

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum longicaule* J.J.Sm., Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg, III, 5: 34 (1922)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Sumatra

Elevation in the Wild

2,200 - 2,400 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This species has been collected from the summit area of Mount Kerinci.

The Plants Description

Rhizomes are long, thin and pendent, rhizomes branch and can grow to lengths of 1.15 metres long. Pseudobulbs are spaced 12.5 cm apart. Pseudobulbs are terete and about as thick as the rhizome when dry and measure 2.7-3.4 cm long. Leaves are petiolate petioles measure 0.75-2 cm long. Leaf blades are a narrowly lanceolate shape and have acute apices, narrowed at the top third. Leaf blades measure 13 cm long and 1.2 cm wide. Leaves are thin textured with seven distinct nerves on the blade.

Inflorescences are synanthous. All the flowers are open before the leaves are fully expanded. Peduncles measure 2.5-5 cm long. Rachises are flattened, sparsely hairy and measure 5-8.5 cm long. Flowers are spaced 3 mm apart.

Jim Comber wrote that approximately 26 flowers grow on an inflorescence (Comber 2001). Flowers measure 7 mm across, are bright green with a darker green patch in the centre of the labellum. Sepals are an elliptic-oblong shape and have acute apices. Sepals measure 5 mm long and 1.8 mm wide. Petals are narrower at their bases. Petals measure 4.4 mm long and 2mm wide. Petals margins are erose. Labella are parallel to the column and entire. Labella measure 2.75 mm long and 3.3 mm wide. The apex of the labellum is broader than the base. Labella are an ovate shape with acuminate apices. The basal margins are erect and erose. There are two short ridges that curve at the base and joined together transversely. Columns measure 1.4 mm long. Apical hoods are concave with bidentate or tridentate margins. Stelidia grow from halfway up the column and are equal to or slightly exceed the column apices. Stelidia are a linear shape.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

! I could not locate the holotype. Presumed destroyed in Bogor (B).

Isotype

National Herbarium Netherlands (L)

[www.dendrochilum.com](http://www.dendrochilum.com)

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[Specimen L0058430](#) (photo) – Collector Bünnemeijer  
[Specimen L0058431](#) (photo) – Collector Bünnemeijer  
[Specimen L0058432](#) (photo) – Collector Bünnemeijer

Isosyntype

AMES

[Specimen 98779](#) (photo) – Collector Bünnemeijer  
[Specimen 98780](#) (photo) – Collector Bünnemeijer  
[Specimen 98781](#) (photo) – Collector Bünnemeijer

Scent

I could find no record

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during February and May.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation.

Similar species

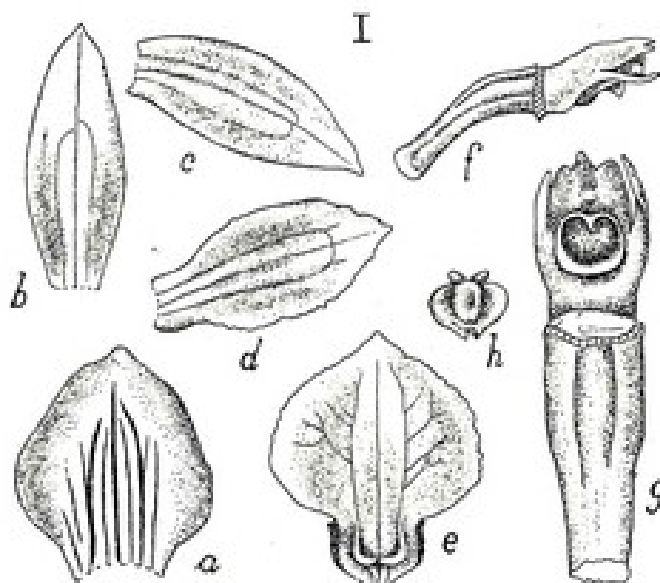
*Dendrochilum acuminatum*

*Dendrochilum latilobum* (see this page for differences)

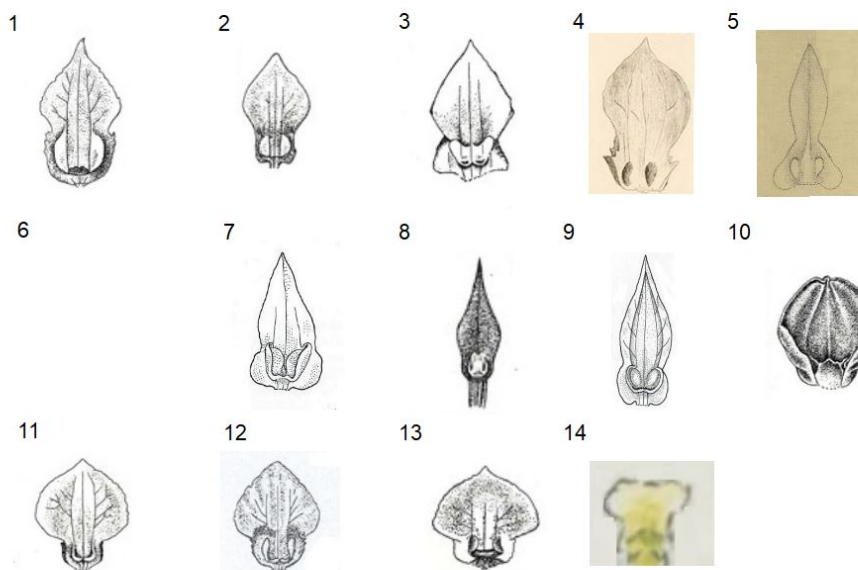
Other Information

J.J Smith wrote that this species is similar in habit to *Dendrochilum acuminatum* but differs by its shorter inflorescences, fewer and larger flowers, the tepals are wider and the base of the labellum is shorter than the apex.

This species has the longest and thinnest rhizome of any Sumatran *Dendrochilum* in subgenus *Platyclinis*.



The *deciens* group (Sumatra species, long rhizomes with pseudobulbs spaced at least 2.5cm apart)  
- labellum comparison



- 1 – *Dendrochilum decepiens*
- 2 – *Dendrochilum incurvibrachium*
- 3 – *Dendrochilum adpressibulbum*
- 4 – *Dendrochilum vaginatum*
- 5 – *Dendrochilum elegans*
- 6 – *Dendrochilum kabense*
- 7 – *Dendrochilum lepidum*
- 8 – *Dendrochilum acuminatum*
- 9 – *Dendrochilum teleense*
- 10 – *Dendrochilum lamellatum*
- 11 – *Dendrochilum longicaule*
- 12 – *Dendrochilum carnosulilabrum*
- 13 – *Dendrochilum latilobum*
- 14 – *Dendrochilum barbifrons*

Drawings by:

J.J Smith  
Rudolf Schlechter  
Fritz Kränzlin  
Susanna Stuart-Smith

Image created by Trey Sanders for [www.dendrochilum.com](http://www.dendrochilum.com)

Reference –

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

SMITH, J.J. 1922, Bulletin du Jardin Botanique de Buitenzorg, III, 5: 34.

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 02 October 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **02 October 2008**.