

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum cymbiforme* Ames, Philipp. J. Sci., C 6: 41 (1911)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Luzon

Elevation in the Wild

1,665 – 2,010 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This species has been found on Luzon in Abra on Mount Bawagan, Ifugao Province at Bayinan near Banaue, Mount Himi-o, Mount Pimmage, Sumigar and in Kalinga-Apayao Province on Mount Pastan.

Dendrochilum cymbiforme is an epiphyte that is always found growing hanging down on the underside of branches and overhanging trunks in mossy forest.

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs cluster along a short rhizome and are a obpyriform shape. Pseudobulbs measure c1.3cm long and c0.6cm in diameter. Pseudobulbs are covered with 2-6 cataphylls when they are growing; the cataphylls disintegrate into persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measures 3.6-5.8cm long. Leaf blades are a linear to narrowly linear-lanceolate shape and have acute apices. Leaf blades measure 15.5-22.7cm long and 1.2-1.9cm wide, are rigid and have five distinct nerves.

The Inflorescence

Inflorescences are synanthous. Peduncles are pendent and measure 16.8-23.0cm long. Rachis is pendent and measures 16.9-17.6cm long. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 2.0-3.0mm apart. Flowers open from the proximal section of each rachis.

The Flowers

Flowers have white sepals and petals with a reddish to pale brown labellum and column. Dorsal sepals are an oblong, somewhat cymbiform shape and partly cloak the column. Dorsal sepals have acuminate apices. Dorsal sepals measure 2.8-3.5mm long and 1.4-1.6mm wide. Dorsal sepals are three veined and have quite entire margins. Lateral sepals are porrect, a falcately oblong shape and have acuminate apices. Lateral sepals are slightly carinate towards their apices and the apices nearly touch each other in front of the labellum. Lateral sepals measure 3.8-4.4mm long and 1.8-1.9mm wide. Lateral sepals are three veined and have quite entire margins. Petals are spreading, an obliquely lanceolate shape and have acuminate apices. Petals measure 2.9-3.0mm long and 1.2-1.3mm wide. Petals are three veined and have quite entire margins. Labella are easily versatile, porrect, cymbiform and entire.

Labella measure 4.0-4.2mm long and 3.2-3.4mm wide, are five veined and have finely erose-serrate margins. Labella are a broadly elliptic-orbicular shape (when flattened) and have acuminate apices. There are no ornaments on the labellum. Columns are erect, slightly incurved and measure 3.4-3.6mm long. Apical wings are prolonged into truncate apices with entire margins. An apical wing distinctly exceeds the anther cap. Column feet are prominent. Stelidia grow outwards from the base of columns and are small and hook-like. Stelidia are sometimes absent.

Herbarium Specimens

Lectotype

AMES

[Specimen 18858](#) (photo)

Isotype

Royal Botanic gardens Kew (K)

I could not locate the specimen

US

Other herbarium specimens

National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden (L)

[Specimen L0322447](#)

Scent

I could find no record.

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected during March and April and January or February.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation

Similar Species

None

Other Information

The epithet refers to the shape of the labellum. Cymbiform means boat shaped.



This photo was taken by Henrik Pedersen of a plant in the wild. This photo is used with permission. ©

Reference –

COOTES, Jim. *The Orchids of the Philippines*, 2001. Timber Press, USA

PEDERSEN, Henrik. 1997, *The Genus Dendrochilum (Orchidaceae) in the Philippines – A Taxonomic Revision*. Opera Botanica, Denmark

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 27 July 2009. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **27 July 2009**.