

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum graminifolium* (Ames) Pfitzer in H.G.A. Engler (ed.), *Pflanzenr.*, IV, 50 II B 7: 114 (1907)

## Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

### Synonyms

*Acoridium graminifolium* Ames, *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.* 19: 144 (1906).

### Origin in the Wild

Luzon

### Elevation in the Wild

700 - 2,350 metres

### Habitat in the Wild

The type specimen was collected in 1905 by E.D. Merrill from between Suyoc and Panai in Benguet Province.

This Luzon endemic has been recorded from Batangas Province on Mount Makulot; Benguet Province from Mount Data and Mount Pulog; Ifugao Province on Mount Pimmage and Mount Polis; Kalinga-Apayao on Mount Magnus and Mount Duraragan; Mountain Province between Bontoc and Mount Polis.

This species usually grows in mossy forest as an epiphyte. A specimen was collected in 20-25m high tall forest on sandy-loamy soil.

### The Plants Description

This *Dendrochilum* is tufted and grass-like. Pseudobulbs cluster together on short rhizomes and are a terete to fusiform shape. Pseudobulbs measure 3.0-10.4 cm long. Pseudobulbs are covered by 4-5 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls disintegrate into persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 1.8-9.0 cm long. Leaf blades are a narrowly linear shape and have acute apices. Leaf blades measure 15.5-35.3 cm long and 0.3-0.4 cm wide. Leaves have 3 distinct nerves; the 2 lateral nerves are submarginal.

Peduncles are enclosed for most of their length by the subtending leaf and appear to grow from the distal section. Peduncles measure 9.7-30.5 cm long. Rachises measure 4.4-9.1 cm long. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 1.5-2.0 mm apart. There are 1-6 appressed non-floriferous bracts at the base of the rachises. Flowers open from the proximal section of rachises.

Ames wrote that the flowers are yellow and turn deep reddish brown if dry (Ames 1906). Henrik Pedersen wrote that the flowers are white to yellow, rarely red, or brown, with a deep orange rostellum (Pedersen 1997). The tepals open widely. Dorsal sepals are an oblong to lanceolate shape and have acuminate apices. Dorsal sepals measure 3.6 mm-4.8 mm long and 1.1-1.4 mm wide. Dorsal sepals have entire margins are three veined and glabrous. Lateral sepals are an ovate-lanceolate shape and have acuminate apices. Lateral sepals measure 4.4-5.1 mm long and 1.6-2.0 mm wide. Lateral sepals have entire margins are three veined and glabrous. Petals are an elliptic to broadly oblanceolate shape and are somewhat acuminate at their apices. Petals measure 3.0-4.3 mm long and 1.1-1.6 mm wide. Petals have entire margins are 3-veined and glabrous. Labella are porrect, 3-lobed and 1-veined. Side lobes are erect, an obliquely oblong shape and have rounded apices. Side lobes exceed the mid-lobes and are slightly auriculate basally. Mid lobes are a broadly oblong shape

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and have truncate apices, apiculate in their centre. The margins on labella are entire. There are two lateral calli located at the base of the side lobes. The lateral calli are situated close to the margins. The median callus is located at the proximal centre of the disc. Columns are erect, nearly straight and measure 0.7-0.8 mm long. Columns are not hooded at their apices.

#### Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

Philippine National Herbarium (PNH)

Specimen – destroyed.

Isotype (no lectotype designated)

AMES

[Specimen 33](#) (photo)

Kew (K)

I could not locate the specimen.

Other herbarium specimens

National Herbarium Netherlands, (L)

[Specimen L0322508](#)

[Specimen L0322509](#)

[Specimen L0322510](#)

Royal Botanic gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen K000364853](#)

AMES

[Specimen 104047](#) (photo)

#### Scent

Oakes Ames wrote that this species has a scent.

#### Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild from September to January and in March.

#### Cultivation

This species is in cultivation and often confused with similar species and other species are mis sold as this. Although not commonly offered for sale it rarely turns up as an unidentified species.

#### Similar Species

*Dendrochilum tenellum*

*Dendrochilum perplexum* var. *montanum* (see this page for differences)

*Dendrochilum perplexum* var. *perplexum* (see this page for differences)

*Dendrochilum stenophyllum*

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*Dendrochilum louisianum*  
*Dendrochilum williamsii*

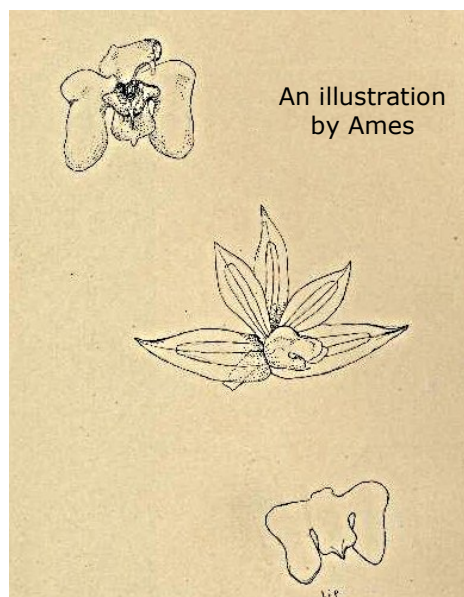
Other Information

Ames described this species in 1906 as *Acoridium graminifolium* and said it had an affinity with *Acoridium tenellum* (*Dendrochilum tenellum*). Ames wrote that the calli is more like that of *Acoridium venustum* (*Dendrochilum parvulum*) than that of *Acoridium tenellum* (*Dendrochilum tenellum*).

Henrik Pedersen wrote that this species is allied to *Dendrochilum perplexum*, *D. stenophyllum* and *D. louisianum*. These species are similar because of their dorsiventrally complanate leaves, a peduncle that is adherent to the subtending leaf at the time of flowering and a labellum with a flat or slightly concave disc.



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An illustration  
by Ames



## Reference –

AMES, Oakes. 1906, Descriptions of New Species of Acoridium from the Philippines, Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, Vol XIX PP. 143-154 September 25, 1906.

AMES, Oakes. 1908, Illustrations and studies of the Family Orchidaceae Fascicle 2, Ames Botanical Laboratory, North Easton, Massachusetts, Boston.

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

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 01 November 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **01 November 2008**.