Accepted name: *Dendrochilum lancilabium* Ames, Orchidaceae 6: 58 (1920)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

**Synonyms**

None

**Origin in the Wild**

Kalimantan, Sabah, and Sarawak

**Elevation in the Wild**

1,200 – 2,550 metres

**Habitat in the Wild**

Within Kalimantan this species has been recorded on Mount Kemul. Within Sabah this species is recorded on Mount Kinabalu and Mount Trus Madi (Wood 2001). In Sarawak this plant is recorded from Mount Mulu and Mount Murud.

Jeffrey Wood describes the habitat as lower montane forest especially on exposed ridges; low xerophyllous scrub forest on ultramafic rock, on tree trunks and roots, boulders, terrestrial in mossy hummocks, creeping within mats of bog moss sometimes in full sunlight (Wood 2001).

**The Plants Description**

Rhizome branch and grow between 12 cm and 20 cm long. Pseudobulbs either crowd or are spaced 2 cm apart along the rhizome. Pseudobulbs are a narrowly cylindrical or narrowly fusiform shape and measure 1.5-7 cm long and 0.3-0.5 cm in diameter. Pseudobulbs narrow towards their apices. Pseudobulbs are covered by 3 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls disintegrate into persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 0.7-3.5 cm long. Leaf blades are a linear-ligulate or narrowly elliptic shape and have obtuse and mucronate apices. Leaf blades measure 10-18.5 cm long and 0.6-1.5 cm wide. Leaves are dark green sometimes yellowish, coriaceous and have 5-6 distinct nerves.

Inflorescences are synanthous. Peduncles are erect and measure 5-11 cm long. Rachises are erect to gently curved and measure 15-18 cm long. Rachises are quadrangular in cross-section. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 2-3 mm apart. There is 1 non-floriferous bract at the base of the rachises.

Ames described the flowers as greenish yellow (Ames 1920). Jeffrey Wood wrote, the flowers are greenish yellow, pale lemon or pale green (Wood 2001). Sepals and petals have tiny trichomes at their bases. Dorsal sepals are slightly concave, a narrowly elliptic shape and have acuminate apices. Dorsal sepals measure 4.1-6.0 mm long and 1.4-1.5 mm wide. Dorsal sepals have entire margins and are three veined. Lateral sepals are a slightly obliquely narrowly elliptic shape and have acute to acuminate apices. Lateral sepals measure 4.1-5 mm long and 1.4-1.5 mm wide. Lateral sepals have entire margins and are three veined. Petals are a narrowly elliptic shape and have acuminate apices. Petals measure 4-4.25 mm long and 0.9-1 mm wide. Petals have entire margins, sometimes minutely denticulate and are one veined. Labella are entire, three veined and shortly clawed. Labella measure 3-4 mm long and 1.5-1.6 mm wide. Labella are a narrowly elliptic shape and has decurved acuminate apices. The margins are minutely denticulate to erose. There are 2 prominent keels that join at the base of the hypochile and terminate just before the middle of the...
labella. The median nerve is elevated and terminates at the middle of the labellum. Columns are slightly curved and measure 2.5 mm long. Column feet are small. Apical hoods are elongated and have subquadrate shaped apices; the margins are entire or dentate. Ames wrote that the apical hood is variable and is either 3-lobed, tridentate, or entire (Ames 1920). Stelidia grow upwards from the base of columns and are almost equal to the column apices. Stelidia are at an angle to the columns’ so they are parallel with the labella, the stelidia measure 2 mm long and are half the length of the labella. Stelidia are a linear-ligulate shape and have obtuse apices.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype
AMES
Specimen 98777 (photo)

Isotype
BM
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (K)
I could not locate the specimen
New York Botanical Garden (NY)
Specimen 39534
SING

Other herbarium specimens

The Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh (E)
Specimen E00050027
Specimen E00050090 (unspecified kind of type)
Specimen E00050024
Specimen E00050025

SAR
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (K)
I could not locate the specimen
AMES
Specimen 98778 (photo)

National Herbarium Netherlands (L)
Specimen L0322577
Specimen L0322578
Specimen L0322579
Specimen L0322580

SING
Sabah Parks Herbarium
BM
BO
HBG
UKMS
SAN

Scent
Yes, sweetly scented

Flowering Season
Flowering plants have been collected in the wild from May to January. Flowering plants in Sarawak have been collected during September and October. The collection from Kalimantan was collected during October and plants from Mount Kinabalu have been collected during various months.

Cultivation
I do not think this species is in cultivation

Similar Species
Dendrochilum subintegrum
Dendrochilum longipes

Other Information
Jeffrey Wood wrote (2001) that Dendrochilum lancilabium is probably most closely related to Dendrochilum subintegrum. The differences are the narrower leaves and the broader labellum.

The epithet refers to the spear shaped labella.

A drawing by Oakes Ames
This photo was taken by Kath Barrett and is reproduced on this website with permission by Jeffrey Wood. ©

This photo was taken by Todd Barkman and is reproduced on this website with permission by Jeffrey Wood. ©
Reference –

AMES, Oakes. 1920, Illustrations and studies of the Family Orchidaceae Facsimile 6 The Orchids of Mount Kinabalu British North Borneo, Ames Botanical Laboratory, North Easton, Massachusetts, Boston.

BEAMAN, Teofila, WOOD, Jeffrey, BEAMAN, Reed, BEAMAN, John. 2001, Orchids of Sarawak, Natural History Publications Borneo, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.
