

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum croceum* H.A.Pedersen, Orchid Rev. 113: 286 (2005).

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Luzon (Jim Cootes pers comm)

Elevation in the Wild

750 metres (Jim Cootes pers comm)

Habitat in the Wild

This species is an epiphyte from Laguna Province (Jim Cootes pers comm)

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs cluster along a short rhizome and are a slenderly fusiform shape. Pseudobulbs measure 2.3-3.5cm long and 0.3cm in diameter and are covered by 4-5 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls soon disintegrate into non persistent fibres as pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 0.9-1.2cm long. Leaf blades are a linear-lanceolate shape and have subacute apices. Leaves measure 4.8-6.3cm long and 0.7-1.0cm wide.

The Inflorescence

Inflorescences are synanthous. Peduncles are suberect and measure 2.8-4.3cm long. Rachises are quadrangular in cross section, nodding and measures 3.0-3.8cm long. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 2-3mm apart. There are 4-5 appressed non-floriferous bracts at the base of the rachis. Flowers open from the distal section of each rachis.

The Flowers

Henrik Pedersen wrote that between 12 and 14 flowers grow on an inflorescence and are a bright saffron yellow colour (Pedersen 2005). Sepals and petals open widely. Dorsal sepals are an oblanceolate-oblong shape and have acuminate apices that are hooded. Dorsal sepals measure 3.9-4.1mm long and 1.4-1.5mm wide. Dorsal sepals are 3 veined and have entire margins. Lateral sepals are an obliquely and narrowly obovate shape and have subacuminate apices. Lateral sepals measure 3.5-3.7mm long and 1.5-1.7mm wide. Lateral sepals are 3 veined and have entire margins. Petals are recurved, an obliquely obovate shape and have subacuminate apices. Petals measure 3.2-3.4mm long and 1.9-2.1mm wide, are 3 veined and have entire margins. Labella are porrect, 3-lobed, measure 1.0-1.1mm long and 1.5mm wide. Labella are obscurely 3-veined, glabrous and have entire margins. Side lobes are erect, an obliquely and transversely rectangular shape and have truncate apices. Side lobes are shorter than the mid-lobe. Mid-lobes are a transversely rectangular shape and divided into three subequal teeth. There are 2 calli that are located along the lateral veins, the calli are situated at the base of the side lobes and are a pyramidal

shape. Columns are straight and measures 0.6-0.7mm long. Columns are somewhat hooded at their apices. Stelidia and column feet are absent.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

C

Scent

I could find no record

Flowering Season

I could find no record

Cultivation

I know that this species is in cultivation in the UK and Australia although very rare.

Similar Species

Dendrochilum turpe

Dendrochilum philippinense

Other Information

Henrik Pedersen wrote (2005) that there were no close relatives known at the time *Dendrochilum croceum* was described. This species looks similar to *Dendrochilum turpe* and differs by its smaller leaves, shorter peduncle, narrower acuminate lateral sepals, flowering from the distal section of the rachis, two calli and a shallowly three lobed labellum.

The epithet refers to the colour of the flowers.

This description was taken from a specimen in the cultivation of Richard Warren in the UK. The plant came from the Philippines with other species and it was not known where it came from. Since the original description Jim Cootes has been in the receipt of evidence that this species is from Luzon.



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www.dendrochilum.com

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Reference –

PEDERSEN, Henrik. 2005 A new miniature Dendrochilum, the Orchid Review volume 113 No 1265.

PEDERSEN, Henrik., PETERSEN, Gitte., GRAVENDEEL, Barbara., BARKMAN, Todd., DE BOER, Hugo., SULISTYO, Bobby., SEVERGI, Ole. 2019, Phylogenetics of Dendrochilum (Orchidaceae): Evidence of pronounced morphological homoplasy and predominantly centric endemism. Taxon, International Association for Plant Taxonomy.

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 18 August 2009. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **18 August 2009**.