

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum dulitense* Carr, Gard. Bull. Straits Settlem. 8: 84 (1935)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Brunei and Sarawak

Elevation in the Wild

1,200 – 1,400 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This species has been recorded from Brunei and Sarawak. In Brunei it has been collected on Mount Retak. In Sarawak this species has been collected on Pantoh Hill within the South East section of the Hose Mountains and on Mount Dulit's Dulit Ridge.

Jeffrey Wood described the habitat as lower montane mossy forest and as an epiphyte amongst moss in *Rhododendron/Cyathea* 2-4 metres high on sandstone ridges. The Kew isotype states that it was found on a small tree in mossy forest (Wood 2001).

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs crowd along rhizomes, rhizomes measure up to 3cm long. Pseudobulbs are an ovoid or subglobose shape. Pseudobulbs measure 0.3-0.6cm long and 0.3cm in diameter. Pseudobulbs are covered by 3-4 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls disintegrate into persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 2-5mm long. Leaf blades are a linear ligulate shape and have obtuse apices. Leaf blades measure 1.8-3.4cm long and 0.2-0.3cm wide, and have 5 distinct nerves and are coriaceous.

The Inflorescence

Inflorescences are synanthous and grow with subtending leaves before they expand. Peduncles are erect and measure 1.2-2.5cm long. Rachises are quadrangular in cross section, pale pinkish, pendent and measure 2.5-3.0cm long. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 4-7mm apart. There are no non-floriferous bracts at the base of the rachis.

The Flowers

Jeffrey Wood wrote that between 6 and 8 flowers grow on an inflorescence (Wood 2001). Wood also wrote that the flowers are translucent pale salmon-pink or orange ochre. Labella are pale or dull yellow or orange ochre with a creamy margin. Columns are dull peach or orange ochre and the stelia are yellow ochre. Sepals and petals spread widely and are papillose basally. Dorsal sepals are a narrowly ovate-elliptic shape and have acute to acuminate apices. Dorsal sepals measure 5-5.5mm long and 1.5-2mm wide. Dorsal sepals have entire margins and are 3-veined. Lateral sepals are a narrowly ovate-elliptic shape and have acute to acuminate apices. Lateral sepals measure 5.5-6.2mm long and 1.8-2.5mm wide, have entire margins and are 3-

veined. Petals are a narrowly ovate shape and have long acuminate apices. Petals measure 4.7-5.0mm long and 1.3-1.8mm wide, are 1 veined and have minutely uneven to erose margins. Labella are obscurely 3-lobed, stipitate to the column foot by a narrow claw and 3-veined. Labella measure 4.3-5.0mm long, 2.9-3.0mm wide at its base and 3.7-4.0mm wide across the mid-lobe. Side lobes are ill defined; a triangular shape and have subacute apices. Side lobes margins are irregularly erose. Mid-lobes are a transversely elliptic shape and have rounded apices. Mid-lobe margins are entire. There are two short keels that run from the base of the hypochile and terminate at or just past the start of the mid-lobe; the keels are joined at the base to a median elevated nerve. Columns are incurved and measure 2.8-3.1mm long. The column foot is prominent. Apical hoods are an ovate-triangular shape and have obtuse and entire apices. Stelidia grow up and outwards from just above the base of the column. Stelidia do not reach the apex of the apical hood or the anther cap but terminate just below the stigmatic cavity. Stelidia measure 0.9mm long, and are an oblong-spathulate shape with rounded to truncate apices.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

SING

Isotype

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen K000078906](#) (photo)

Other herbarium specimens

The Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh (E)

[Specimen E00050131](#)

SAR

BRUN

National Herbarium Netherlands (L)

I could not locate the specimen

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen 60413.000](#)

[Specimen 60412.000](#)

Scent

The flower is reported to be unscented.

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during July, August and September in Sarawak and during March in Brunei.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in general cultivation. This species is grown in the Hortus Botanicus at Leiden in the Netherlands.

Similar Species

Dendrochilum ochrolabium (please see this page for the differences)

Other Information

This species can be distinguished from others by looking at the shape of the stelidia.

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.

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 23 July 2009. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **23 July 2009**.