

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum brevilabre* Ridl., J. Malayan Branch Roy. Asiat. Soc. 1: 96 (1923)

Subgenus – *Dendrochilum*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Sumatra

Elevation in the Wild

Not recorded

Habitat in the Wild

This species was collected in forest near Berastagi from Northern Sumatra.

The Plants Description

Rhizomes measure up to 30cm and have many sheaths. The cylindrical shaped pseudobulbs are yellow and measure 5cm long. Leaf blades are an elliptic-lanceolate shape. Leaves measure approximately 15cm long and 3.2cm wide.

The Inflorescence

Inflorescences measure approximately 15cm long. The peduncle is very short.

The Flowers

I could not find any information about the colour of the flower within original descriptions and Jim Comber's *The Orchids of Sumatra*. The sepals are an acuminate shape and measure up to 3.5mm long. Petals measure up to 2.5mm long. Labella are short and a broadly obovate shape with truncate apices. There are two keels that run the length of the labellum; the keels become raised nerves toward the apex of the labellum. Columns are short and stolidia emerge from the top of the column and are equal the column apex.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

I could not locate the specimen

Isotype

Kew Botanical Gardens (K)

[Specimen K000078149](#)

www.dendrochilum.com

Written by Trey Sanders - Please use with permission

Scent

Not known

Flowering Season

The Kew specimen was collected during February.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation.

Similar Species

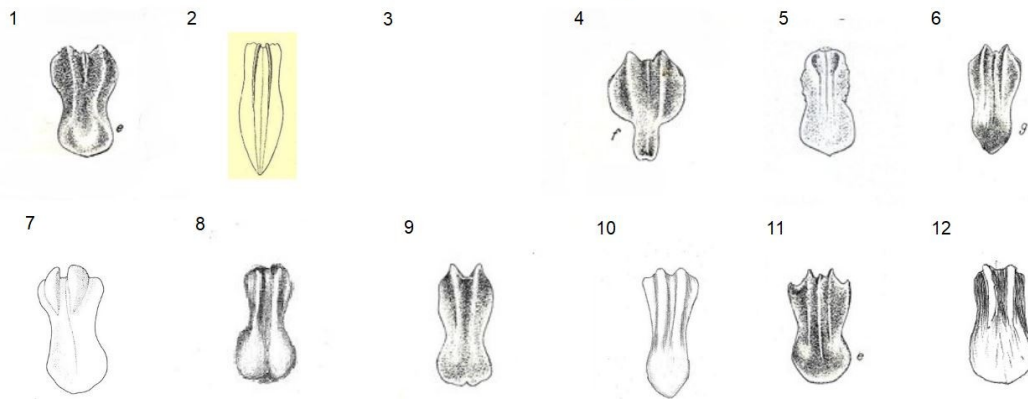
Dendrochilum pallidiflavens

Additional Comments

Jim Comber wrote that this species is close to *Dendrochilum pallidiflavens* but differs by having smaller flowers a broadly ovate labellum and narrower stelidia (Comber 2001).

There is a plant on the Wild Orchids of Sumatra website labelled as this. I believe that this particular plant is *Dendrochilum pallidiflavens* on account of the raised basal keels, keels which extend only half way along the labellum and stelidia that do not reach the apex of the column. The photos are of good quality so have been included with *Dendrochilum pallidiflavens*.

Sumatran *Dendrochilum* in subgenus *Dendrochilum*



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 - <i>Dendrochilum alboviride</i> | 7 - <i>Dendrochilum pallidiflavens</i> |
| 2 - <i>Dendrochilum aurantiacum</i> | 8 - <i>Dendrochilum panduratum</i> |
| 3 - <i>Dendrochilum brevilabre</i> | 9 - <i>Dendrochilum rhodobulbum</i> |
| 4 - <i>Dendrochilum compectens</i> | 10 - <i>Dendrochilum sulfureum</i> |
| 5 - <i>Dendrochilum devoogdii</i> | 11 - <i>Dendrochilum taeniophyllum</i> |
| 6 - <i>Dendrochilum korintjiense</i> | 12 - <i>Dendrochilum wichersii</i> |

Drawings by:

Gunnar Seidenfaden
J.J. Smith
Rudolf Schlechter
Trey Sanders
Kranzlin

Image created by Trey Sanders, www.dendrochilum.com

www.dendrochilum.com

Written by Trey Sanders - Please use with permission



These photos were taken by the late Jim Comber and bequeathed to the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew. The photo is reproduced with permission from the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.



Reference –

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

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 24 August 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **24 August 2008**.

www.dendrochilum.com

Written by Trey Sanders - Please use with permission