



EPIDENDRUM AYLACOTOGLOSSUM Hágsater
 THE GENUS EPIDENDRUM PART 4

EPIDENDRUM AYLACOTOGLOSSUM Hágsater, sp. nov.

Type: COLOMBIA: Antioquia: cerca de Versailles, June 1957, without collector 5515. Holotype: AMES! (Illustration voucher).

Epidendro renilabio Schltr. simile sed habitu sympodiali successivo laterali, caulibus brevibus, floribus in racemo e basi versus apicem aparientibus, petalis anguste oblanceolatis, labello in centro canaliculato divergens.

Hierba erecta, de crecimiento simpodial sucesivo lateral, de mucho más de 17 cm de alto. **Raíces** no vistas. **Tallos** sencillos, tipo caña, teretes, rectos, cada tallo nuevo se origina aparentemente de un entrenudo intermedio del tallo anterior, 10.5 x 0.22-0.35 cm. **Hojas** 3, agrupadas hacia el ápice de cada tallo; vaina ligeramente infundibuliforme en seco, estriada, 12-22 x 0.3-0.45 cm; lámina angostamente elíptica, aguda, margen entero, lisa, 5.5-7.0 x 1.2-1.4 cm. **Bráctea espátacea** ausente. **Inflorescencia** apical, florece una sola vez, racemosa, arqueado nutante, densa, 5 cm de largo; pedúnculo lateralmente aplanado, ancipitoso, arqueado, desprovisto de brácteas, 1.6 cm de largo. **Flores** ca. 20, simultáneas, resupinadas, amarillas, sin datos de fragancia. **Brácteas florales** ligeramente más largas que el ovario, angostamente triangulares, acuminadas, gradualmente más pequeñas, 9-12 mm de largo. **Ovario** terete, delgado, liso, ligeramente incurvado hacia el ápice, 7.0-8.7 mm de largo. **Sépalos** entreabiertos, libres, angostamente ovado elípticos, aristados, margen extendido, entero, lisos, membranáceos, 10.9-11.1 x 3.7-3.9 mm; el **dorsal** 3-nervado; los **laterales** 5-nervados, oblicuos, con una quilla dorsal apical prominente y erosa. **Pétalos** entreabiertos, libres, angostamente oblanceolados, redondeados, 2-nervados, margen extendido, entero, 9 x 2 mm. **Labelo** unido a la columna, trilobado, profundamente cordado, margen entero, 6.6 x 11 mm, bicalloso, los callos bajos e inconspicuos; disco provisto de un canal central bajo y ancho, liso, con una quilla central baja, delgada y corta dentro del canal, entre los callos; lóbulos laterales orbiculares, 4.8 x 4.6 mm; lóbulo medio más pequeño, transversalmente oblongo rectangular, emarginado, bilobado, formando dos lóbulos semiovalados, oblicuos, 2 x 6.8 mm. **Columna** sigmoide, ligeramente arqueada en los $\frac{3}{4}$ partes basales, el ápice fuertemente arqueado hacia arriba, obcónica hacia el ápice, 6 mm de largo. **Clinandrium** reducido, margen entero. **Antera** semiesférica, de superficie granular-verrugosa, con una quilla baja redondeada al frente, 4-locular. **Polinios** 4, iguales, angostamente obovoides; caudículas suaves y granuladas. **Rostelo** apical, hendido. **Lóbulos laterales del estigma** no vistos. **Nectario** penetrando $\frac{1}{2}$ del ovario, liso, no inflado. **Cápsula** no vista.

Erect, with successive lateral sympodial growth, **herb. Stem** simple, cane-like, terete, straight, each new growth produced apparently from a middle internode of the previous growth. **Leaves** 3, unequal, aggregate towards the apex of the stem; sheath slightly infundibuliform when dry, striated; blade narrowly elliptic, acute, margin entire, smooth. **Inflorescence** apical, flowering only once, racemose, nutant, dense; peduncle laterally compressed, ancipitose, arching. **Flowers** about 20, simultaneous, resupinate, yellow. **Floral bracts** slightly longer than the ovary, narrowly triangular, acuminate, gradually shorter. **Ovary** terete, thin, smooth, slightly incurved towards the apex. **Sepals** partly spreading, free, narrowly ovate-elliptic, subacute, smooth, membranaceous, aristate, margin spreading, entire; the **dorsal sepal** 3-veined; the **laterals** 5-veined, oblique, with a prominent dorsal, erose keel. **Petals** partly spreading, free, narrowly oblanceolate, rounded, 2-veined, margin spreading, entire. **Lip** united to the column, 3-lobed, deeply cordate, margin entire, bicallose, the calli low and inconspicuous; disc provided with a wide, low, smooth channel, and a short, low, narrow keel in between the calli; lateral lobes orbicular; midlobe smaller, transversely oblong, rectangular, emarginate, bilobed, forming two oblique, semiovalate lobes. **Column** sigmoid, slightly arched in the basal $\frac{3}{4}$, apex strongly upturned, obconical. **Clinandrium hood** reduced, margin entire. **Anther** semispherical, the surface granular-verrucose, with a low, rounded keel in front, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, narrowly obovoid; caudicles soft and granulate. **Rostellum** apical, slit. **Nectary** penetrating half the ovary, smooth, not inflated.

OTHER SPECIMENS: None seen.

DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY: Known only from the type, from the road south of Medellín, Antioquia in northern Colombia, atop the valley of the Cauca River, probably at around 1800 m altitude. Flowering in June.

RECOGNITION: *Epidendrum aylacotoglossum* belongs to the Arbuscula Group, Incomptum Subgroup, which is recognized by the stems produced from the middle of the previous stem, with few leaves aggregate near the apex, the racemose inflorescence and the fleshy, usually green to black flowers. The species is recognized by the yellow flowers, the ancipitose peduncle of the inflorescence, prominently dorsally keeled lateral sepals, narrowly oblanceolate petals and the 3-lobed lip, the basal lobes orbicular deeply cordate, the apical lobe short, wide, emarginate, forming two obliquely semiovalate lobes and the wide channel running down the middle of the lip with a short, narrow keel in between the inconspicuous calli, and the sigmoid column. The relationships of this species are not clear, the vegetative structure appears to be that of successive lateral sympodial growths, and the ancipitose peduncle of the inflorescence are reminiscent of the plant illustrated by Dunsterville and Garay as *Epidendrum curtisii* Hawkes in the Illustrated Field Guide of Orchids of Venezuela pg. 218. However, the channeled lip, is more like that of *Epidendrum renilabium* Schltr. or *E. renilabioides* Hágsater & Dodson, though neither runs down the full length of the lip and both, however, have a monopodial growth pattern, with short branches and bilobed, subcoriaceous leaves and wide petals. The sigmoid, upturned apex of the column of the new species is unique.

CONSERVATION STATUS: DD. Data deficient.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek αυλακωτος- grooved, furrowed, and γλωσσα- tongue, in reference to the groove or channel that runs down the middle of the lip, where a thickened keel would normally be found.



Author: E. Hágsater

Illustrator: M. López R.

Editors: E. Hágsater & L. Sánchez S.

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

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