

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum dentiferum* J.J.Sm., Bull. Dép. Agric. Indes Néerl. 22: 15 (1909)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Sumatra

Elevation in the Wild

I could find no record.

Habitat in the Wild

This species has been collected in Western Sumatra from the Bukit Gompong Estate near Padang.

The Plants Description

Rhizomes branch. Pseudobulbs are a cylindrical shape and are narrowed toward their apices. Pseudobulbs are pale green and measure 3.5cm long and 6.5mm in diameter. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure up to 3cm long. Leaf blades are a linear shape and have acute apices, narrowed towards the apices. Leaf blades measure 15cm long and 8.5mm wide.

The Inflorescence

Inflorescences grow from the apices of pseudobulbs just before they mature. Peduncles are erect and measure 12cm long. Rachises measure 4.5cm long. Flowers are spaced 1.5mm apart.

The Flowers

Flowers measure 3mm across and are pale green with a greenish yellow labellum. Dorsal sepals are a narrowly ovate shape and have acuminate or acute apices. Dorsal sepals measure 2.5mm long and 1.25mm wide. Lateral sepals are an obliquely ovate shape and have apiculate apices. Lateral sepals are shorter than dorsal sepals. Petals are an obliquely oblong shape and measure 2.3mm long and 1mm wide. Petals have erose margins. Labella are entire and measure 2.25mm long. Labella are an oblong-ovate shape and have truncate apices. There are two incurved margins at the base of the labellum and two keels that run between them. Columns are very short and measure 0.75mm long. Apical hoods are elongate and as long as the column. Stelidia are very small and triangular.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

I could not locate the specimen

Isotype

National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden (L)

[Specimen L0058449](#) (photo)

Other herbarium specimens

Scent

I could find no record

Flowering Season

I could find no record

Culture

I do not think this species is in cultivation

Similar species

Dendrochilum cornutum

Dendrochilum fuscescens

Dendrochilum ophiopogonoides

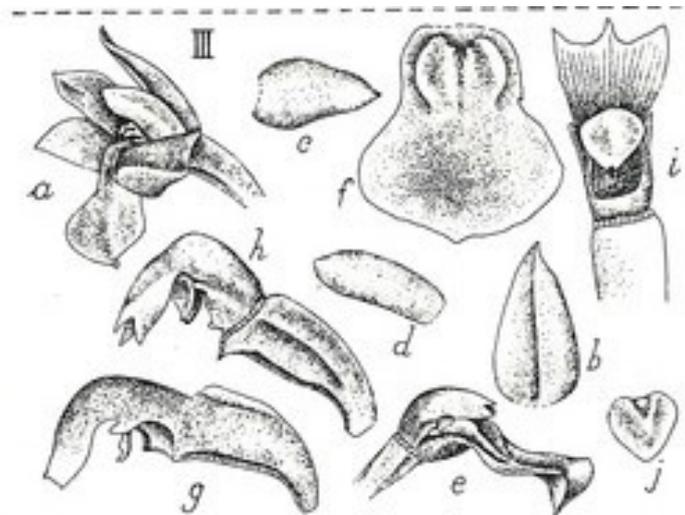
Dendrochilum rigidulum

Dendrochilum ramosissimum

Other information

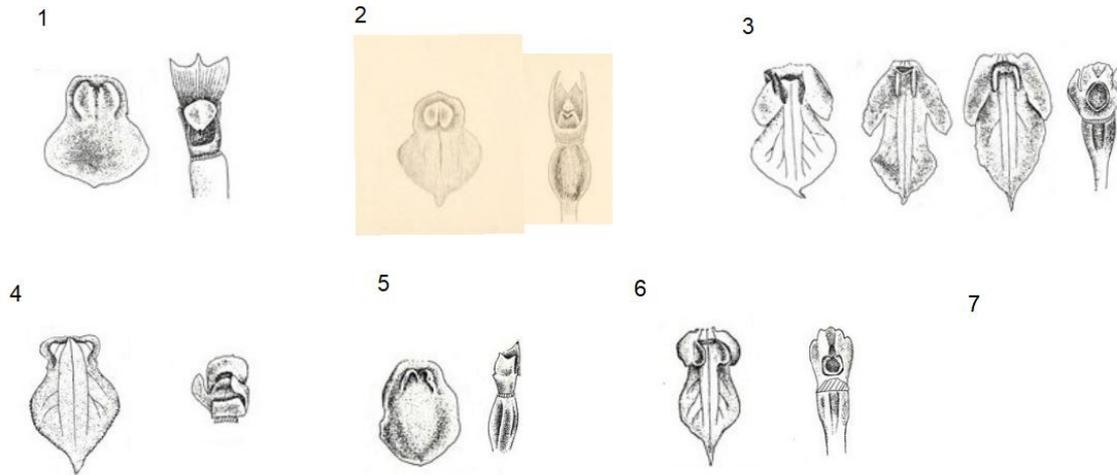
J.J. Smith compared this species with *Dendrochilum cornutum* and wrote that it differs because the leaf, flowers, rachis and the lateral wings on the column are smaller (Comber 2001).

An examination of the type specimen may reveal that this species is a synonym or variety of *Dendrochilum cornutum*. In many other species of *Dendrochilum* these characteristics would be considered variation within a species. I have plants of *Dendrochilum cornutum* in my own collection and there is variation of the stelidia on one inflorescence, some exceed the apical hood and some don't. Further study is required.



J.J. Smiths illustration

Dendrochilum cornutum relatives and similar looking species



1 – *Dendrochilum dentiferum*
 2 – *Dendrochilum cornutum*
 3 – *Dendrochilum ophiopogonoides*
 4 – *Dendrochilum rigidulum*

5 – *Dendrochilum fuscescens*
 6 – *Dendrochilum ramosissimum*
 7 – *Dendrochilum fimbriolobum*

Drawings by:

J.J Smith

Image created by Trey Sanders, www.dendrochilum.com

Reference –

COMBER, J.B. Orchids of Sumatra, 2001, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 30 August 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **30 August 2008**.