for the Nueva Galicia region (Jalisco and surrounding states): *L. albida* Bateman ex Lindl., *L. autumnalis* (Lex.) Lindl., *L. crawshayana* Rchb.f. (cited as *L. bancalari*), *L. rubescens* Lindl., and *L. speciosa* (Kunth) Schltr., in such a way that this great botanical work did not consider the presence in the state of *L. dawsonii* (McVaugh 1985).

Recently, L. Peraza-Flores, G. Carnevali & C. van den Berg (2016) proposed two groups within the genus *Laelia*, based in a molecular analysis. The first consists of the endemic species of Mexico, of which *L. speciosa* is the type of the generic name. The second group includes taxa mainly from Central and South America, generally known as *Schomburgkia* Lindl. Therefore, according to this proposal, the recognition of *Laelia* would only be for Mexican species close to *L. speciosa*, and the rest of the genus *Schomburgkia*. For reasons similar to those discussed in Cetzal *et al.* (2020), in this article, we

adopt the broader constituency of *Laelia* to avoid the increase in binomials associated with the Mexican species of the genus.

Study area.- The discovery site is located in the extensive Sierra del Tigre, southeast of the state of Jalisco. The exact municipality will not be revealed to protect the population of this vulnerable orchid. The site is located at an elevation of 2100 m above sea level and is made up of lands belonging to the Tertiary period, composed of limestone, extrusive igneous rocks, rhyolite, andesite, basalt, tuff and volcanic breccia. The climate is classified as semi-dry, with dry and semi-warm autumn and winter, with no welldefined winter thermal change. The average annual temperature is 15°C, and it has an average annual rainfall of 780 mm. This natural area is represented by 8300 ha of forest, where species of Pinus L., Quercus L., and Fraxinus L. predominate, as well as Enterolobium cyclocarpum (Jacq.) Griseb. Currently, the area has a presence of drug trafficking, making botanical exploration risky.



FIGURE 2. Laelia dawsonii f. dawsonii, in situ, Jalisco, Mexico. A-B. Inflorescences in epiphytic plants. C. Ignacio Contreras with inflorescences in the field. D. Plants growing over rocky cliff. E-F. View of Laelia dawsonii f. dawsonii flowers.

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Results and discussion. In order to photograph specimens of some Crassulaceae species in situ, on April 8, 2001, an expedition was made to the Sierra del Tigre. Thus, when looking for plants in a rocky cliff, it was observed that at the height of 20 m, there was a rupicolous orchid that at first glance looked like an Epidendrum ciliare L. However, when approaching the plant from the upper part of the cliff it was a specimen of the genus Laelia. As the specimen was in a sterile stage, a plant was collected and cultivated in Guadalajara. The plant bloomed in mid-November of that same year. Thus, it was possible to verify the identity of the species as the elusive Laelia dawsonii f. dawsonii, and to locate the first population found in the wild in the state of Jalisco. To photograph with a roll film camera and collect specimens for herbarium, a second visit was made to the Sierra del Tigre on November 20, 2001, where it was possible to observe the population in bloom and reaffirm the identity of the species in nature.

This finding, although fortuitous, is of great importance because it represents the first record with certainty for the state of Jalisco of a wild population of *L. dawsonii* f. *dawsonii* (Fig. 2), which is one of the few known populations for this species in Mexico. Interestingly, that the *dawsonii* form has a population so distant from the known localities for this species in the state of Oaxaca. In other words, Guerrero and Michoacán are skipped.

Due to the large surface area and the rugged topography of the Sierra del Tigre (both in the south of Jalisco and in the northwest of Michoacán) and the limited botanical exploration that has taken place in this geographical region, it is necessary to investigate if *L. dawsonii* f. *dawsonii* may be present in other gullies with similar conditions in the region. It is expected that in future botanical expeditions the permanence of the population found can be verified and evaluate if this population is in a position to continue perpetuating itself, that is, with the formation of capsules and the presence of seedlings. It would also be important to perform an accurate count of the number of plants that make up the population and evaluate its dynamics, as well as their reproductive biology. All these aspects of the ecology and natural history of the species remain unknown, even for the populations of Oaxaca. *Laelia dawsonii* is one of the most spectacular orchids in Mexico, and unfortunately, also one of the most endangered. For this reason, the conservation of the Sierra del Tigre, Jalisco, should be a priority.

Specimens examined.— Laelia dawsonii f. dawsonii MEXICO: Jalisco, Sierra del Tigre, at 1900 m above sea level, growing epiphytic on *Garrya laurifolia* Hartw. ex Benth. November 20, 2001, *M. Cházaro B., I. Contreras V., R. López V., J. A. Machuca N. & O. M.* Valencia P. #8153 (ENCB, IBUG, IEB).

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COMPARATIVE FLORAL SURFACE MICROMORPHOLOGY HELPS TO DISCRIMINATE BETWEEN SPECIES OF *PAPHIOPEDILUM* (ORCHIDACEAE: CYPRIPEDIOIDEAE) FROM PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT. The floral micromorphology of critically endangered Paphiopedilum Pfitzer [P. barbatum (Lindl.) Pfitzer, P. callosum var. sublaeve (Rchb.f.) P.J.Cribb and P. niveum (Rchb.f.) Stein] were analyzed concerning either infrageneric taxonomy or physioecological demands. The first two species are phylogenetically close and superficially identical but occur with distinct phytogeographical distributions in the region. The third species is a phylogenetically distant congener that inhabits limestone areas in the northern part of Peninsular Malaysia. Using scanning electron microscopy (SEM), we investigated the surface of the dorsal sepal, synsepal, lateral petals, pouch or labellum, and staminode. Amongst the investigated features were epicuticular waxes, epicuticular ornamentation, trichome distribution and type, pustular glands, and papillae. Our study supports the distinction of P. barbatum from P. callosum var. sublaeve, which belong to subgenus Paphiopedilum, and from P. niveum, a species belonging to subgenus Brachypetalum, a separated monophyletic clade. Comparatively, P. barbatum has Type III non-glandular trichomes on the margin of its lateral petals, which are absent in P. callosum var. sublaeve. Paphiopedilum callosum var. sublaeve and P. niveum are distinguishable from P. barbatum by a confined distribution of papillae. The epicuticular ornamentation and distribution of trichomes on staminode discriminate between P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve and differentiates them from P. niveum. Compared to P. barbatum and P. niveum, stomata in P. *callosum* var. *sublaeve* were superficial with prominently raised guard cells. From the physioecological view, the absence of glandular trichomes, and the low occurrence of papillae and stomata on the floral parts explain the unscented flowers of P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve. A combination of the features examined is taxonomically valuable for delimitation of the species at the infrageneric level, although the diagnostic characters are far inadequate for a generic taxonomic revision. A study with a more extensive sampling from the three subgenera of *Paphiopedilum*, including subgenus *Parvisepalum*, is anticipated to elucidate the level of variation of the analyzed microcharacters.

KEY WORDS: physioecological importance, Peninsular Malaysia, subgenus *Brachypetalum*, subgenus *Paphiopedilum*, scanning electron microscopy, taxonomic delimitation

Introduction. *Paphiopedilum* originates from the Greek word '*Paphian*' an epithet for Aphrodite, the Roman goddess known as Venus, and "*pedilon*" which means slipper (Cash 1991, Cribb 1998). Orchids in this genus are commonly known as slipper orchids because of the unique slipper or shoe-like flowers (Cash 1991, Cribb 1998, McGough *et al.* 2006). The genus *Paphiopedilum* Pfitzer comprises about 167 species, with distribution extending from Southern China to Tropical Asia (Braem 1988, Cribb 1998, Chen *et al.* 2005, Govaerts *et al.* 2021). *Paphiopedilum* gained

its popularity and investment value in the horticulture industry through its exotic appearance and production of large flowers on small plants (Cribb 1998). Most of the species are regarded as endangered and threatened with extinction due to habitat destruction, overcollection and illegal trading. They are amongst the plants listed on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES – Appendix 1). Within this list, one can find well-known Malaysian species *Paphiopedilum barbatum* (Lindl.) Pfitzer (Bearded *Paphiopedilum*) (Rankou 2015a),

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Paphiopedilum callosum (Rchb.f.) Stein (Callus Paphiopedilum) (Rankou et al. 2015), Paphiopedilum niveum (Rchb.f.) Stein (Snow-White Paphiopedilum) (Rankou 2015b), Paphiopedilum rothschildianum (Rchb.f.) Stein (Rothschild's Paphiopedilum) (Rankou 2015c), Paphiopedilum sanderianum (Rchb.f.) Stein (Sander's Paphiopedilum) (Rankou 2015d) and Paphiopedilum stonei (Rchb.f.) Stein (Rchb.f.) Stein (Stone's Paphiopedilum) (Rankou & O'Sullivan 2015).

Systematically, Paphiopedilum is considered an early branch group due to its geographical distribution and relatively unspecialized floral structures (Rosso 1966). The subfamily Cypripedioideae is unusual amongst the Orchidaceae because of the presence of two fertile stamens, the disposition of these stamens in the inner staminal whorl lateral to the style, and the incomplete adnation of stylar and staminal tissues (Rosso 1966). A saccate labellum is usually present and is responsible for the common name "slipper orchids" so often applied to these plants (Seidenfaden & Wood 1992, Cribb 1998). Taxonomically, Paphiopedilum is classified based on morphological, cytological, and molecular phylogenetic data into three subgenera; Parvisepalum, Brachypetalum and Paphiopedilum (Cribb 1998, Chochai et al. 2012). Until now, only subgenus Brachypetalum and subgenus Paphiopedilum are recorded for Peninsular Malaysia. We investigate four aspects to identify an orchid species: general morphology, chromosome numbers, leaf and floral anatomy, and DNA barcoding. Species delimitation based on general floral morphology for Paphiopedilum species found in Peninsular Malaysia shows a clear resolution for most of the species, except for the highly resemblant ones, for instance, P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve (Rchb.f.) P.J.Cribb belong to subgenus Paphiopedilum (Seidenfeiden & Wood 1992, Cribb 1998, Leong 2014). A work on DNA Barcoding of Endangered Paphiopedilum species of Peninsular Malaysia using four DNA barcode loci and their combinations (rbcL, matK, ITS, trnH-psbA) published by Rajaram et al. (2019) clusters each species as a monophyletic clade. The matK sequences discriminate the closely related P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve, therefore supporting the species circumscription by Cribb (1998) (Rajaram et al. 2019). Nevertheless, slipper orchids are infamously variable, and unusual plants may sometimes be

natural hybrids, especially when the putative parents grow sympatrically (Averyanov *et al.* 2007, Leong 2014, van der Ent *et al.* 2015). Natural hybridizations between two confusable *Paphiopedilum* species occur in Peninsular Malaysia, e.g. in between *P. barbatum* and *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* – where the chloroplast *matK* sequence matched that of *P. barbatum* and the nuclear ITS sequence matched that of *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* (Khew *in prep.* cited in Leong 2014).

Cytologically, the genus is characterized by significant chromosome variation, ranging from 2n = 26 to 42 (Duncan & Macleod 1949, Karasawa 1979, Karasawa & Aoyama 1988). Pollen studies and anatomy observations on the leaf, root, stem, and inflorescence for members of subfamily Cypripediodeae are enumerated in Pfitzer (1903), Holm (1904), Cheadle (1942), Rosso (1966) and Atwood (1984). The systematic significance of inner and outer cuticular micromorphology of mottled and xeromorphic leaves of Paphiopedilum species is unclear for either taxonomical or ecological purposes (Guan et al. 2011). The floral micromorphology of this genus, on the other hand, has not been thoroughly examined, except for pollen morphology. Pollens of some Paphiopedilum species, including P. barbatum, P. callosum and P. niveum, were studied under the microscope by Williams & Broome (1976), Newton & Williams (1978), and Burns-Balogh & Hesse (1988), are taxonomically useful at the intergeneric level. The exine of P. callosum is formed by isolated sporopollenin particles of the thick, peripherally channelled intine. Paphiopedilum niveum differs by having the foveolate exine with small pits. However, studies on the micromorphology of other floral parts of the genus Paphiopedilum are lacking. Given the above, we employed scanning electron microscope (SEM) observations to evaluate surface microstructures' applicability in taxonomic delimitation and physioecological functions.

Materials and methods

Species selection.— Three Paphiopedilum species from Peninsular Malaysia were selected to predict the congeneric contrasts (Fig.1): Paphiopedilum barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve belong to section Barbata in subgenus Paphiopedilum with mottled

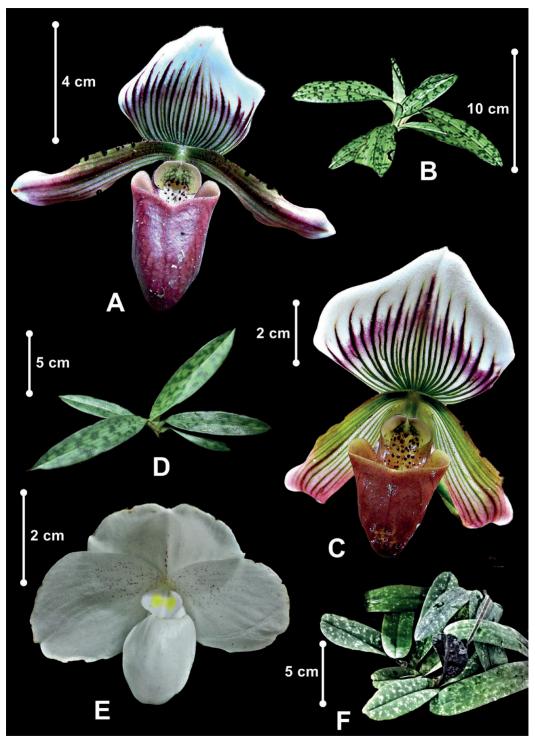


FIGURE 1. Examined species of *Paphiopedilum* from Peninsular Malaysia. A–B. *Paphiopedilum barbatum* flower (A) and leaves (B). C–D. *Paphiopedilum callosum* var. *sublaeve* flower (C) and leaves (D). E–F. *Paphiopedilum niveum* flower (E) and leaves (F). Photographs by Rusea Go and Edward Entalai Besi.

TABLE 1. *Paphiopedilum* species examined including their locality, habitat and voucher.

Species	Type Locality	Habitat	Voucher Deposited
P. barbatum	Terengganu	Peaty areas and rocky boulder in waterfall in lower montane forest	EDW060 (UPM)
P. callosum var. sublaeve	Kedah	Highland heath forest with ground made up of granite, quartzite and sandstone	RG4574 (UPM)
P. niveum	Perlis	Limestone hill forest	WY125 (UPM)

leaves, mostly spotted warty petals and thick-textured labellum, and P. niveum, the only representative of subgenus Brachypetalum in Peninsular Malaysia, with mottled leaves, concolourous white flowers and thin-textured labellum. Paphiopedilum barbatum thrives under deep dark valleys, open areas or rocky boulders covered with humus, leaf litters or carpets of thick moss at streamside from about 200 m to 1200 m a.s.l. Both P. callosum var. sublaeve and P. niveum confined to the northern part of Peninsular Malaysia differ in habitat types. Paphiopedilum callosum var. sublaeve occurs in mossy forest or open vegetation with the ground covered with sphagnum mosses or coarse white sand, whereas, P. niveum is a calcicoles congener inhabiting limestone cliff shaded from direct sunlight at about 300 m a.s.l.

Sample collection and processing.- One individual for each species was obtained through field sampling conducted in three different localities in Peninsular Malaysia, allowed by a permit. A complete specimen for each species was processed as an herbarium specimen following techniques outlined in Bridson & Forman (2000) and deposited in the Herbarium of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). The voucher numbers and attributes are listed in Table 1. Two flowers of each species were used in macro- and micromorphology examinations. The flower specimens were dissected and photographed under AM4113ZT Dino-Lite Digital Microscope. Species identification was accomplished by morphological assessment by referring to the published taxonomic monographs and the botanical illustrations of Seidenfaden & Wood (1992) and Leong (2014). The currently accepted names of the orchids were validated through the KEW World Checklist of Selected Plant Families (Govaerts *et al.* 2021).

Micromorphology examination .-- The microstructural study was carried out in Microscopy Unit (EM) in the Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS), UPM, Malaysia. The floral parts examined were dorsal sepal, synsepal, lateral petals, pouch or labellum and staminode. For SEM, the samples were processed according to a modified protocol by IBS explained in Besi et al. (2020): First, fragments about 1 cm × 1 cm were excised from the margin, basal, apex and middle portions of the floral parts, except for the staminode which was used entirely. The excised samples were put into separate vials and soaked in fixative (4% glutaraldehyde) for two days at 4oC. After two days, samples were washed with 0.1 M sodium cacodylate buffer for three changes of 30 min each and postfixed in 1% osmium tetraoxide for 2 h at 4oC. Then, samples were rewashed with 0.1 M sodium cacodylate buffer (three times 30 min each) before dehydration with series of acetone: 35% (30-45 min), 50% (30-45 min), 75% (30-45 min), 95% (30-45 min), and 100% (1 h for three changes). The samples were further dried using the critical dryer Leica EM CPD 030 for about 30 min. Lastly, the samples were mounted on stubs using double-sided carbon adhesive tabs and then sputter-coated with gold in auto fine coater Baltec SCD 005 Sputter Coater. The coated samples were examined under the Jeol JSM 6400 SEM (Beam voltage: 15 kV). The surface of each floral part was observed under various magnifications (15x-4000x). All the stubs prepared are housed in the EM unit in IBS, UPM, Malaysia.

The microstructures observed on the floral parts were trichomes and papillae, pustular glands, stomata, epicuticular ornamentation and waxes. Classification of stomata was according to Wilkinson (1979) and Carpenter (2005) based on shapes and patterns of the stomatal ledges flanking aperture, guard cells and peristomatal striae, and arrangement of the contact cells. Here, we have adopted the term 'contact cell' to take the place of the subsidiary cell and neighbouring cell, to refer to any cell, specialized or not, that is adjacent to the stoma (Upchurch 1984). The studied *Paphiopedilum* species have some stomata where

TABLE 2. Trichomes types on the floral parts *Paphiopedilum barbatum*, *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* and *P. niveum*, including description on the morphology.

Туре	Morphology description				
I	Simple, uniseriate, non-glandular, unicellular, rugose, ca. 100-200 μ m, narrowly clavate				
П	Simple, uniseriate, non-glandular, multicellular, long, ca. 200-1,000 $\mu m,$ moniliform				
111	Simple, uniseriate, non-glandular, multicellular, elongated, ca. 200-2,000 $\mu {\rm m},$ moniliform with topmost cell very narrow				
IV	Simple, multiseriate, non-glandular, bicellular, multiseriate base, short, ca. 100-400 μm				
V	Simple, uniseriate, non-glandular, bicellular or multicellular, short, ca. 100-400 $\mu \rm m$				
VI	Simple, uniseriate, glandular, unicellular, sessile, ca. 5-20 $\mu m,$ barrel-shaped				
	Papillae globular or tall, striated				

contact cells' patterns were not shown clearly in the SEM micrographs. Thus, the stomata type was omitted from the analysis and these stomata were described based on guard cells, stomatal ledges and peristomatal striae. For the individual stomatal parameters, stoma length and width, a magnification of 500x and a measurement method in Savvides et al. (2011) were employed in the current study. Stoma width was chosen instead of guard cell width since the latter changes up to 50% as stomata close (Shope & Mott 2006). Meanwhile, trichomes were described and classified based on Theobald et al. (1979), Adedeji et al. (2007), and Angulo & Dematteis (2014). Comprehensive terminologies of trichome morphology follow Angulo & Dematteis (2014). The parameter measurements were done using a ruler and the values obtained were multiplied with the magnification scales. Surface's cuticular ornamentation was described following Piwowarczyk (2015), Ghimire et al. (2018), and Kong & Hong (2018), and description on epicuticular waxes was based on Wilkinson (1979). Assessment of the examined species and the comparative study were conducted following Ghazalli et al. (2019).

Results. Epicuticular ornamentation was observed on the floral parts of the selected *Paphiopedilum* species. Six different features of simple and uniseriate trichomes, vary in structure, distribution, and number of cells, except branched trichomes. Description of the epicuticular ornamentation and trichomes are in Tables 2 and 3. TABLE 3. Epicuticular ornamentation on the floral parts *Paphiopedilum barbatum*, *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* and *P. niveum*, including description on the morphology.

Туре	Morphology description				
I	Foveate outer periclinal wall; furrowed, straight and rounded anticlinal wall				
II	Foveate outer periclinal wall; fibrillary, straight and rounded anticlinal wall				
111	Flat outer periclinal wall; reticulate, fibrillary, straight and rounded anticlinal wall				
IV	Laevigate and often striated outer periclinal wall; undulate and furrowed anticlinal wall				
V	Outer periclinal wall with a complex network of undulate striae; fibrillary, straight and rounded anticlinal wall				
VI	Entirely covered by hairs (Type I non-glandular trichomes)				
VII	Laevigate-with-seams outer periclinal wall; furrowed, straight and rounded anticlinal wall				

Species assessment under SEM.— Paphiopedilum barbatum (Fig. 2). Waxes: scattered, wartygranulated and flake-like. Epicuticular ornamentation: Type III, IV and VII. Stomata formation: same level with the epidermal wall, in parallel or random formation. Stomata distribution: sparsely occurred on dorsal sepal, synsepal, lateral petals, labellum and staminode. Stomata ornamentation: comprise a defined rosette of five to seven contact cells with radial elongation of some cells but not others or characterized by four lateral contact cells. Guard cells and ledges indistinguishable from the neighbouring stomatal apparatus in the staminode. Stomatal cuticular striation: smooth or slightly striated. Stomatal size: L (11.11–41.67 μm) × W (4.44–33.33 μm). Trichome distribution: present on dorsal sepal, synsepal, lateral petals, labellum and staminode. Trichome type: non-glandular-Type I, II, III, and V; glandular-absent. Pustular glands: absent. Papillae: absent.

Paphiopedilum callosum var. sublaeve (Fig. 3). Waxes: scattered, warty-granulated and flake-like. Epicuticular ornamentation: Type II, III, IV, VI, and VII. Stomata formation: superficial, raised from the epidermal wall. Stomata distribution: sparsely occurred on dorsal sepal, synsepal and lateral petals. Stomata ornamentation: narrowly elliptical outer stomatal ledges with prominent guard

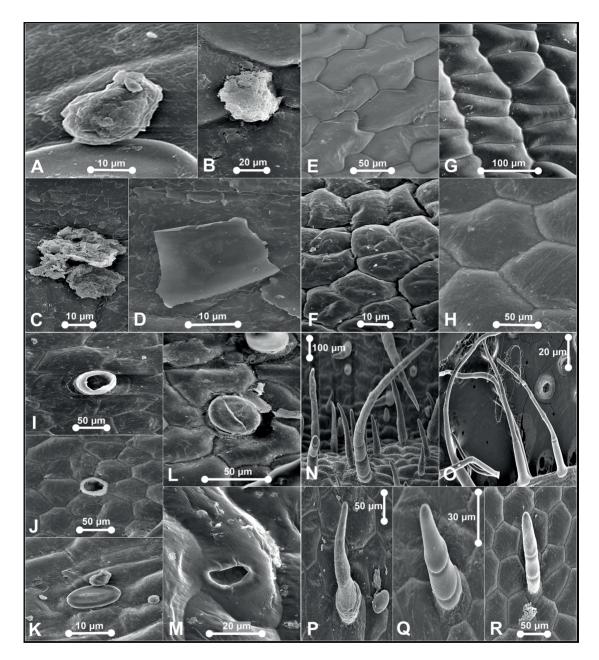


FIGURE 2. SEM observations of epicuticular waxes (A–D), epicuticular ornamentation (E–H), stomata (I–M) and trichomes (N–R) on floral parts of *Paphiopedilum barbatum*. A. Warty-granulated wax. B. Warty-granulated wax. C. Warty-granulated wax. D. Flake-like wax. E. Type III epicuticular ornamentation. F. Type IV epicuticular ornamentation.
G. Type VII epicuticular ornamentation. H. Type VII epicuticular ornamentation. I. Aperture from by detachment of trichome on dorsal sepal. J. Aperture from by detachment of trichome on synsepal. K. Stoma on synsepal – characterized by four lateral contact cells. L. Stoma on synsepal – comprise a defined rosette of five to six contact cells.
M. Nectarostoma on staminode. N. Trichomes on dorsal sepal – Type II. O. Trichomes on petal – Type II. P. Trichomes on dorsal sepal and staminode – Type II. Q. Trichomes on labellum – Type II. R. Trichomes on petal and labellum – Type II. Photographs by Edward Entalai Besi.

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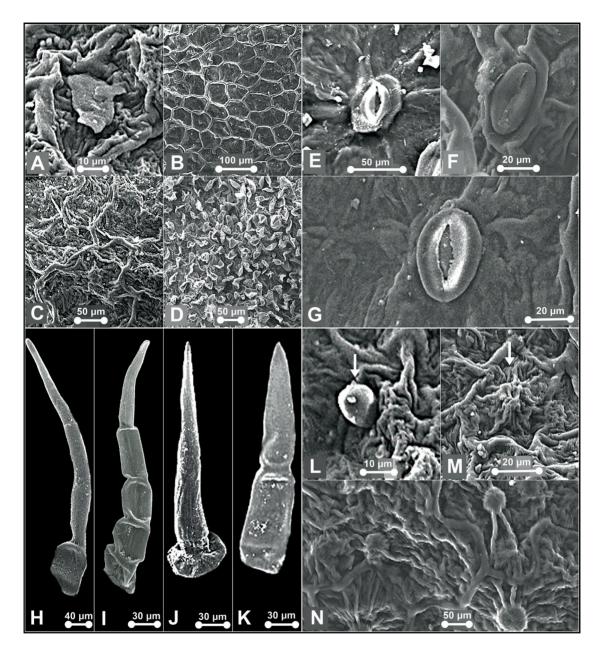


FIGURE 3. SEM observations of epicuticular waxes (A), epicuticular ornamentation (B–D), stomata (E–G), trichomes (H–L) and papillae (M–N) of *Paphiopedilum callosum* var. *sublaeve* and *P. niveum*. A. Flake-like wax on the pouch of *P. niveum*. B. Type II epicuticular ornamentation. C. Type V epicuticular ornamentation. D. Type VI epicuticular ornamentation. E. Stoma on dorsal sepal of *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve*. F. Stoma on lateral sepals of *P. niveum*. G. Stoma on dorsal sepal of *P. niveum*. H. Trichomes on synsepal of *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve*. I. Trichome on dorsal sepal of *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve*. J. Trichome on dorsal sepal of *P. niveum* – Type IV. K. Trichome on synsepal of *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* – Type IV. L. Trichome on the pouch of *P. niveum* – Type VII. M. Papillae on the pouch of *P. niveum* – tall and striated. N. papillae on the pouch of *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* – globular and striated. Photographs by Edward Entalai Besi and Lam Shun Jia.

TABLE 4. Features and distribution of floral-surface micromorphology characteristics of *Paphiopedilum barbatum*, *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* and *P. niveum* (epidermal, stomata).

Species	Floral parts	Epicuticular ornamentation	Anticlinal wall features	Epicuticular striation	Stomata contact and epidermal cells ornamentation	Peristomatal rim ornamentation	Pattern of stomatal distribution
	Dorsal Sepal	III, IV	Furrowed	Smooth	Present	Present	Parallel
	Synsepal	III, VII	Furrowed	Smooth	Present	Present	Random
P. barbatum	Lateral Petals	IV, VII	Fibrillary, furrowed	Smooth	Present	Present	Random
	Labellum	IV	Undulate, furrowed	Smooth	Present	Present	Parallel
	Staminode	VII	Furrowed	Smooth	Present	Present	Parallel
	Dorsal Sepal	П	Fibrillary	Rugulate	Present	Present	Parallel
	Synsepal	II, VII	Fibrillary, furrowed	Rugulate	Present	Present	Parallel
<i>P. callosum</i> var. <i>sublaeve</i>	Lateral Petals	11, 111	Fibrillary	Rugulate	Present	Present	Parallel
	Labellum	IV	Undulate, furrowed	Rugulate, striated	Absent	Absent	Absent
	Staminode	VI	Unclear	Unclear	Absent	Absent	Absent
	Dorsal Sepal	Ш	Fibrillary	Densely rugulate	Present	Present	Parallel
	Synsepal	Ш	Fibrillary	Striated	Present	Present	Parallel
P. niveum	Lateral Petals	П	Fibrillary	Rugulate, striated	Absent	Absent	Absent
	Labellum	II, V	Fibrillary	Rugulate, striated	Absent	Absent	Absent
	Staminode	VI	Unclear	Unclear	Absent	Absent	Absent

cells. Contact cells indistinguishable. *Stomatal cuticular striation*: radiating peristomatal striae in irregular orientation from ledge cells. *Stomatal size*: L (41.38–52.38 μ m) × W (22.79–31.21 μ m). *Trichome distribution*: present on dorsal sepal, synsepal, lateral petals and labellum. Two major groups of trichomes were observed on the dorsal sepal; non-glandular and glandular trichomes. The long and non-glandular trichomes were mostly located marginally and glandular trichomes on the dorsal sepal. *Trichome type*: non-glandular— Type I, II, III, and V. *Pustular glands:* sessile, widely-scattered on sepals. *Papillae:* congregated on labellum, globular, striated and connected by radiating striae.

<u>Paphiopedilum niveum (Fig. 3)</u>. Waxes: scattered, warty-granulated and flake-like. *Epicuticular* LANKESTERIANA 21(1). 2021. © Universidad de Costa Rica, 2021. ornamentation: Type II, III, V and VI. Stomata formation: paraficial, semi-raised from the epidermal wall. Stomata distribution: sparsely occurred on dorsal sepals and synsepal. Stomata ornamentation: narrowly elliptical outer ledges and distinct irregular quadrilateral guard cells. Contact cells indistinguishable from the neighbouring stomatal apparatus. Stomatal cuticular striation: long radiating buttressed striae. Stomatal size: L (37.98–45.45 μ m) × W (30.32–38.66 µm). Trichome distribution: presence on dorsal sepal, synsepal, lateral sepals, labellum and staminode. Non-glandular trichomes were dense in petals and sepals. Glandular trichomes occasionally occur on the labellum. Trichome type: non-glandular-Type I, II, III, IV, and V; glandular-Type VI. Pustular glands: occur sparsely on sepals, sessile to subsessile, resemble subsessile trichomes, except the former commonly striated or connected by striae, or resemble papillae, except the former not prominently protruding. *Papillae:* congregated on labellum, tall striated.

Comparative study on the floral-surface micromorphology.— Prominent cuticular sculpturing was clearly observed on the epidermal surface of the selected species and varied significantly in anticlinal and periclinal wall characteristics. Stomata were present in floral parts of *P. barbatum* but only occurred occasionally for *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* and *P. niveum*. Trichomes were observed in all studied species. All had diverse types of trichomes on their floral parts. The features and occurrence of each micromorphology are shown in Table 4 and 5.

Discussion. Ouestions have arisen over the usefulness of floral-surface micromorphology in the recircumscription of confusable Paphiopedilum species found in Peninsular Malaysia. P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve. At first, we discuss the taxonomic significance and then the physioecological importance of epicuticular ornamentation, stomata and trichomes. Non-glandular trichomes are classified as non-glandular for not functioned as secretory structures (Peterson & Vermeer 1984). The nonglandular trichomes occur on various floral parts (Ko et al. 2007, Baran et al. 2010). Glandular trichomes, papillae and floral stomata play essential roles in fragrance and metabolite release which offers food to ensure pollinators revisit (Davies & Turner 2004, Choi & Kim 2013, Stpiczyńska et al. 2018).

Taxonomic aspects.— The invariable presence of warty-granulated and flake-like epicuticular waxes without any unique types on each floral part suggests no significance systematics value for the studied species. Contrariwise, the multi-pattern epicuticular ornamentation on the floral parts offers a significant taxonomic value to discriminate the infrasubgeneric *P. barbatum* and *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve*. The epicuticular sculptures are also consistent to differentiate them from their congener *P. niveum* (Table 4).

Stomata were found in all three studied

TABLE 5. Features and distribution of floral-surface micromorphology characteristics of *Paphiopedilum barbatum*, *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* and *P. niveum* (trichome).

Species	Floral Parts	Trichome type	Glandular trichomes	Papillae
	Dorsal Sepal	Ш	Absent	Absent
	Synsepal	Ш	Absent	Absent
P. barbatum	Lateral Petals	11, 111	Absent	Absent
	Labellum	II, III, V	Absent	Absent
	Staminode	I, II, III	Absent	Absent
	Dorsal Sepal	I, III, V, VI	Absent	Absent
P. callosum	Synsepal	I, II, III, V	Absent	Absent
var. <i>sublaeve</i>	Lateral Petals	II, V	Absent	Absent
	Labellum	I, III, V	Absent	Present
	Staminode	V	Absent	Absent
	Dorsal Sepal	I, IV, V	Absent	Absent
	Synsepal	I, IV, V	Absent	Absent
P. niveum	Lateral Petals	Ш	Absent	Absent
	Labellum	II, III, V, VI	Present	Present
	Staminode	V	Absent	Absent

Paphiopedilum species. The contact cells obscurity could be a characteristic of a genus. Nevertheless, the stomata can be clearly distinguished based on the prominence of the guard cells and their shape. Solereder (1908) and Carpenter (2005) strongly emphasized the diagnostic importance of the morphology of the guard cells and their cuticular ledges. The outline of the pair of guard cells as seen in surface view is usually constant in the examined specimens and is also possible a characteristic of a genus. Also, stomata in P. barbatum differs significantly from P. callosum var. sublaeve and P. niveum by having clear and noticeably contact cells, epidermal cells and peristomatal rim but rather obscure guard cells. Here, we can also deliberately compare between P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve based on the stomata and stomatal formation when observed from the top view. In comparison, stomata in P. callosum var. sublaeve were superficial and standout distinctly with prominently raised guard cells. P. niveum had stomata slightly raised and irregular-shaped guard cells that may provide a unique diagnostic character at the species level. Based on the general designation of the stomatal size provided in Wilkinson (1979), the stomata present on the slipper orchids are termed as 'large', similar to *Corybas holtumii* and *Corybas selangorensis* (see Besi *et al.* 2019).

Dominance of simple non-glandular trichomes and occurrence of variegated stomata on the floral surface of the Paphiopedilum species may separate genus Paphiopedilum from other genera within the Cypripedioideae subfamily. In many cases, such trichomes were living cells whereas in others they were dead, and the protoplasm was replaced by air spaces (Fahn 1988) and easily distorted or torn as observed on the labellum of P. callosum var. sublaeve. Different types of trichomes possess varies morphological characteristics were distinctively occurred on these floral surfaces of Paphiopedilum species (Table 5). The simple non-glandular trichomes were dominant on the floral surface. In contrast, the papillae were scarce, localized and only occurred on the labellum of P. callosum var. sublaeve (globular and striated) and P. niveum (tall and striated). This suggests the presence of papillae with varied morphology on the labellum of Paphiopedilum are of systematic significance and can be used as a diagnostic character to distinguish them further morphologically. There were pustular glands observed on the sepals and petals that resemble either subsessile trichomes or papillae. Short and rugose nonglandular trichomes were formed by two to five cell tiers. The trichomes occurred at different length ranged from 61.11 µm to 1533.3 µm for P. barbatum, 48 µm to 190 µm for P. callosum var. sublaeve and 100 µm to 240 µm for P. niveum.

The presence of different types of simple nonglandular trichomes on the floral parts of the studied *Paphiopedilum* species denotes species specificity. It provides a piece of useful evidence for delineation of the confusable *P. barbatum* and *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve*. Morphologically, *P. barbatum* differs only by having dorsal sepal broadly ovate, petals with warts on upper or both margins and sometimes on the petals blades too, whereas *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* has dorsal sepal broadly ovate to suborbicular and petals with warts on upper margin only (Seidenfaden & Wood 1992, Leong 2014). Clearly, these diagnostic characters are inconspicuous

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without a definite boundary to discriminate and sometimes misleading. Therefore, here, floral-surface micromorphology serves as a steadfast advanced technique for the taxonomic circumscription of the confusable P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve. Micromorphologically, P. barbatum varies in the diversity of non-glandular trichomes on its floral parts compared to its complex, P. callosum var. laeve (Table 5). Conspicuously, the former species has the longest Type III non-glandular trichomes (1233.3–1533.3 µm) on the margin of its lateral petals, noticeably elongated and moniliform with topmost cell very narrow, which such trichomes were absent in the latter species. Also, glandular trichomes occurred in P. callosum var. sublaeve but lacking in P. barbatum. Variability of the micromorphology observed on the staminode is systematically insignificant at infrasubgeneric level. Notwithstanding, a combination of the micromorphological characteristics on staminode separates P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve in subgenus Paphiopedilum.

The existence of certain trichome types allows differentiation of the *Paphiopedilum* species from different subgenera. Unlike *P. barbatum* and *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve*, *P. niveum* contrasts by having dense hairs (Type I non-glandular trichomes) along the margin of the staminode (Fig. 4). Besides having distinctive diversity of non-glandular trichomes, the confined distribution of different types of papillae found only on the labellum for *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* and *P. niveum* are also distinguishing. The trichomes' length and papillae' diameters were not much diverse between the studied species.

Overall, the present research suggests floralsurface features to be very useful in delimitation of the infrageneric taxa from different subgenera of the genus by epicuticular ornamentation, stomata and trichomes. The data from this study laid evidence for delimiting two confusable *Paphiopedilum* species. It provides conclusive proof to support the molecular phylogenetic analyses and validates the possibility of natural hybridization occurrence in between *P. barbatum* and *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve*. Moreover, it demonstrates that the former is indeed distinct from the latter. The floral-surface characteristics differentiate species from two different subgenera to some extent based on the presence of different types

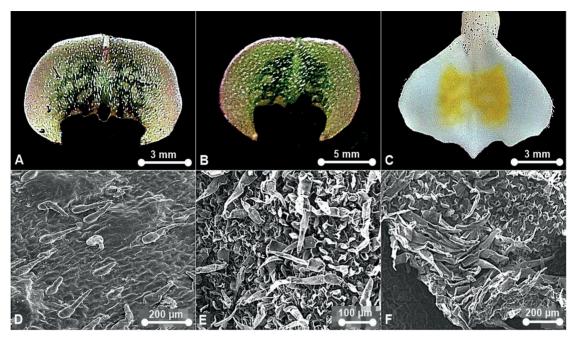


FIGURE 4. Staminode of *Paphiopedilum* and the epicuticular surface. **A**, **D**. *Paphiopedilum barbatum*. **B**, **E**. *Paphiopedilum callosum* var. *sublaeve*. **C**, **F**. *Paphiopedilum niveum*. Photographs by Edward Entalai Besi and Lam Shun Jia.

of epicuticular ornamentation and papillae on the labellum, and the diverse variation and distribution of the non-glandular trichomes on sepals and petals. Also, the occurrence of different formation, cuticular striation and ornamentation of stomata is of taxonomic interest in this study and can be used to identify the species.

Physioecological aspects.— The presence of dense epicuticular waxes on the floral surface of the selected Peninsular Malaysian Paphiopedilum species raises questions. One clear role of waxes is to protect the plant from desiccation and herbivorous insects (Davies & Turner 2004). It may or may not offer food rewards. In Maxillaria, one of the important ways insect attraction is achieved involves the secretion of waxlike material rich in lipids and protein (van der Pijl & Dodson 1966, Davies et al. 2003). It is also reported that wasps may also collect wax from the labella of Maxillaria (Dressler 1993). Dense waxes on the labellum of P. callosum var. sublaeve and P. niveum may attract potential pollinators. Male Bactrocera fruit flies are often observed to probe the labellum, sepals and petals of Bulbophyllum species. The probing and licking behaviours displayed by the flies suggests that

the pollinators' reward may be compounds released by the flower (Ong *et al.* 2011).

Orchid floral stomata are non-functional and practically closed in orchid flowers (Hew et al. 1980). Our finding supports this claim as the stomata found in the studied species were closed (Fig. 2K,L and Fig. 3F), or opened with a small aperture (Fig. 3E,G). Also, there were nectarostomata without a presence of guard cells (Fig. 2M), which might indicate modified stomata, cavities where the waxes are exuded through on the cuticular surface, known to occur and are of great diagnostic value in some plant species (Pant & Mehra 1965, Wilkinson 1979, Chattopadhyay et al. 2014, Prashanta Kumar & Krishnaswamy 2014, Baruah 2017, Verma et al. 2018, Besi et al. 2019, Besi et al. 2020). Notably, apertures formed by the detachment of the trichomes which could have been mistakenly identified as stomata in plant specimens (Fig. 2I,J). Waxes observed on floral surface indicates an active function of the unspecialized osmophores on the floral parts of orchid species, the regular epidermal cells secreting volatile oils (Toh et al. 2017). Identical to our previous finding on Corybas anatomical profiling work, the trichomes and stomata of the Paphiopedilum species offer more values on anatomical adaptions in defence and pollination rather than for the release of fragrance (Besi et al. 2019). The densely hairy staminode may mimic an aphid mimicry as aphidophagous hoverflies lay eggs on false brood sites on their flowers (Bänziger et al. 2012, Jin et al. 2014). Paphiopedilum flowers are postulated rewardless or nectarless to the pollinators and luring hoverflies or bees by deceit (Bänziger 1996, 2011, Bänziger et al. 2012). This is supported by the lack of glandular trichomes, papillae and stomata occurring on the labellum and reproductive parts. However, thorough observations are lacking for Malaysian species (Leong 2014). The low occurrence of glandular trichomes, papillae and stomata on the floral parts explains the unscented flowers of P. barbatum and P. callosum var. sublaeve. Except, the labellum of P. callosum var. sublaeve and P. niveum, although lacking trichomes, are heavily clothed with papillae. Though no odour is detectable to the human nose in P. niveum, when a live flower is wrapped in a plastic bag for a couple of hours, P. niveum release a faint, pleasant fragrance (Bänziger et al. 2012). Therefore, the papillae may function as osmophores for P. niveum.

Conclusions. Features of floral parts surfaces, such as epicuticular ornamentation, stomata (formation, distribution, ornamentation and size), trichome (distribution and type) are recognized as useful to differentiate highly confusable species and delimit species from different subgenera of *Paphiopedilum*. SEM analysis of floral-surface micromorphology supports a segregation of a narrowly distributed *P. callosum* var. *sublaeve* from *P. barbatum*, a widespread species in Peninsular Malaysia. The latter species is known to produce a wide range of flower morphology

and colouration along the elevation gradients. All these diagnostic characters based on floral-surface morphology of these selected species should be used with care at intergeneric and intersubgeneric levels. It should be noted that these characters are far from being enough at this time to fully discriminate *Paphiopedilum* species in Peninsular Malaysia. A larger sampling is required to know the level of variation of the analyzed characters and to be able to make stronger conclusions. The usefulness of these floral microcharacters in biological and ecological aspects is difficult to predict based on the current preliminary finding. A further investigation on chemical compound released by *Paphiopedilum* flowers in relation to pollination mechanism is highly recommended.

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ABSTRACT. Two new species of orchids, *Octomeria pacii*, and *O. panguiensis* are described and illustrated from Cordillera del Cóndor, Ecuador; likewise, information is provided on their distribution, habitat, and conservation status. These species differ from other species in the genus by their floral and vegetative characteristics and their apparent reproductive strategy of cleistogamy. *Octomeria pacii* is similar to *Octomeria deceptrix*, but differs in the caespitose habit, the ramicauls compressed along their entire length, the narrowly elliptical leaves, the autogamous flowers, the translucent white sepals suffused with magenta and the obovate, white lip, marked with magenta. *Octomeria panguiensis* is similar to *O. werneri*, but differs by the larger, shortly repent plants with lanceolate leaves, the cleistogamous flowers, the translucent white-colored sepals, the 5-veined lateral sepals and the oblong-trilobed lip with the apical lobe tridentate.

RESUMEN. Dos nuevas especies de orquídeas, *Octomeria pacii* y *O. panguiensis*, se describen e ilustran de la Cordillera del Cóndor, Ecuador; así mismo, se brinda información sobre su distribución, hábitat y estado de conservación. Estas especies difieren de otras en el género por las características florales y vegetativas y por la aparente estrategia reproductiva de cleistogamia. *Octomeria pacii* es similar a *Octomeria deceptrix*, pero difiere en el hábito cespitoso, los ramicaules comprimidos en toda su longitud, las hojas estrechamente elípticas, las flores autógamas, los sépalos blancos translúcidos y teñidos de magenta y el labio blanco obovado, manchado con magenta. *Octomeria panguiensis* es similar a *O. werneri* pero se diferencia por las plantas más grandes y repentes, con hojas lanceoladas, las flores cleistógamas, los sépalos translúcidos de color blanco, los sépalos laterales con 5 nervaduras y el labelo oblongo trilobulado con el lóbulo apical tridentado.

KEYWORDS/PALABRAS CLAVE: Autocompatibilidad, self-compatibility, autopolinizacion, self-pollination, cleistogamia, cleistogamy, *Octomeria deceptrix*, *Octomeria werneri*

Introduction. *Octomeria* R.Br. includes around 160 species distributed from Belize to northern Argentina and the Antilles, with the center of diversity being from the Guianas to southern Brazil (Forster 2007, Forster *et al.* 2012, Karremans *et al.* 2019). Twentyseven species are described from Ecuador, *Octomeria candidae* Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero, being the most recent (Vélez-Abarca *et al.* 2020).

Plants of the genus are epiphytic, rupicolous, and more rarely, terricolous (Forster 2007); as well, repent to caespitose. The flowers are fasciculate to solitary, emerging from the apex of the ramicaul. The sepals and petals are generally similar in shape and color, but unequal in size, and the lateral sepals are free or occasionally connate. The column is semiterete, usually with a sub-apical anther and stigma, and the pol-

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linarium is generally made up of eight pollinia, hence the generic name, except for one species (*O. splendida* Garay & Dunst.), which has six pollinia (Luer 2010).

Orchid species have evolved several floral characteristics that commonly ensure cross-pollination (Johnson & Steiner 2000). Based on some studies of the pollination systems in Pleurothallidinae, it has been possible to determine that the orchid species within the subtribe are generally self-incompatible (Borba *et al.* 2001). According to the recent phylogenetic studies of Pleurothallidinae, *Octomeria* together with *Atopoglossum, Brachionidium*, and *Sansonia* form an early diverging group called *Octomeria* affinity (Karremans 2016) and is believed to be mostly self-incompatible and myophilic (Karremans & Díaz-Morales 2019, dos Santos *et al.* 2020).

In a study carried out in Octomeria grandiflora Lindl. and O. crassifolia Lindl., self-incompatibility was confirmed. Also, these species are pollinated by flies of the Sciaridae family (Diptera), which are attracted by the nectar at the base of the lip (Barbosa et al. 2009). However, not all orchid species possess adaptations that ensure cross-pollination. Some have structural modifications in the flowers that ensure selfpollination, like a reduced or vestigial rostellum and a perianth which never opens (Catling 1990). Some examples of cleistogamy in Pleurothallidinae are: Masdevallia cleistogama Luer, some plants of Pabstiella tripterantha (Rchb.f.) F.Barros, Pleurothallis cleistogama Luer, and Restrepiella lueri Pupulin & Bogarín (Luer 1998, 2001, 2006, Pupulin & Bogarín 2007). Here, we described two new species of Octomeria recently discovered in the southeast of Ecuador with the adaptation to self-pollination, one of them exhibits cleistogamy.

Material and methods. Specimens were collected during a comparative study on the orchids of the Cordillera del Cóndor. Some of these were grown and photographed at the Orquideario la Paphinia in Zamora, Ecuador. The measurements of the vegetative and floral parts were made from living material. Photographs were taken using a Panasonic® FZ300 or Canon® EOS 1100D camera and Raynox DCR-150 50 mm, EFS 18-58 mm, and +10 Kernel Pro Optics 58 mm close-up lenses. The new species were compared to those previously described (Luer 2010, Luer 2011).

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TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Octomeria pacii Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero, *sp. nov.* (Fig. 1, 2A, 3A, 4).

TYPE: Ecuador. Zamora: Chinchipe, Cordillera del Cóndor flank, 1010 m, 12 Oct. 2020, *L. Vélez. LV0020* (holotype: ECUAMZ!).

DIAGNOSIS: Similar to *Octomeria deceptrix* Luer, but differs in the caespitose habit (*vs.* shortly repent), the ramicauls compressed along their entire length (*vs.* ramicauls terete below, compressed above) with narrowly elliptical leaves (1.5–2.5 cm wide *vs.* elliptical-ovate, 1.5–3.0 cm wide), the translucent white suffused with magenta sepals (*vs.* white to yellow, often suffused with rose), the obovate, white, marked with magenta lip, (*vs.* yellow, suffused with red-purple, oblong) and the laterally ribbed column (*vs.* smooth). *Octomeria pacii* is also distinguished by the autogamous flowers (*vs.* allogamous).

Plant medium in size, up to 23 cm tall, epiphytic, caespitose. Roots slender, undulated, 1 mm in diameter. Ramicauls stout, erect, 8-14 cm long, ancipitous below, with 3-5 internodes enclosed by imbricating, tubular sheaths, the lower sheath shorter than the rest. Leaf erect, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical $8-15 \times 1.5-2.5$ cm, sulcate adaxially and slightly carinate abaxially, margin entire, apex acute, cuneate below into a 0.5-1.5 cm long petiole. Inflorescence single-flowered, produced from a fascicle at the apex of the ramicaul, peduncle cylindrical 1 mm long; floral bract tubular, 3 mm long; pedicel cylindrical, 2 mm long; ovary 3.5-4.0 mm long, terete, longitudinally sulcate. Sepals translucent white suffused with magenta, free, glabrous. Dorsal sepal ovate, subacute $9-11 \times 5-6$ mm, 5-veined. Laterals sepals free, ovate, acute, $9-11 \times 3-4$ mm, 5-veined, oblique. Petals translucent white with suffused with magenta, elliptical-ovate, acute, $10-11 \times 3-4$ mm, 3-veined. Lip white, marked centrally with magenta, glabrous, panduriform, trilobated, with erose apical margins, the apex minutely cuspidate, 6.0×3.5 mm; the lateral lobes erect, oblique, subacute, antrorse, below the middle, the disc with a pair longitudinal, slightly crooked calli emerging at the middle; the base broadly truncate, hinged to the column-foot.

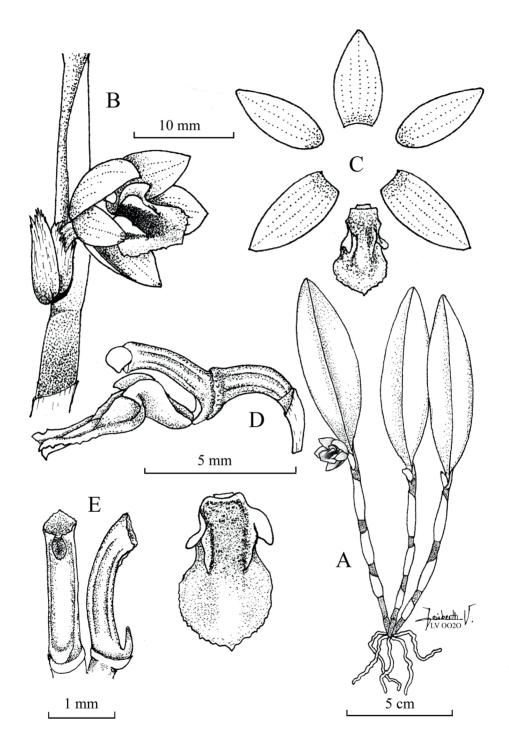


FIGURE 1. Octomeria pacii Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero. A. Habit. B. Flower in 3/4 view. C. Dissected perianth.
D. Part of the pedicel, ovary, column and lip in lateral view and lip adaxial view. E. Column in ventral and lateral view.
Illustration by Leisberth Vélez, based on the holotype, Vélez-Abarca LV-0020 (ECUAMZ).

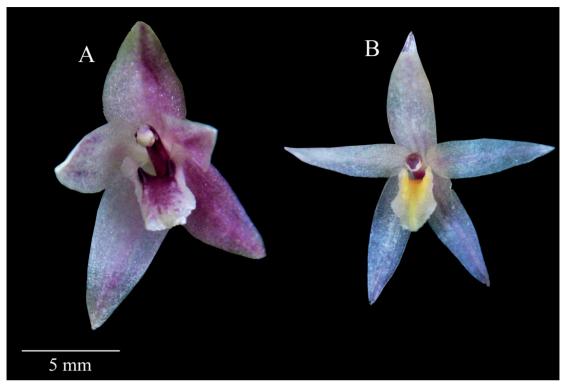


FIGURE 2. Comparison of flowers. A. Octomeria pacii Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero, in situ. B. Octomeria deceptrix Luer, in situ. Photos by Leisberth Vélez.



FIGURE 3. Comparison of the ovary, column and lip in lateral view. A. Octomeria pacii Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero. B. Octomeria deceptrix Luer. Photos by Marco M. Jiménez.



FIGURE 4. Comparison of the rostellum. A. Column of *Octomeria pacii* Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero, with vestigial rostellum. B. The pollinia reaching the stigma in *O. pacii*. C. Column of *O. deceptrix* Luer with pronounced rostellum indicated by an arrow. Photos by Marco M. Jiménez.

Column red-purple, semiterete, ribbed longitudinally at each side, 3.0–3.5 mm long; the anther subapical and a ventral stigma, clinandrium slightly irregular, rostellum vestigial, foot 0.2–0.3 mm long. *Anther cap* white. *Pollinia* yellow, 8, in 2 sets of 4.

PARATYPE: Ecuador. Zamora-Chinchipe: near Zamora, 1278 m, 13 December 2019, *M. Jiménez 843* (HUTPL!).

EPONYMY: Named after Patrick Paci, passionate lover of the forests and slipper orchids of Ecuador and generous donor and supporter of this research.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT: Octomeria pacii grows as an epiphyte under the shade of small trees covered by mosses and lichens in premontane and lower montane forests over a sandstone plateau of the Cordillera del Cóndor. Plants generally grow in windy areas at elevations of 1000 m. This species has also been found growing in steep slopes of the eastern Andes of Ecuador, near Zamora, at an elevation of 1300 m.

Octomeria pacii is very similar to O. deceptrix (Fig. 2B, 3B, 4C), but it differs in the caespitose habit with an inconspicuous rhizome (vs. shortly repent rhizome), the compressed ramicauls (vs. ramicauls terete below, slightly compressed above), leaf narrowly elliptical, $8-15 \times 1.5-2.5$ cm (vs. elliptical-ovate, 5-7 \times 1.5–3.0 cm), the longer ovary, 3.5–4.0 mm long (vs. 2.5-3.0 mm long). The flowers have translucent white sepals suffused with magenta (vs. white to yellow, often suffused with rose), the dorsal sepal is ovate and wider, $0.9-1.1 \times 0.5-0.6$ cm, 5-veined (vs. the elliptical-obovate dorsal sepal, $0.6-0.9 \times 0.2-0.3$ cm, 3-veined) and the petals are wider, 3-4 mm wide (vs. 2-2.5 mm wide). The lip is white, marked with magenta, glabrous, obovate, $3.5-4.0 \times 6.0-6.5$ mm (vs. the lip yellow, suffused with red-purple, oblong, $4.7-5.0 \times$ 2.0 mm), the midlobe suborbicular with a slightly cuspidate apex, (vs. subpentagonal with the apex subtruncate or obtuse,) and the disc with prominent calli (vs. low). It is also distinguished by the laterally ribbed column (vs. smooth) and the autogamous flowers (vs. allogamous). Octomeria pacii shows a unique floral feature: the presence of two longitudinal ribs, one at each side of the column compared to the smooth and terete column of the rest of the species in the genus.

About one year ago, we tracked the species, and

we observed capsule production in all flowers that caught our attention. Therefore, four specimens were cultivated for eight months, and the same seed pod production was observed without withering of any flower. While dissecting the flower of the species for the line drawing, it was noted repeatedly that the pollinia easily entered the stigma (Fig. 4B). This because flowers lack a prominent rostellum that prevents selfpollination (Catling 1991) as in other *Octomeria* species (Fig. 4). *Octomeria pacii* has a vestigial rostellum (Fig. 4A) and we assume that it could influence the successful production of capsules in each flower. In the future, it should be demonstrated if the species is selfpollinated and if the seed are viable.

CONSERVATION STATUS: This species has been only recorded in the province of Zamora Chinchipe. Populations of this species grow in poorly managed and disturbed forests, where mining is practiced. Although numerous individuals have been found, the species is at risk due to its occurrence outside protected areas where habitat destruction is rampant.

Octomeria panguiensis Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero, *sp. nov*. (Fig. 5–7A).

TYPE: Ecuador. Zamora: Chinchipe, Cordillera del Cóndor flank, 890 m, 17 Aug. 2020, *L. Vélez LV 0012* (holotype: ECUAMZ!).

DIAGNOSIS: Similar to *Octomeria werneri* Luer & Thoerle in the cleistogamous flowers, but differs by the larger plants (up to 33.0 cm tall *vs.* 10.5 cm), shortly repent (*vs.* caespitose) with lanceolate leaves (*vs.* narrowly elliptical), the translucent white-colored sepals (*vs.* light rose-colored), the 5-veined lateral sepals (*vs.* 4-veined), and the oblong-trilobed lip with the apical lobe tridentate (*vs.* panduriform with subretuse apical lobe).

Plant large, up to 33 cm tall, epiphytic, shortly repent. *Rhizome* stout, 6–8 mm thick, 6–12 mm long between ramicauls. *Roots* slender, flexuous, 1 mm in diameter. *Ramicauls* stout, suffused with purple, erect, 12–20 cm long, compressed, ancipitous below, with 4–5 internodes enclosed by imbricating, tubular sheaths, the lower one shorter than the others, which tear with age. *Leaf* erect, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical to lanceolate, $15–22 \times 2.5–3.5$ cm,

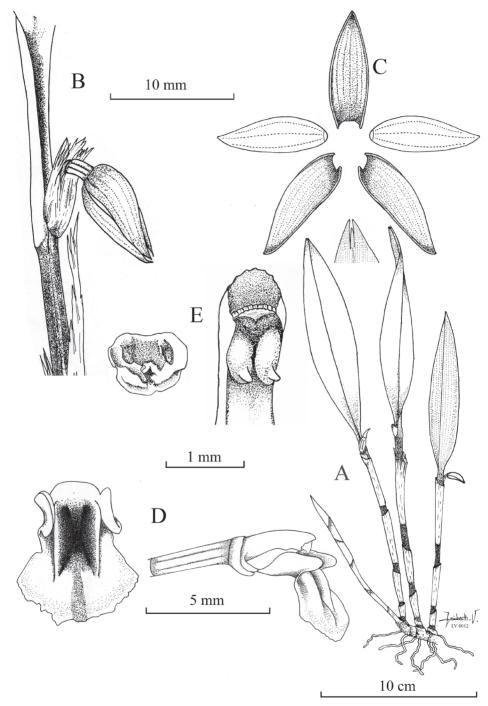


FIGURE 5. Octomeria panguiensis Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero. A. Habit. B. Autogamous flower in 3/4 view. C. Dissected perianth. D. Lip in adaxial view and part of the pedicel, ovary, column and lip in lateral view. E. Anther cap in abaxial view and column in abaxial view and apex of the column in ventral view. Illustration by Leisberth Vélez, based on the holotype, Vélez-Abarca LV-0012 (ECUAMZ).

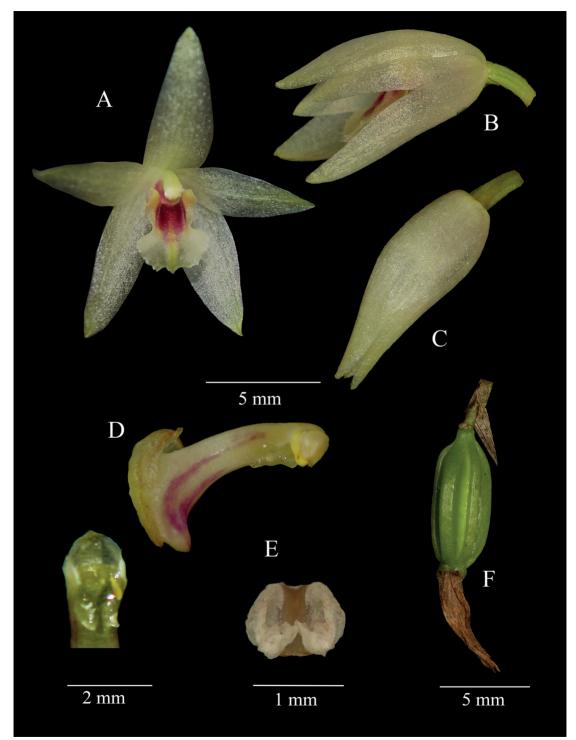


FIGURE 6. Flower parts and fruit of *Octomeria panguiensis* Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero. A. Flower fully open.
B. Flower in partially open state. C. Flower fully closed. D. Column viewed laterally. E. Anther cap seen abaxially. F. Capsule. Figure by Leisberth Vélez from photos by Lesiberth Vélez and Marco M. Jiménez.

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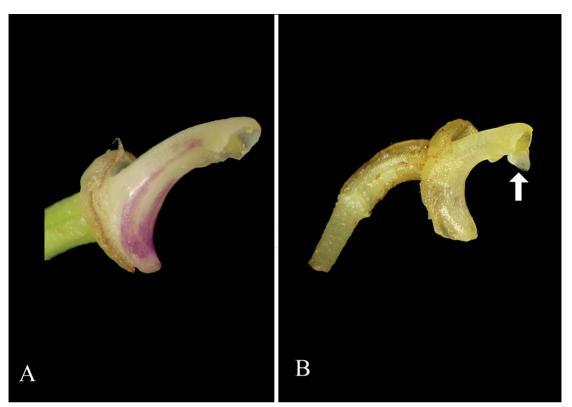


FIGURE 7. Comparison of the rostellum. A. Octomeria panguiensis Vélez-Abarca, M.M.Jiménez & Baquero, with vestigial rostellum. B. Octomeria doucetteana Doucette ex L.E.Matthews, with pronounced well-developed rostellum. Photos by Marco M. Jiménez.

cuneate below into a 1.0-1.5 cm long petiole, the mid-vein sulcate adaxially and slightly carinate abaxially, margin entire, involute, apex tridentate, and slightly acuminate. Inflorescence 1-3 single simultaneous flowers in a fascicle from the apex of the ramicaul, cleistogamous, rarely partially opened, peduncle cylindrical, 1.0-1.5 mm long; floral bract tubular, 3 mm long; *pedicel* cylindrical, 4 mm long; ovary 5-6 mm long, terete, longitudinally sulcate. Sepals translucent white-colored, with yellowishgreen apex, free, glabrous, slightly concave. Dorsal sepal elliptical, acute $1.0-1.2 \times 0.3-0.4$ cm, 5-veined. Laterals sepals, elliptical, acute, slightly oblique, $1.0-1.2 \times 0.3-0.4$ cm, 5-veined. Petals translucent white, elliptic to ovate, apex yellowish green, acute, $0.8-0.9 \times 0.3-0.4$ cm, 3-veined. Lip whitish yellow, the disc marked with red-purple, glabrous, oblong-trilobed, erose margins towards the apex, $5-6 \times 3-4$ mm, the lateral lobes erect, oblique, rounded at the tip, antrorse; the middle lobe, broadly

spatulate, broadly tridentate at the apex, the margins minutely erose, the disc with a pair of longitudinal calli born close to the base which extend up to the second third of the lip; the base broadly truncate, hinged to the tip of the column foot. *Column* white semiterete, 3.5-4.0 mm long, stigma ventral, with two short, fang-like structures at the lower side of the stigma, clinandrium slightly irregular, rostellum vestigial. *Anther cap* subapical $1.0 \times 0.8 \text{ mm}$, white. *Pollinia* 8, in 2 sets of 4, yellow. *Fruit* cylindrical to fusiform with three longitudinal keels, $6 \times 3 \text{ mm}$.

EPONYMY: Named after El Pangui canton, in southeast Ecuador, where the species was discovered.

DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT: Octomeria panguiensis is known only from the Shagmi mountain range in the Cordillera del Cóndor region, Zamora Chinchipe province, southern Ecuador. It grows as an epiphyte, forming dense populations at the bases of trees on the slopes of a sandstone plateau. The elevation range of

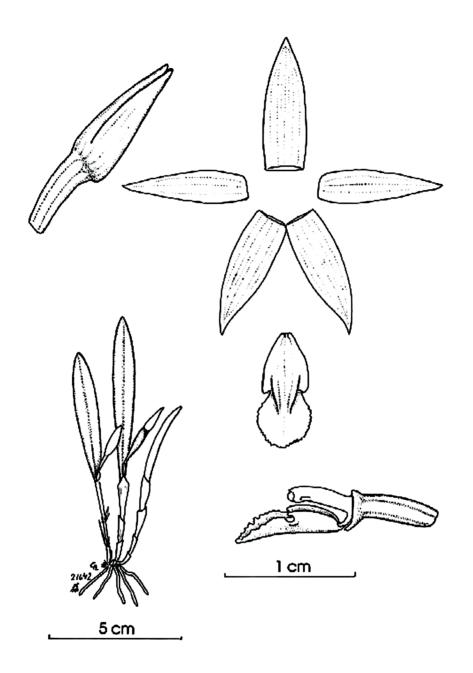


FIGURE 8. Drawing of *Octomeria werneri* Luer & Thoerle. Original drawings by Carlyle Luer, Courtesy of the Harvard University Herbaria.

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this species goes from 890 to 1000 m of elevation. It is not selective in its host.

The most similar species to *Octomeria panguiensis* is *O. werneri* (Fig. 8); both species are found in southeastern Ecuador and are cleistogamous. The main feature that distinguishes them is the size of the plants and flowers, *O. panguiensis* triples in size to *O. werneri*. Also, the leaf-ramicaul ratio is different, *O. panguiensis* has shorter leaves than the ramicauls; in contrast, *O. werneri* has longer leaves than the ramicauls.

Octomeria is mainly characterized by being selfincompatible (dos Santos et al. 2020). Luer (2011) published the first cleistogamous species of the genus from Ecuador, naming it O. werneri. Octomeria panguiensis is the second Ecuadorian species that bears cleistogamous flowers (Fig. 6C) and is self-pollinated. Ordinarily, the rostellum acts as a mechanical barrier that prevents contact between the pollinarium and the stigmatic cavity of the flower, avoiding self-pollination (Catling 1991, Arditti 1992), for example, Octomeria doucetteana Doucette ex L.E.Matthews, has a fairly developed rostellum (Fig. 7B). In O. panguiensis, cleistogamy happens because most of the flowers never open (except for two observed flowers since it was discovered) and due to the presence of a vestigial rostellum (Fig. 6D, 7A) that would malfunction as a mechanical barrier between the pollinarium and the stigma, thus allowing autogamy. It has been possible to observe the flowers of O. panguiensis in three states: from about 100 observed flowers in situ belonging to 40 specimens, the most common state was with completely closed flowers. In contrast, partially open and completely open has been observed only once for each case (Figs. 6A-B). No partially open to open flowers have been observed in situ.

CONSERVATION STATUS: The primary forests of the El Pangui canton are characterized by severe human im-

pact due to timber and mineral extraction, which leads to the modification and loss of the native vegetation. Octomeria panguiensis is known from a single population in the Cordillera del Cóndor. Considering the high endemism of several taxa in the Pleurothallidinae (for example Octomeria condorensis Luer & Hirtz, Masdevallia condorensis Luer & Hirtz, Porroglossum dactylum Luer, Pleurothallis paquishae to) at the Cordillera del Cóndor and one year long in situ research, O. panguiensis is not expected to grow elsewhere. Adding that the site where O. panguiensis is known from and other potential areas are under mining activities (both legal concessions by the Ecuadorian government and illegal mining), the species described here is considered under threat. Based in the IUCN categorization by applying the B1 criteria (extent of occurrence) and the conditions bi, ii, and iii (continuing decline observed, estimated, inferred or projected in any of (i) extent of occurrence; (ii) area of occupancy; (iii) area, extent and/or quality of habitat; (iv) number of locations or subpopulations; (v) number of mature individuals) and ci, ii and iii (extreme fluctuations in any of (i) extent of occurrence; (ii) area of occupancy; (iii) number of locations or subpopulations; (iv) number of mature individuals) O. panguiensis is recommended as an endangered species.

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A NEW SPECIES OF *EURYSTYLES* (ORCHIDACEAE) IS EXPOSED BY A FIERCE HURRICANE IN PUERTO RICO

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ABSTRACT. A new species of *Eurystyles* (Orchidaceae: Orchidoideae, Cranichideae, Spiranthinae) is proposed, *E. luisortizii* Ackerman *sp. nov.*, which is most similar to *E. ananassocomos* (Rchb.f.) Schltr. from which it differs by a suite of floral traits. This species represents the first confirmed record of the genus for the island of Puerto Rico, bringing the *Eurystyles* species count for the West Indies to four.

RESUMEN. Se propone una nueva especie de *Eurystyles* (Orchidaceae: Orchidoideae, Cranichideae, Spiranthinae), *E. luisortizii* Ackerman *sp. nov.*, la cual es similar a *E. ananassocomos* (Rchb.f.) Schltr., de la que se diferencia por un conjunto de rasgos florales. Esta especie representa el primer registro confirmado del género para la isla de Puerto Rico, lo que eleva el recuento de especies de *Eurystyles* para las Indias Occidentales a cuatro.

KEYWORDS/PALABRAS CLAVE: Cranichideae, Flora de Puerto Rico, Orchidoideae, orquídeas de las Indias Occidentales, Puerto Rico flora, Spiranthinae, West Indies orchids

Introduction. The genus Eurystyles Wawra (Orchidaceae: Orchidoideae: Cranichideae; Spiranthinae) comprises of approximately 24 species and is widely distributed from Mexico, Greater Antilles, Central America to South America (Salazar et al. 2018, Bogarín 2020). Recently, three species have been reported for the West Indies (Ackerman et al. 2014). While no previous specimens of Eurystyles from Puerto Rico are known, there has been an unpublished report of the E. annassacomos (Rchb.f.) Schltr. from the early 1970s. Professor Roy Woodbury of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, found a specimen on Cerro La Santa of the Sierra de Cayey, displayed it at a local orchid show but did not make a specimen of it. Unfortunately, the plant perished, and the locality was soon cleared and flattened to construct communication towers (Woodbury pers. com. 1981). Subsequent searches by Woodbury and others (including JDA) proved unsuccessful (Ackerman 1995). While Woodbury was a very good floristic botanist with a special interest in orchids, his determination that the plant was E. annassacomos may be doubtful. Until Donald D. Dod (1977, 1978) studied the genus in Hispaniola, all Eurystyles in the West Indies were regarded as E. annassacomos. We now know that there are at least three

species in the Greater Antilles, and *E. annassacomos* is verified for only Jamaica (the type locality) and Hispaniola (Ackerman *et al.* 2014).

For nearly five decades, no new sightings of Eurystyles in Puerto Rico had been made until two months after the devastating September 2017 Hurricane María, a category four storm with sustained winds 250 km/h. One of us (Luis) was hiking on a ridge above Lago Garzas in the municipality of Adjuntas near his family's coffee farm. While walking the trail and climbing over and around broken and fallen tree trunks and branches, he found several plants of Eurystyles on a tree trunk. Luis looked among the numerous broken trees in the area but did not find other plants of Eurystyles. Then in the next season (December 2018), with Luis no longer on the island, JDA located the trail using Luis's geographical coordinates. Unfortunately, the forest was so damaged that the trail was impassable due to fallen trees, massive invasive grasses, and smothering vines that had grown up since the storm.

Upon examination of the specimens that Luis collected, we concluded that they were similar to the specimen of *E. annassacomos* that Bobbi Angell illustrated for the Orchid Flora of the Greater Antilles, but differed by having slightly smaller flowers, a lip lack-

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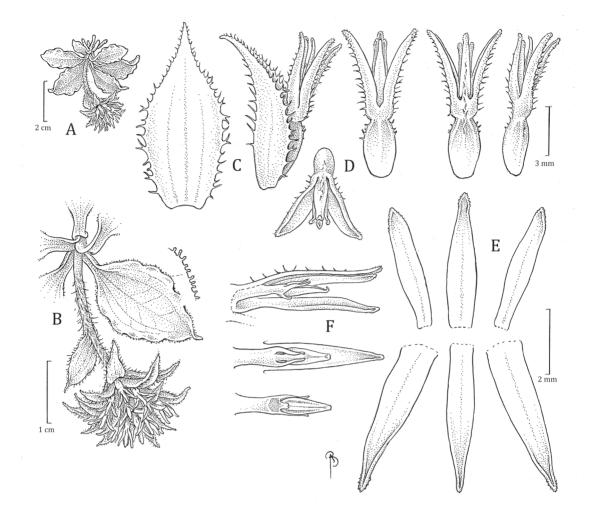


FIGURE 1. Eurystyles luisortizii Ackerman. A. Plant habit. B. Inflorescence and detail of leaf margin. C. Floral bract. D. Flower, left to right: front, ventral, dorsal and lateral views. E. Perianth, clockwise from upper left: petal, dorsal sepal, petal, lateral sepal, labellum, lateral sepal. F. Dissected flower, top to bottom: lateral view with one sepal and petal removed exposing the column; dorsal view of column with labellum; ventral view of column. Based on pickled material of holotype collection, L. Ortiz Jordan s.n. (US, UPRRP). Illustrated by Bobbi Angell.

ing basal auricles, and being single-veined, rather than having small basal auricles and 3 veins; and by having simple, erect staminodes, not bifurcated and curled.

We propose to designate these plants as representing a new species since flower morphology is both consistent and easily distinguishable from other *Eurystyles* species, especially those from the West Indies, which have been studied in detail (Ackerman *et al.* 2014). Bobbi Angell illustrated both the specimen from the Dominican Republic, which was published in *Orchid Flora of the Greater Antilles* (Fig. 51 in Ackerman *et* *al.* 2014), and the Ortiz specimens examined here (Fig. 1). We can only speculate whether Woodbury collected the same thing five decades ago on Cerro La Santa, which is some 75 km east of the Adjuntas type locality.

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Eurystyles luisortizii Ackerman, sp. nov. (Fig. 1-3.)

TYPE: Puerto Rico. Municipality of Adjuntas: above Lago Garzas, trail from Rd 518 to bridge across the lake, 18°08'2.43"N, 66°44'23.43"W, wet secondary

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FIGURE 2. Eurystyles luisortizii Ackerman. Inflorescence, side view; inflorescence head-on. Photographed by Jonathan López, reproduced with permission.

forest, elev. 783 m, originally collected in November 2017, flowered in cultivation 28 November 2018, *L. Ortiz Jordan s.n.* (holotype: US; isotype: UPRRP).

DIAGNOSIS: *Eurystyles luisortizii* Ackerman is vegetatively similar to *Eurystyles annassacomos* (Rchb.f.) Schltr. but differs florally by having a narrower lip (0.6–0.8 mm vs. 1.5–2.0 mm), a single-veined lip vs. 3-veined, lip lacking basal auricles vs. being auriculate, and the staminodes simple and erect vs. bifurcated and curved (Fig. 1).

An epiphytic, bromeliad-like, pendent, caespitose *herb* up to 4 cm long including the inflorescence. *Roots* few, short, fleshy 6–9 mm long, 2.0–2.5 mm in diameter. *Stem* covered by leaf bases, *ca*. 3–4 mm long. *Leaves* up to 7, rosulate; petioles from an expanded, sheathing base, broad, canaliculate, *ca*. 4.5 × 2.0 mm; blades waxy, shiny grayish-green, soft-textured, ovateelliptical, cuneate, acute with an apiculate tip, with five main arching veins, the mid vein pinnate, 18–25 × 12.5–23.0 mm, margins undulate, pectinate-ciliate. *Inflorescences* terminal, solitary, pendulous; *peduncles* terete, densely ciliate, about 16–20 mm long, 1 mm diameter; *bracts* foliaceous 1–2, elliptical, acuminate, denticulate-ciliate from broad-based hairs, *ca*. 10.0 × 4.5 mm; racemes subcapitate, congested, with 10-20 flowers opened more or less simultaneously; floral bracts slightly exceeding the length of the flowers, foliaceous, elliptical, acuminate when spread, funnel shaped enveloping flower, margins pubescent, hairs with a broad base, denticulate-ciliate, $3.7-4.0 \times 1.6-$ 2.0 mm. Flowers inconspicuous, non-resupinate, tubular, sepals, petals, and lip white. Ovary green, sessile, obovoid, glabrous below, sparsely ciliate above near junction with perianth, somewhat flattened-obovoid, $3.0-3.4 \times 1.5-1.7$ mm. Dorsal sepal lanceolate, minutely warty at apex, otherwise glabrous, $4.0-4.5 \times 1$ mm. Lateral sepals slightly gibbous and fused at the base for 0.5 mm, dorsally hirsute along mid vein, canaliculate, lanceolate, acuminate, dorsally keeled at apex, $4-5 \times 0.8$ mm when spread. *Petals* narrowly oblanceolate, acute-obtuse, adhering to the dorsal sepal, $4.0 \times$ 0.5 mm. Lip narrowly elliptic, lacking basal auricles, apex acuminate, canaliculate, slightly thicker than the rest of the lip and minutely warty, $4.0-4.5 \times 0.6-0.8$ mm. Column subterete, glabrous, 2.8-3.0 mm long, rostellum triangular-ovate, acuminate, $0.5 \times 0.2-0.3$ mm at base, staminodes aciculate, erect, 1.1 mm long anther subsessile, 1.5 mm long, pollinia 2, clavate, mealy, 1.1 mm long. Fruits not seen; post-anthesis

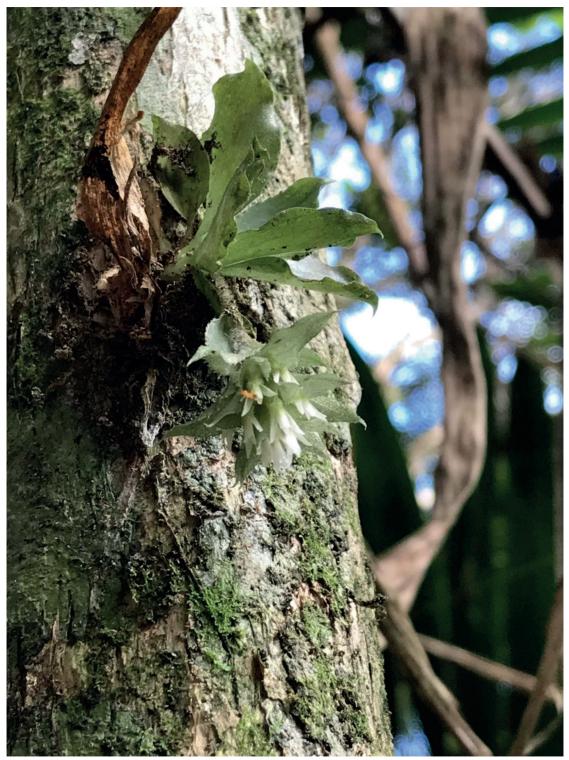


FIGURE 3. Eurystyles luisortizii Ackerman. Plant habit in situ. Photographed by Luis Ortiz Jordan.

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swollen ovaries *ca*. 4 mm long, 2.5 mm in diameter. *Seeds* not seen. Description based on three plants.

ETYMOLOGY: The specific epithet is named for the discoverer, Luis Ortiz Jordan, an avid native orchid enthusiast. He has a Master of Science in Environmental Management and works as an environmental scientist in Florida, USA.

PHENOLOGY: Flowers appear from November to February. Fruiting was not observed. New shoots begin to form as leaves senesce and flowering ends.

REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY: The ovaries of all flowers in the two inflorescences we have studied were swelling, vet they all had intact pollinaria, suggesting apomixis or autogamy may occur, a phenomenon that appears to be common in the genus (Szlachetko 1992). However, despite the plants doing very well in cultivation since late 2017, none of them have produced mature fruits, which of course may mean they require pollinator-mediated pollination. In the 2020-2021 flowering season, we self-pollinated five flowers. The ovaries became swollen, but no seeds formed so the flowers may be self-incompatible. If reproduction is verified to be pollinator-dependent, then attraction is likely based on deception. We carefully dissected flowers to detect nectar, but no free liquid was evident. Vigorous plants in cultivation produce scentless flowers to the human nose and last 4-6 weeks unpollinated. In cultivation under insect-free conditions, ovaries appear to swell somewhat, but fruits do not mature.

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from the type locality, where they grow epiphytically on tree trunks in wet tropical montane forests. If the *Eurystyles* previously reported by Professor Woodbury was *E. luisor-tizii*, then elevational range is up to 900 m.

CONSERVATION STATUS: We think that the situation for *Eurystyles luisortizii* is dire. Only three plants were found 2 m up on the trunk of a severely damaged tree,

the consequence of Hurricane María. Most of the forest canopy was destroyed on ridges and those slopes that faced the brunt of the storm. Winds were so strong that those trees left standing (primarily palms) had the appearance of being power-washed. Epiphytes were ripped off or fell with their hosts, as has happened with other strong hurricanes (Migenis & Ackerman 1993). Nevertheless, small pockets of forest were somewhat intact, and until the forest recovers sufficiently to make detailed surveys of the area, we regard the conservation status of *E. luisortizii* to be data-deficient (DD) but likely endangered.

Key to the species of *Eurystyles* of the West Indies (modified from Ackerman et al. 2014)

- 1. Sepals distinctly inflated basally; high elevations (> 1500 m) ______ *E. alticola*
- 2. Labellum pandurate with a distinct suborbicular apex ______ *E. domingensis*
- 2a. Labellum narrowly elliptic to oblanceolate, with a keel-like acuminate apex ______ 3

3. Labellum basally auriculate, 3-veined; staminodes bifid, the dorsal lobe incurved over the anther _____

E. ananassocomos

 Labellum lacking auricles, 1-veined; staminodes simple, straight _______ E. luisortizii

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS. We thank Jonathan López Colón for permission to use his photographs and Bobbi Angell for permission to use her elegant illustrations. Unfortunately, the New York Botanical Garden Press did not respond to our request to use Bobbi's previously published illustration of *E. ananassocomos* in *Orchid flora of the Greater Antilles* (Ackerman *et al.* 2014). Plant collection was made under the auspices of the Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales, Gobierno de Puerto Rico, permiso científico: 2017-IC-056.

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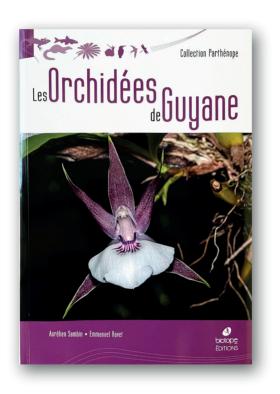
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BOOKS

Les Orchidées de Guyane, by Aurelien Sambin and Emmanuel Rovet. Mèze, France, Éditions Biotope (Collection Parthénope), 2021. ISBN: 978-2-36662-248-5. Volume in octavo, 24 × 16.8 cm, 669 pp., hundreds of color photographs and black and white drawings. In French. Paperbound. 69,00€. Ordering: https://leclub-biotope. com/fr/



Les Orchidées de Guyane is a book with many merits. First of all, the two authors are specialists who, combining their skills, add more than thirty years of activity in the study and documentation of the French Guiana Orchids. Sambin created and directed the Guiana Botanical Garden, where he gathered the largest living orchid collection in the whole country. Ravet, with a particular interest in the scent of orchid flowers, has gathered in over twenty years of research a rich collection of photographs of native species, often taken in the field, many of which illustrate this beautiful book. Secondly, as it was legitimate and right to expect from two authors living in the country of study, the orchids included in their book were actually documented in French Guiana, which represents a huge advantage for the specialist and the enthusiast specifically interested in the floristic composition of the South American country. Last but not least, the book is a very complete catalog of the Guianese orchid flora.

In a beautiful volume of almost 700 pages, which, however, has been designed to be "almost" portable, the authors present 357 species of orchids, inventoried so far in the French Guiana area, for the most part, collected and documented expressly for this book, partly through the study of the historical collections of French Guiana herbaria and the natural history museum collections of continental France. According to a somewhat classical structure, the book begins with a chapter dedicated to French Guiana, in which the geographical situation, the topography, the climate, and the salient aspects of the vegetation and orchid habitats of the South American country are treated. It is a relatively short chapter, of about ten pages, but well-illustrated and which offers the essential hints to a first approach to the geographical complexity and the consequent floristic richness of French Guiana. This is followed by a chapter specifically dedicated to the threats affecting the local orchid flora and the protective measures necessary to preserve it for the future. A short list of 13 species gathers those officially protected by a ministerial decree, now twenty years old.

The third chapter of the book, succinct but wellillustrated, is dedicated to describing the general morphological characters of orchids, with a brief note on their pollination. Of particular interest are a couple of excellent photographs depicting a fly removing the pollinarium from Specklinia grobvi. The fourth chapter presents a dichotomous key for identifying the genera of orchids of French Guiana, which leads to the identification of 120 genera. The key is obviously aimed at a specialist reader, but this is, I would say, inevitable for any type of dichotomous key dedicated to Orchidaceae, which necessarily requires prior knowledge of some details of plant morphology and of the terminology used to describe it, to be used with success. Some of the genera, such as Apedium, Mapinguari, or Rhinorchis, to name a few, will be less familiar to the reader, especially the non-specialist one because they have been used less frequently and have received less general acceptance in the field of botany.

With the fifth and more substantial (almost 600 pages) chapter of this treatment, the individual presentation of the genera begins, offered according to the systematic arrangement proposed by Chase *et al.* (2015), with a dichotomous key to Guianese species, followed by the treatment of individual species. In the case of large genera, as for example, *Epidendrum*, the key is organized by phylogenetic "groups", and the species are treated accordingly to allow for easier comparison among closely related taxa. For each of the species, the name of the taxonomic authority is presented as well as the bibliographic details relating to its publication, the basonym with its original

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publication date, data on the collection location of the type specimen, and, when necessary, a list of synonyms. The description of each taxa follows, generally based on French Guiana material, where their morphometric characters are indicated. Only some of the taxa could not be identified to the species level, and they are therefore presented as related to known species (aff.) or as "sp." when the authors suspect they are taxonomic novelties. Mode of growth, size, density, and local geographic distribution, notes on the scent of flowers and phenology, complete the presentation of each individual species.

All the species, and this is certainly a great merit of the volume, are presented with one or more illustrations, in most cases photographs (many of them in situ), but often accompanied by useful floral diagrams prepared by the main author based on local material. In the rare cases where a photograph was not available, the authors present an illustration, often taken by the original protologue. As far as I can understand, since I am not a specialist in the flora of the Guyanas, the identifications seemed to me in most cases to be completely ascertained. I would just point out that the two photographs of Cochleanthes guyanensis on p. 293 depict in my opinion, two different species, as well as the photographs of Mormolyca rufescens (pp. 376-377). I also suspect that the photograph of Trichocentrum fuscum in the inset of page 271 could represent a different taxon. The photographs of Dichaea pendula (pp. 302-303) show a species completely different from what has been treated under this name for the flora of Costa Rica (Pupulin 2010), but considering that the type of Limodorum pendulum is exactly from French Guiana, I guess we will have to reconsider the application of this name in the Costa Rican flora...

With very rare exceptions, the photographs are of excellent quality, frequently offered in numerous different views for each species, almost always with an additional image of the habit, and allow for an easy identification of the treated species. In several cases, they also offer a clue about the variation of the species: a look at the photographs of *Pescatoria violacea* on pp. 322–323 should convince you about my impression. Out of the hundreds of photographs, I could only spot a couple that were printed upside-down (i.e. *Kegeliella houtteana*, on p. 419). The volume ends with a short glossary, biographical references (reduced to a minimum), and an index of scientific names.

Taken this volume as a whole, it presents an extraordinarily illustrated catalog of the orchids of French Guiana, by force of things uncomplete considering the difficulty of exploration of a country that is still largely covered by virgin forests, but absolutely complete as to our current botanical knowledge. Noteworthy is the relative scarcity of documented Pleurothallids, of which only 63 species were recorded, compared to 41 species in Epidendrum alone. Les Orchidées de Guvane is an instrumental reference work, both for the naturalist interested in the flora of the Guyanese region as well as for the specialist. This treatment occupies an area of botanical knowledge that other recent works on these same regions had not covered, in my opinion, in a sufficiently rigorous way. The work of Sambin and Rovet will for a long time represent an essential reference work on the

French Guiana region, and I believe it should not be missing in any library specializing in Neotropical flora and orchid systematics.

> *Franco Pupulin* Lankester Botanical Garden University of Costa Rica

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