

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum carnosum* (Ridl.) Holttum, Gard. Bull. Singapore 11: 280 (1947)

Subgenus – Platyclinis

Synonyms

Platyclinis carnosa Ridl., J. Fed. Malay States Mus. 6: 56 (1915).

Origin in the Wild

Peninsula Malaysia

Elevation in the Wild

1,350 – 2,100 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This plant has been collected in the Genting Highlands. Plants are found on exposed mountain ridges (Seidenfaden et al)

The Plants Description

Rhizomes are creeping with pseudobulbs are spaced 1.5-3cm apart. Pseudobulbs are a conical shape and measure 1.5-2.5cm. Pseudobulbs are covered by cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls soon disintegrate into non-persistent fibres as pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate and coriaceous; petioles measure 1cm. Leaf blades are narrowed basally, an elliptic lanceolate shape and have obtuse apices. Leaf blades measure 6.5cm long and 6mm wide (Seidenfaden wrote 15cm long and 2cm wide) and contain 6-7 distinct nerves.

The Inflorescence

Inflorescences are arching. Peduncles measure up to 15cm and rachises measure up to 15cm. Ridley gave an overall measurement of 14cm (Ridley 1915). The bracts are longer than the pedicel and ovary.

The Flowers

Flowers are greenish with brown keels on the labellum. Dorsal sepals are a lanceolate shape and have obtuse apices. Dorsal sepals measure 6-7mm. Lateral sepals are a lanceolate shape and have obtuse apices. Lateral sepals measure 6-7mm long. Petals measure 5mm long and 2mm wide and have 3 distinct nerves. Labella are three lobed and measure 5mm long and 2.5mm wide. Side lobes curve outwards, are triangular and have acuminate apices, the margins of the side lobes are minutely dentate. Midlobes are an ovate shape and have acuminate-acute apices. The mid-lobe has a denticulate margin (has minute teeth). There are two short keels which rise from the labellum's base to near the middle. The keels are a darker colour. Columns are short, thick and straight. Apical hoods are an oblong shape and dentate. Stelidia grow upwards from the base of the column and have acuminate apices. Stelidia do not reach the column apex.

Herbarium Specimens

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Holotype

I could not locate the type

Other herbarium specimens

Kew Botanical Gardens (K)

[Specimen 39309.000](#)

Scent

Unknown

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during January.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation

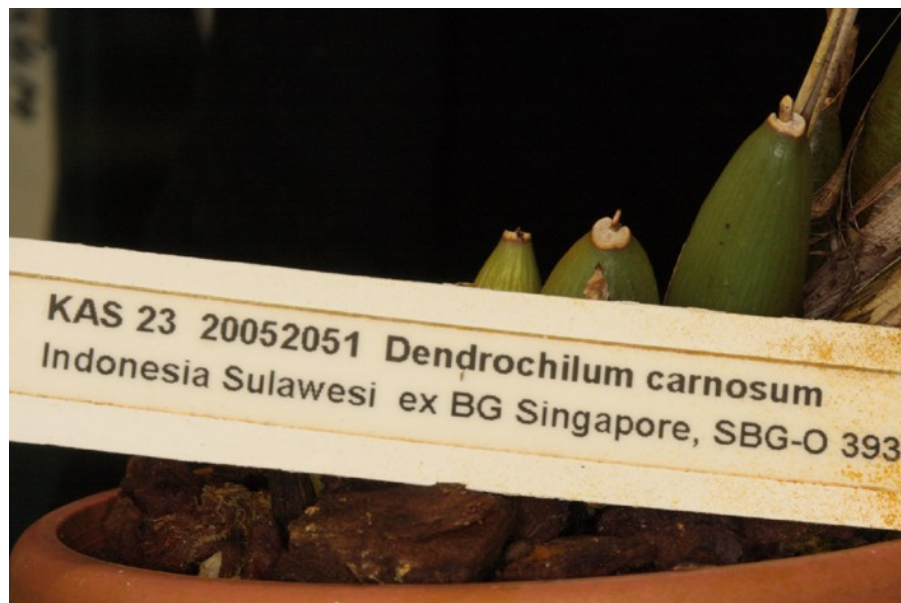
Similar Species

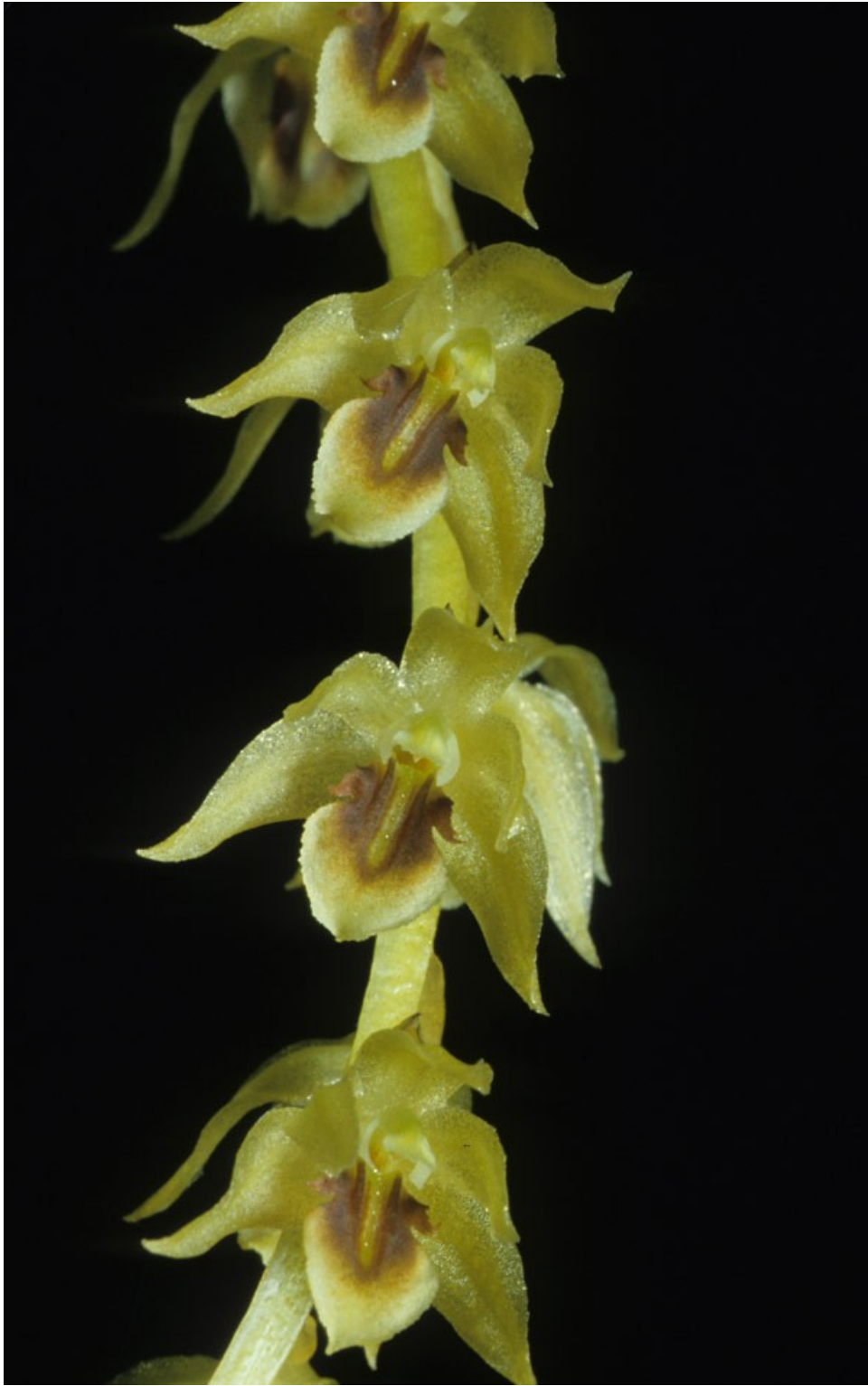
Dendrochilum longifolium

Dendrochilum gracile

Other Information

Seidenfaden drew a comparison between this species and *Dendrochilum gracile*. There are photos of a plant from the Hortus Botanicus in Leiden labelled as *Dendrochilum carnosum*. This plant is not this species and is *Dendrochilum erectilabium*. The mix-up has occurred as the wrong species name has been assigned to a collection from Sulawesi. See a photo of the plant label below (photo courtesy of Malcolm Perry).





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Reference –

RIDLEY, Henry. 1915, An Expedition to Mount Menuang Gaising, Selangor, Journal of the Federated Malay States, Volume 6

SEIDENFADEN, Gunnar;; WOOD, Jeffrey;; HOULTTUM, Eric;. 1992, The Orchids of Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 27 July 2009. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **27 July 2009**.