

**Spiranthes stolonifera** *Ames & Correll sp. nov.*

Herba terrestris, aphylla ut videtur, gracilis, rigide erecta, ex radice tuberiformi unica exoriens, stolonifera, basi leviter geniculata, supra canescens. Caulis vaginis adpressis tubulatis subobtusis vel acutis ornatus. Inflorescentia biflora. Florum bracteae magnae, lanceolatae, acuminatae. Flores pro genere grandes. Ovaria cum pedicello fusco-puberula. Sepala extus et margine dense tuberculoso-puberula. Sepalum dorsale elliptico-lanceolatum, obtusum vel breviter subacuminatum, quinque-nervium, supra recurvum. Sepala lateralia libera, patentia, lanceolata, acuta vel subobtusa, leviter obliqua, trinervia, leviter carinata. Petala conspicue falcata, oblanceolata,

obtusa. Labellum in positu naturali arcuato-decurvatum, extensum oblongo-oblancheolatum, supra medium constrictum: pars inferior sulcata, basi concavo-saccata et cum callo mammillato submarginali utrinque praedita, extus puberula; pars anterior plana et patens, late ovata vel elliptico-subquadrata, apice late rotundata vel leviter retusa; discus callo sulcato miniato vel aurantiaco infra ornatus. Columna generis.

Plant terrestrial, 25–35 cm. tall, aphyllous at the time of flowering, slender, rigidly erect, arising from a solitary tuberoid, stoloniferous, slightly geniculate at the base, glabrous below, the upper part covered with a hoary puberulence; stolons producing at intervals solitary small ovoid tuberoids which are as much as 2 cm. long. Stem provided with appressed green tubular sheaths which are rather abruptly subobtuse to acute. Inflorescence 2-flowered. Flowers white marked with orange or vermilion, subtended by large bracts; pedicellate ovaries covered with a reddish brown glandular puberulence. Floral bracts green, lanceolate, acuminate, about 3.5 cm. long, with involute margins. Sepals densely tuberculose-puberulent on the margins and outer surface; dorsal sepal strongly recurved above the middle, concave below, elliptic-lanceolate, obtuse to shortly subacuminate, prominently 5-nerved, 1.9–2 cm. long, 4.5–6.5 mm. wide; lateral sepals free, divergent, directed downward, lightly carinate along the central nerve, lanceolate, subobtuse to acute, slightly oblique, prominently 3-nerved, 1.7–2 cm. long, 3.1–3.5 mm. wide. Petals conspicuously falcate, oblancheolate, obtuse, gradually tapering below the middle, 1.8–2 cm. long, 3–3.2 mm. wide above the middle. Lip arcuate-decurved in natural position, oblong-oblancheolate, constricted above the middle, 1.8–2.2 cm. long; lower portion (below the constriction) thick, sulcate, minutely pubescent and concave-saccate at the base, provided with sub-

marginal obscure fleshy mammillate callosities on each side at the base, with the margins upturned and slightly undulate, puberulent on the margins and outer surface; apical portion (above the constriction) flat and spreading, broadly ovate to elliptic-subquadrate, broadly rounded to subtruncate or lightly retuse at the apex, with the margin somewhat undulate-crenulate; disc with a sulcate cinnabar or deep orange callus on the lower portion. Column clavellate, about 1.2 cm. long, toothed at the apex.

This species is closely allied to *Spiranthes hyemalis* A. Rich. & Gal., but differs from that species in several characters. *Spiranthes stolonifera* is a rigidly erect, aphyllous plant which develops tuber-bearing stolons. The stem-sheaths are closely appressed and are always abruptly sub-obtuse to acute. The sepals and petals are always obtuse to acute. Plants of *S. hyemalis* rise from a cluster of fusiform-thickened roots and the stem, which is commonly flexuose, is leafy below and provided above with rather loose sheaths which are acuminate and divergent at the apex. The sepals and petals are ordinarily long-acuminate.

GUATEMALA: Huehuetenango, Sierra Cuchumatanes, rocky ridge, beneath pines, alt. 11,200 ft., Sept. 15, 1934, *A. F. Skutch 1254* (Herb. Ames); Sierra Cuchumatanes (north slope), terrestrial in mossy ground, open woods, fls. white, the portion of the labellum which forms the corolla-tube orange, alt. 10,000 ft., Aug. 23, 1934, *A. F. Skutch 1094* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 60791).