

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum galbanum* J.J.Wood, Orchid Rev. 102: 147 (1994)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

### Synonyms

None

### Origin in the Wild

Sumatra and Sarawak

### Elevation in the Wild

2,250 metres on Sumatra

1,800 – 2,350 metres in Sarawak

### Habitat in the Wild

The type specimen was collected on Mount Murud in Sarawak on the route from Ba Kelalan to Mount Murud, south west of camp 3 and on the second sandstone summit.

On Sumatra this species was collected from Aceh Province on Mount Ketambe in the Mount Leuser Nature Reserve.

Jeffrey Wood described the habitat as mossy forest on sandstone (Wood 2001).

### The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs crowd along a short and branching rhizome that grows to 3cm long. Pseudobulbs are an ovoid to ovate-oblong shape and measure 0.5-1cm long and 0.4-0.5cm wide. Pseudobulbs are covered by 5-6 cataphylls while they are growing (Sumatran specimens). The cataphylls disintegrate into fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate, petioles measure 2-5mm long. Leaf blades are a linear-ligulate shape and have obtuse, minutely mucronate apices. Leaf blades measure 4-7cm long and 0.3-0.6cm wide. Leaves have 5 distinct nerves.

### The Inflorescence

Inflorescences are synanthous. Peduncles are erect and measure 0.3-1.8cm long. Rachises are quadrangular in cross section, orange, erect and measure 4-9.5cm long. Flowers are spaced 3-5mm apart. There are 1-3 non-floriferous bracts at the base of the rachis.

### The Flowers

Between 12 and 20 flowers are recorded as growing on an inflorescence. Jeffrey Wood described the flower colour as greenish-yellow or bright yellow with a green column, yellow anther cap, yellow labellum that is brown in the middle with red keels (Wood 2001). Sepals and petals spread widely. Dorsal sepals are a narrowly elliptic shape and have acute apices. Dorsal sepals measure 7.5-8mm long and 2mm wide. Dorsal sepals are three veined and have entire margins. Lateral sepals are a narrowly ovate-elliptic shape and have acute apices. Lateral sepals measure 7.9-8mm long and 2mm wide. Lateral sepals are three veined and have entire margins. Petals are a narrowly elliptic shape and have acute to subacute apices. Petals measure 7mm long and 2mm wide. Petals are three veined and have entire margins. Labella are sessile, 3-nerved and entire. Labella are an elliptic shape and have acute apices. The margins of labella

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are erose basally. There are two keels than run  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the length of the labellum from a transverse ridge at the base of the hypochile. There is an elevated prominent median nerve between the two keels; the median nerve joins the keels at the base of the hypochile. Columns are gently incurved and measure 3mm long. Column feet are short. Apical hoods are an ovate shape with rounded apices and entire margins. Stelidia grow upwards from just above the base of the columns and are shorter than the column apices; not quite reaching the stigmatic cavity. Stelidia are a linear shape and have obtuse to acute apices. Stelidia measure 1mm long.

#### Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

The Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh (E)

[Specimen E00050157](#)

Isotype

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen K000079101](#) (photo)

SAR

Other herbarium specimens

National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden (L)

[Specimen L0322484](#)

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen 56796.000](#)

[Specimen K000395598](#)

SAR

#### Scent

I could find no record

#### Flowering Season

In Sarawak flowering plants have been collected in the wild during August and September.

#### Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation

#### Similar Species

*Dendrochilum graminoides*

#### Other Information

[www.dendrochilum.com](http://www.dendrochilum.com)

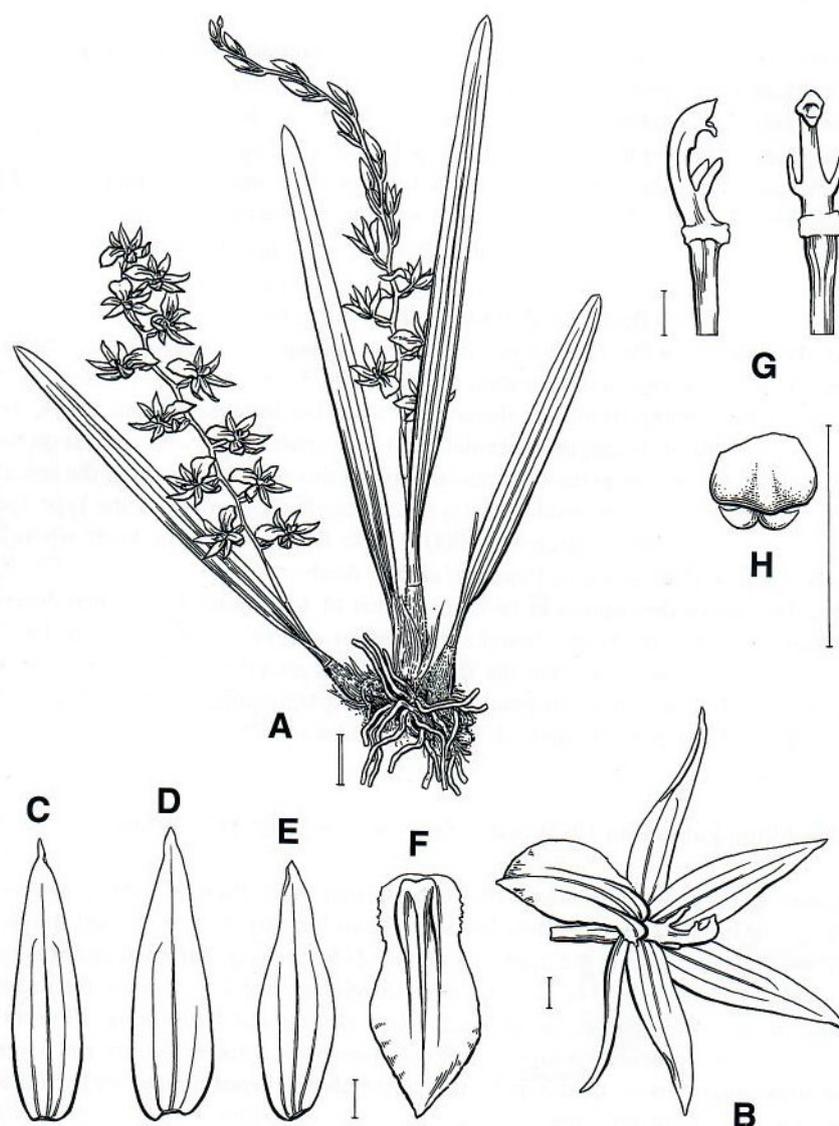
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This species differs from *Dendrochilum graminoides* by the shorter and broader leaves, erect inflorescence, larger flower, broader labellum, longer column and shorter stelidia (Wood 2001)

The plants collected on Sumatra have wider leaves and longer inflorescences (Wood 2001). The flower morphology is the same as the Bornean plants.

The epithet refers to the flower colour.

The photographs by Art Vogel and Rogier van Vugt on the orchid encyclopedia and other websites are incorrect. They are of a lovely coloured form of *Dendrochilum kingii* var *kingii*.



*Dendrochilum galbanum*, **A.** habit; **B.** flower, front view; **C.** dorsal sepal; **D.** lateral sepal; **E.** petal; **F.** labellum, front view; **G.** pedicel with ovary and column, anther-cap removed, front and side views; **H.** anther-cap, back view. Scale: single bar = 1 mm; double bar = 1 cm. **A–H** from *Burt & Martin* B. 5328 (holotype). Drawn by Eleanor Catherine.

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