

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum irigense* Ames, Orchidaceae 5: 58 (1915).

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*.

Synonyms

Acoridium irigense (Ames) Ames, Orchidaceae 7: 81 (1922).

Origin in the Wild

Luzon

Elevation in the Wild

500 – 1,665 metres

Habitat in the Wild

The species is recorded growing as an epiphyte on Mount Iriga and Mount Isarog in Camarines Sur Province. This species has also been collected on Mount Maquiling in Laguna Province.

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs cluster along short rhizomes and are slenderly fusiform-terete. Pseudobulbs measure 0.9-5.5 cm long and 0.2-0.4 cm diameter. Pseudobulbs are covered by 4-5 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls soon disintegrate into persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 0.5-2.5 cm long. Leaf blades are a lanceolate to linear-lanceolate shape and have acute apices. The leaf blades measure 2.9-12.4 cm long and 0.5-2.0 cm wide. Leaves are thin textured with 3-5 distinct nerves on the blade: the 2 outermost nerves c1 mm from the leaf margins.

Inflorescences are synanthous, flowers open while the leaf is still subtending. Peduncles are suberect and measure 2.4-6.0 cm long. Rachises are nodding and measure 3.1-6.5 cm long. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 3-5 mm apart. There is 1 appressed non-floriferous bract at the base of the rachises. Flowers open from the distal section of the rachises.

The Santos specimen (NY39533) describes the flowers as yellow and Ramos described them as white. Ames wrote that the flowers brownish-red when they are dry (Ames 1915). Henrik Pedersen wrote that the flowers are white, yellow, or green (Pedersen 1997). Sepals and petals spread widely and have a few minute trichomes. Dorsal sepals are an oblong shape and have rounded-obtuse apices. Dorsal sepals measure 4.9-5.4 mm long and 2.1-2.4 mm wide. Dorsal sepals are three veined and have entire margins. Lateral sepals are an obliquely elliptic shape and have obtuse apices. Lateral sepals measure 4.0-5.3 mm long and 2.1-2.9 mm wide. Lateral sepals are three veined and have entire margins. Petals are an obovate-subspathulate shape and have obtuse apices. Petals measure 4.5-5.7 mm long and 2.6-3.4 mm wide. Petals are three veined and have entire to slightly irregular margins. Labella are porrect and 3-lobed. Labella measure 1.1-1.9 mm long and 2.4-2.9 mm wide. Labella are three veined, glabrous and have entire margins. Side lobes are erect, an obliquely elliptic-oblong shape and have obtuse apices. Side lobes are equal in length to the mid-lobes. Mid-lobes are a semiorbicular-reniform shape and have acuminate apices. There are three calli, the lateral calli are prominent, conical shaped and located at the base of the side lobes close to the front margin. Median calli are an oblongoid shape and are

located centrally on the hypochile. Columns are erect and measure 0.9-1.6 mm long. Columns are hooded at their apices. Stelidia and column feet are absent.

Herbarium Specimens

Lectotype

AMES

[Specimen 18836](#) (photo)

[Specimen 98769](#) (drawing of the type)

Isolectotype

AMES

[Specimen 18837](#) (photo)

Syntype

AMES

[Specimen 18835](#)

Isotype

New York Botanical Garden (NY)

Specimen - [39533](#)

Other herbarium specimens

BM

BO

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (K)

I could not locate the specimen.

P

SING

US

W

Scent

I could find no record.

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during December.

Cultivation

I only know of this species being cultivated in the United States of America.

www.dendrochilum.com

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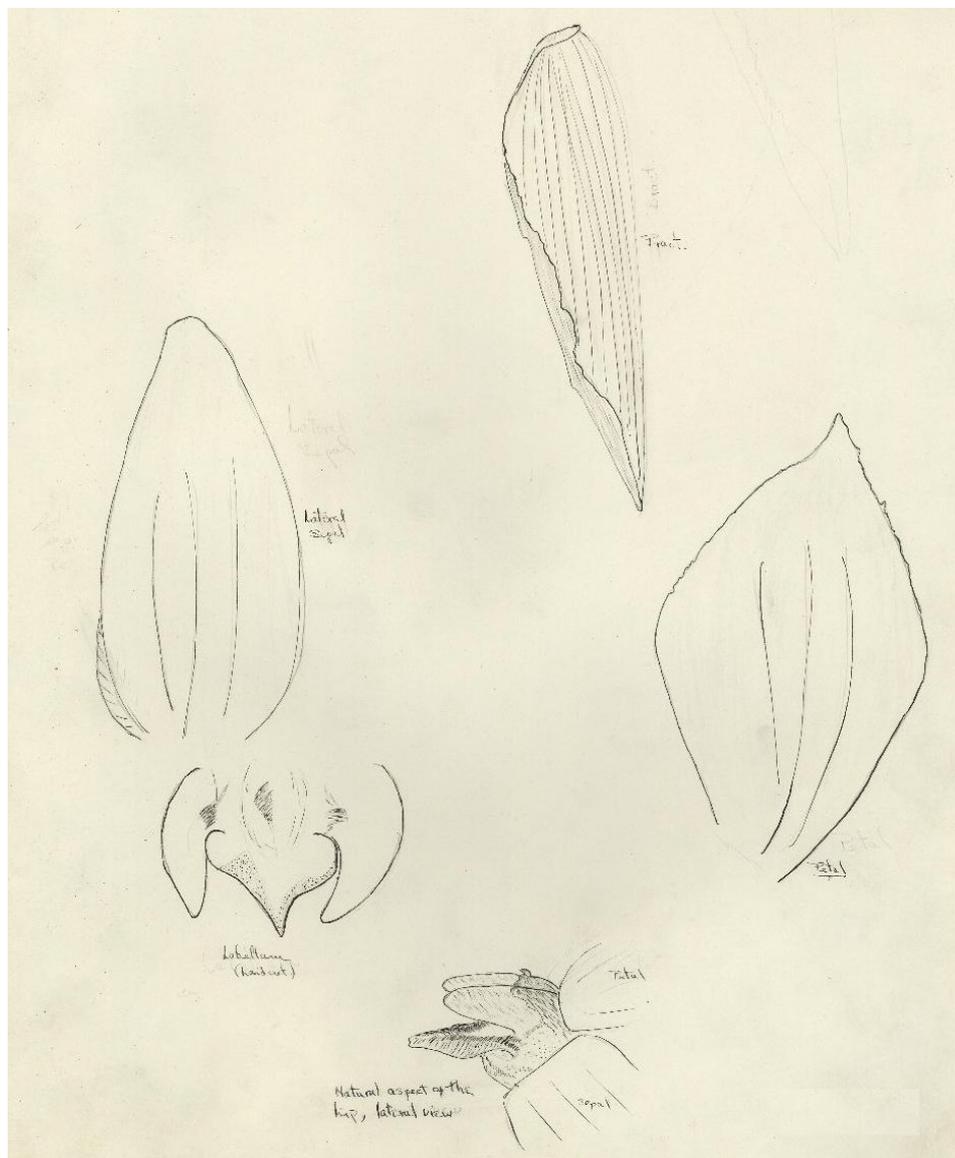
Similar Species

Dendrochilum hutchinsonianum
Dendrochilum affine
Dendrochilum pumilum
Dendrochilum mindorense
Dendrochilum longibulbum

Other Information

Ames wrote in 1915 that this plant is similar to *Dendrochilum hutchinsonianum* but differs by the shape of the labellum which Ames likened its shape to *Dendrochilum affine*. Ames wrote that the flowers are larger than *Dendrochilum affine* and *Dendrochilum pumilum*. Ames wrote that this is a variable species in the size of the leaves and pseudobulbs. L.O. Williams also considered this species to be close to *Dendrochilum anfractum*, now considered to be in a separate subgenus because of its bilobed rostellum.

Henrik Pedersen considered this species to be in a group with *Dendrochilum affine* and *Dendrochilum mindorense*.



A drawing by Ames



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Reference –

AMES, Oakes. 1915, Illustrations and studies of the Family Orchidaceae Facsimile 5, 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. 25 January 2009. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **25 January 2009**.