

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum clowesiae* Cootes & G.Tiong -- *OrchideenJ.* 21(3): 123. 2014

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Philippines

Elevation in the Wild

c1,000 metres

Habitat in the Wild

Cootes and Tiong state that the plant is from Luzon in the Aurora district (Cootes et al).

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs cluster along a rhizome. Pseudobulbs are a cylindrical shape and tapered. Pseudobulbs measure 3cm long and 5mm in diameter, are enveloped by cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls disintegrate into non-persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles are short and measure 3mm long. Leaf blades are a lanceolate shape and have bilobed apices. Leaf blades measure 6cm long and 1.3cm wide. Leaves are leathery and have a prominent median nerve.

The Inflorescence

Inflorescences are heteranthous. Peduncles are erect and measure 3.5cm long. Rachises are pendent and measure 5.5cm long. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 2mm apart. Bracts tightly grip the flower as to prevent them from opening fully.

The Flowers

Circa 40 flowers grow on an inflorescence (Cootes et al 2014). Flowers are bright yellow; labella are orange at their bases. Dorsal sepals are a narrowly oblong shape and have acute apices. Dorsal sepals measure 3.5mm long and 1.25mm wide. Lateral sepals are a narrowly lanceolate shape. Lateral sepals measure 3.0mm long and 1.25mm wide. Petals are a narrowly lanceolate shape. Petals measure 2.75mm long and 1.0mm wide. Labella are porrect and three lobed. Labella measure 2mm across and have entire margins. Side lobes are a falcate shape and pointed, the mid-lobe is circular. Columns are described as minute (Cootes, 2014).

Herbarium Specimens

NA

Scent

Yes, a sweet fragrance

Flowering Season

Winter

Cultivation

Known in the United Kingdom and Australia

Similar Species

Dendrochilum pulcherrimum

Dendrochilum smithianum

Other Information

This species is described from a plant in cultivation in Australia.

This species differs from *Dendrochilum pulcherrimum* mainly by its smaller habit and side lobes that are shorter than the mid-lobe. The side lobes are longer in both *Dendrochilum pulcherrimum* and *Dendrochilum smithianum*. The flowers of *Dendrochilum clowesiae* do not open widely. If side lobes are not considered of importance within this group of *Dendrochilum* to separate species as they are in other groups (eg *Dendrochilum perplexum*), this species may be conspecific with either *Dendrochilum smithianum* (if there are two calli) or *Dendrochilum pulcherrimum* (if there are three calli)

This species was transferred into the expanded subgenus of *Platyclinis* in 2019



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Reference –

COOTES, Jim, TIONG, George. 2014, *Dendrochilum clowesiae*, A new *Dendrochilum* species from the Philippines, *OrchideenJ.* 21(3): 123. 2014

PEDERSEN, Henrik., PETERSEN, Gitte., GRAVENDEEL, Barbara., BARKMAN, Todd., DE BOER, Hugo., SULISTYO, Bobby., SEVERGI, Ole. 2019, Phylogenetics of *Dendrochilum* (Orchidaceae): Evidence of pronounced morphological homoplasy and predominantly centric endemism. *Taxon*, International Association for Plant Taxonomy.

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 26 September 2009. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed 15 May 2020.

www.dendrochilum.com

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