

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum ovatum* J.J.Sm., Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg, III, 5: 47 (1922)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*.

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Sumatra

Elevation in the Wild

1,000 – 1,800 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This species was originally collected along the Medan to Berastagi road, south-west of Bandar Baru. Jim Comber wrote that he found this species growing at 1800 meters on Mount Sibuatan growing as an epiphyte in montane forest (Comber 2001).

The Plants Description

The pseudobulbs grow close together along short rhizomes. Pseudobulbs are terete and measure 5 cm long. Leaves are petiolate; the petioles measure 1-2 cm long. Leaf blades are a narrowly lanceolate shape and measure 20 cm long and 2.5 cm wide.

Inflorescences are synanthous and develop at the same time as the leaves. Peduncles measure 13 cm long and rachises measure 15 cm long. Flowers are spaced 4 mm apart and the flower bracts are an ovate shape with erose margins apically.

Flowers are an apricot colour and are pale yellow basally. Dorsal sepals are an oblong shape and have acute apices. Dorsal sepals measure 6 mm long and 2.4 mm wide. Lateral sepals are an obliquely ovate-oblong shape and gradually narrow into acute apices. Lateral sepals measure 6.4 mm long and 2.4 mm wide. Petals are an ovate-oblong shape and have acute apices. Petals measure 5.75 mm long and 2.4 mm wide. Petals have erose margins in their upper sections. Labella are entire, an ovate shape and have acute apices. Labella measure 5.3 mm long and 3 mm wide. Margins near the apices are erose, the rest are entire. There are three keels on the labellum; the two outermost keels are larger and longer. Columns measure 1.8 mm long; the apical hoods are short and have obtuse apices. Stelidia emerge from above the middle of the columns and do not reach the column apices. Stelidia are short, broad and have obtuse apices.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

National Herbarium Netherlands (L)

[Specimen L0058683](#) (photo)

Other herbarium specimens

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (K)

[Specimen 61485.000](#)

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[Specimen 55887.000](#)

Scent

I could find no record

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during January and October.

Cultivation

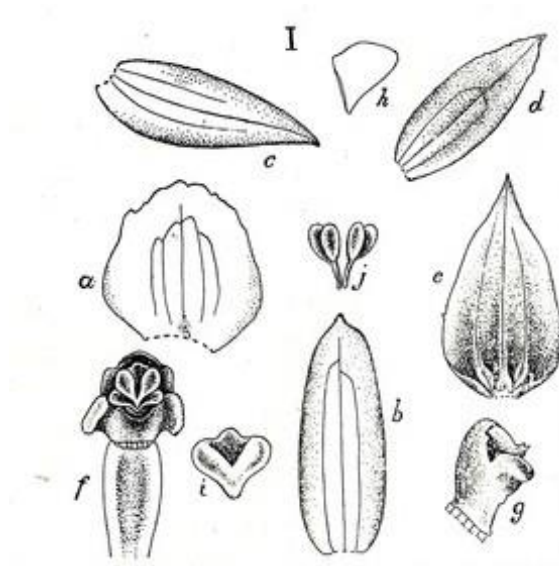
I do not think this species is in cultivation

Similar Species

Dendrochilum brachyotum

Other Information

J.J. Smith wrote that this species resembles *Dendrochilum brachyotum* but differs by its longer pseudobulbs, its labellum, broader steldia and different keels.



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Top right: illustration by J.J. Smith



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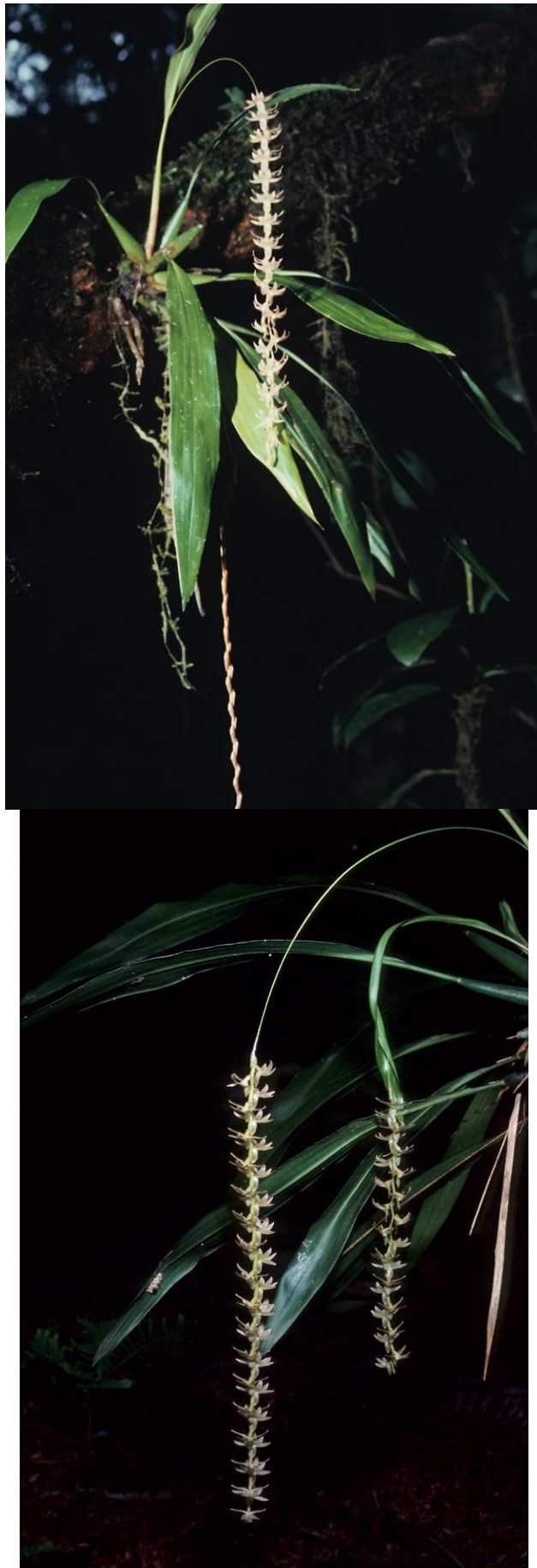
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Reference –

COMBER, J.B. Orchids of Sumatra, 2001, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 03 November 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **03 November 2008**.