

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum gravenhorstii* J.J.Sm., Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg, III, 2: 28 (1920)

Subgenus – *Dendrochilum*.

#### Synonyms

None

#### Origin in the Wild

Kalimantan, Sabah, and Sarawak

#### Elevation in the Wild

100 – 1,000 metres

#### Habitat in the Wild

The type specimen was collected in Kalimantan Barat, Upper Kapuas in the Talaj River area. Further collections have been made from Sarawak, Marudi District on the route to Pa Ukat, Bario area and along the Sipyang River in the Limbang District. In Sabah, this species is recorded from Sandakan District at the Telupid Hap Seng logging area and near the Nabawan old airstrip.

Jeffrey Wood described the habitat as kerangas forest and podsolic dipterocarp forest on steep slopes and wet sandy soil (Wood 2001).

#### The Plants Description

This species is a terrestrial or epiphyte. Rhizomes grow to 40 cm; pseudobulbs are spaced 1.3-4.5 cm apart along it and grow at acute angles. Pseudobulbs are an obliquely oblong-ovoid shape and measure 1.3-2.5 cm long and 0.55-0.75 cm in diameter. Pseudobulbs are pale green or ochre colour. Pseudobulbs are covered by 4-6 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls disintegrate into non-persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. The cataphylls are a glossy chestnut-brown colour and are sometimes speckled. Leaves are petiolate, petioles measure 2-3 mm long. Leaf blades are a linear, ligulate shape and have obtuse to acute apices. Leaf blades measure 4.5-11.5 cm long and 0.5-0.8 cm wide. Leaves have five distinct nerves.

The inflorescence is heteranthous. Peduncles are erect and measure 1-2 cm long. Rachises are arching to arcuate and measure 5-8 cm long. Rachises are quadrangular in cross-section. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 2-3mm apart. Flowers open from the proximal section of the rachis.

Flowers are pale green to pale yellow; labella are yellowish green with white margins, stelids are white. Dorsal sepals are a narrowly oblong shape and have apiculate apices. Dorsal sepals measure 4.4-4.5 mm long and 1.3 mm wide. Dorsal sepals have entire margins and are three veined. Lateral sepals are an obliquely oblong-ovate shape, somewhat subfalcate and have acute apices. Lateral sepals have entire margins and are three veined. Lateral sepals measure 4 mm long and 1.6 mm wide. Petals are an obliquely lanceolate to linear-lanceolate shape and have acute apices. Petals have entire margins and are one veined. Petals measure 3.7mm long and 0.8 mm wide. Labella are three veined and subentire, decurved with an apex often recurved. Labella measure 2.7 mm long and 1.25 mm wide. Labella are a lanceolate shape and have acute apices. The margins on labella are mostly entire but are erose on the hypochile with a few teeth at its base. There are 3 keels that emerge from the

base of the hypochile, median keels are shorter. Columns are gently curved and measure 2 mm long. Apical hoods are a quadrangular shape, and the margins are 2-4 dentate. Stelids grow from just below the middle of the columns, are a linear-ligulate shape and have acute apices.

#### Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

BO

Isotype

National Herbarium Netherlands Leiden (L)

[Specimen L0056508](#) (photo)

Other herbarium specimens

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen 60700.000](#)

[Specimen K000078151](#)

[Specimen K000078152](#)

[Specimen K000078150](#)

[Specimen K000078153](#)

[Specimen K000078154](#) (drawing)

National Herbarium Netherlands Leiden (L)

[Specimen L0322530](#)

[Specimen L0322531](#)

AAU

MEL

SAR

SING

KEP

#### Scent

Yes, sweetly scented.

#### Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during June and July.

#### Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation.

### Similar Species

*Dendrochilum crassum*  
*Dendrochilum pallidiflavens*

### Other Information

Jeffrey Wood wrote that this species is distinguished by other similar species by its ornate labellum. Wood wrote that the ornaments on the labellum have a more complicated structure than others within the subgenus *Dendrochilum* (Wood 2003).

The epithet refers to C.A. Gravenhorst of a Danish oil laboratory. Gravenhorst went to Borneo to investigate plants with oily seeds.



Reference –

BEAMAN, Teofila, WOOD, Jeffrey, BEAMAN, Reed, BEAMAN, John. 2001, Orchids of Sarawak, Natural History Publications Borneo, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

WOOD, Jeffrey. Dendrochilum of Borneo, 2001. Natural History Publications (Borneo), Malaysia.

WOOD, Jeffrey. 2003, Orchids of Borneo volume 4. The Sabah Society, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 09 January 2009. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **09 January 2009**.