

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum auriculilobum* J.J.Wood in J.J.Wood & P.J.Cribb, Check-list Orchids Borneo: 165 (1994)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Sabah

Elevation in the Wild

1,700 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This species inhabits low and open mossy ridge forest with a dense undergrowth of bamboo and rattan palm. A comment on the holotype specimen states it was growing as a terrestrial.

This species has only been collected a few times from sites in South West Sabah. Collections have been made from Sipitang District, Long Pa Sia and the Ruran headwaters Sungai.

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs are a cylindrical shape and measure 2.8-3cm long and 0.6-0.8cm in diameter. Pseudobulbs are spaced 2-3cm apart along the rhizome. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 5-6cm long. Leaf blades are a linear-lanceolate shape and have acute apices. Leaf blades measure 20-25cm long and 1.2-1.3cm wide. Leaves are thin textured.

The Inflorescence

Peduncles are erect and measure 20-25cm long. Rachises are curved and measure up to 18cm long. Flowers are spaced 2.2-5mm apart. There are up to 6 imbricate non-floriferous bracts at the base of the rachis. Flowers open from the proximal part of the rachis.

The Flowers

Flowers are pale green with a darker green labellum. Sepals and petals spread widely. Dorsal sepals are an ovate-elliptic shape and have acute apices. Dorsal sepals measure 4mm long and 1.7-1.8mm wide, are three veined and have entire margins. Lateral sepals are an ovate shape and have acute apices. Lateral sepals measure 4mm long and 2.1mm wide, are three veined and have entire margins. Petals are an elliptic shape and have acute apices. Petals measure 3.9mm long and 1.7-1.8mm wide, are three veined and have entire margins. Labella are concave and three lobed. Labella measure 2.5mm long and 3mm across the side lobes, are auriculate, and have acute apices. Mid-lobes are an oblong-ovate shape and have obtuse apices; the centre of these apices have a small mucro. Labella are three veined and have mostly entire margins; the margins are irregular from the base to the apex of the side lobes.

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There is a transverse basal ridge that 'cuts' across the veins. Columns are an oblong shape and with entire margins at the apices. Columns measure 0.8-1mm long. There are no steldia or apical hood on the column.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden (L)

[Specimen L0052489](#)

Isotype

Kew Botanical Gardens (K)

[Specimen K000078143](#)

[Specimen 60399.000](#)

[Specimen K000078144](#)

Other herbarium specimens

Scent

Yes, the Kew and Leiden specimens both state that this species is fragrant.

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during December.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation

Similar Species

Dendrochilum hologyne

Additional Comments

Jeffery Wood writes that this species is similar to *Dendrochilum hologyne* which is also found in the same area of Sabah. *Dendrochilum auriculilobum* has shorter and thicker pseudobulbs, laxer inflorescences, larger flowers and labellum with auriculate side lobes.

The epithet refers to the 'ear like' shape of the side lobes.

Reference -

WOOD, Jeffrey. 1997, Orchids of Borneo volume 3. The Sabah Society, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

WOOD, Jeffrey. Dendrochilum of Borneo, 2001. Natural History Publications (Borneo), Malaysia.

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 22 August 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **22 August 2008**.

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