

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum exile* Ames, Orchidaceae 2: 84 (1908)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

Acoridium exile (Ames) Ames, Orchidaceae 7: 80 (1922).

Origin in the Wild

Mindoro and Luzon

Elevation in the Wild

2,070 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This species was collected by E.D Merrill on Mount Halcon on Mindoro. The plant was recorded as an epiphyte (Ames 1907).

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs cluster along a short rhizome and are a fusiform-terete shape. Pseudobulbs measure 0.7-3.6cm long and 0.1-0.2cm in diameter. Pseudobulbs are covered by 4-5 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls soon disintegrate into persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 0.7-2.8cm long. Leaf blades are a narrowly linear shape and have acute apices. Leaf blades measure 5.2-12.8cm long and 0.2cm wide. Leaves have 3 distinct nerves on the blade; the 2 outermost nerves are 0.5mm from the leaf margin.

The Inflorescence

Inflorescences are synanthous and are free from subtending leaves at the time of flowering. Peduncles are suberect to somewhat curved and measure 2.1-8.2cm long. Rachises are nodding and measure 1.2-3.8cm long. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 3mm apart. There are 1-2 appressed non-floriferous bracts at the base of the rachis. Flowers open from the distal section of the rachis.

The Flowers

Henrik Pedersen wrote that the flowers number between 4 and 13 on an inflorescence and the flowers are greenish-yellow (Pedersen 1997). Sepals and petals spread widely. Dorsal sepals are an elliptic shape and have obtuse apices. Dorsal sepals measure 3.4-3.9mm long and 1.6-1.8mm wide. Dorsal sepals are three veined and have entire margins. Lateral sepals are a slightly oblique, elliptic shape and have obtuse apices. Lateral sepals measure 3.4-3.5mm long and 1.7-1.9mm wide. Lateral sepals are three veined and have entire margins. Petals are an obovate-subspathulate shape and have obtuse apices. Petals measure 3.1-3.4mm long and 1.4-1.9mm wide. Petals are three veined and have entire margins. Labella are porrect and 3-lobed. Labella measure 1.1mm long and 1.9mm wide. Labella are obscurely three veined, glabrous and have entire margins. Side lobes are erect, a falcate-oblong shape and have obtuse to rounded apices. Side lobes are equal in length to the mid-lobe. Mid-lobes are a transversely oblong shape and have rounded apices that are apiculate in

their centre. There are 3 calli, the lateral calli are minute and located at the base of the side lobes. The median callus is shaped oblongoid and is located at the centre of the hypochile. Columns are erect and measure 0.7-0.9mm long. Columns are hooded at their apices. Stelidia and column foot are absent

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

Philippine National Herbarium, (PNH)

Specimen - destroyed

Isotype

AMES

[Specimen 18870](#)

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

I could not find the specimen

SING

US

Scent

No

Flowering Season

The holotype was collected in flower during November.

Culture

I do not think this species is in cultivation

Similar Species

Dendrochilum mindorense

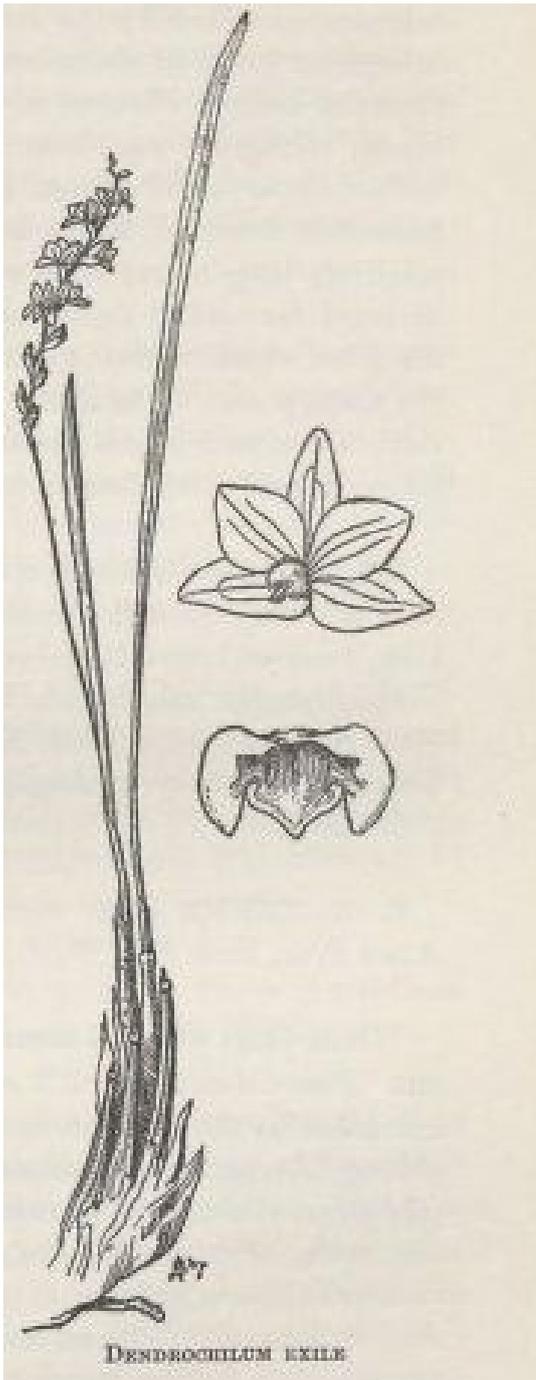
Dendrochilum pumilum

Dendrochilum vanoverberghii

Dendrochilum longibulbum

Other Information

Ames in his facsimile 2 wrote that this species was a link between *Dendrochilum tenellum* and *Dendrochilum tenuifolium*. Ames wrote that the shape of the labellum distinguishes it from all other linear leaved species (Ames 1908). Henrik Pedersen wrote (1997) that this species has similar flowers to *Dendrochilum mindorense* and *Dendrochilum pumilum* (Pedersen 1997).



An illustration by Oakes
Ames

Reference -

AMES, Oakes. 1907, Orchidaceae Halconenses: An Enumeration of the Orchids Collected on and Near Mount Halcon, Mindoro, Chiefly By E.D. Merrill, Bureau of Printing, Manila.

AMES, Oakes. 1908, Illustrations and studies of the Family Orchidaceae Facsimile 2, Ames Botanical Laboratory, North Easton, Massachusetts, Boston.

PEDERSEN, Henrik. 1997, The Genus Dendrochilum (Orchidaceae) in the Philippines - A Taxonomic Revision. Opera Botanica, Denmark

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 01 November 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **01 November 2008**.

www.dendrochilum.com

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