MAXILLARIA VALENZUELANA subsp. ANGUSTATA Atwood

Maxillaria valenzuelana subsp. angustata Atwood, subsp. nov. A typo, sed foliis angustioribus differt. TYPE: Nicaragua, Zalaya, Siuna, F. Ortiz 612 (Holotype SEL).

Plant a pendent, psygmoid, glaucous, essentially monopodial epiphyte with very abbreviated non swollen stems. Roots greyish, to 1.5 mm in diameter. Mature leaves 5-15, conduplicate and remaining unexpanded, linear in profile, somewhat falcate, acute, 8-30 cm long, 0.8-1.5 cm wide at the oblique articulation. Inflorescence a fascicle of successively borne, single flowered scapes, each scape to about 3-4 cm long, mostly hidden by the subtending cataphyll, and covered by acute sheaths. Ovary with pedicel 2-2.5 cm long, subtended by a rudimentary, short, obtuse bract. Flowers presented downward with the pendent shoot, more exposed than in the type, greenish yellow, the lip deeper yellow with spots of red or purple. Sepals narrowly ovate, acute, 9-11 mm long, 3-5 mm wide. Petals lance-ovate, acute, 7-9 mm long, about 2-3 mm wide. Lip fleshy, rhombic and slightly attenuate above the middle, cuneate, 9-10 mm long, 4-5 mm wide, broadly acute, fleshy. Column about 3.5-4 mm long, forming a short foot at the base. Fruit an ellipsoid capsule 2-2.3 cm long.

Ecology: Epiphytic on the trunks and larger branches of trees, usually high in the canopy at about 1000 m elev.

Distribution: Honduras and northern Nicaragua.

Notes: This subspecies is similar to the type but generally smaller in all its parts, and the scapes and flowers are more exposed. The figure illustrated by Hamer (Plate 869 of this series) is this subspecies.

Flowering season: Mostly December and January.

Illustration voucher: F. Ortiz 612 (SEL).



MAXILLARIA VALENZUELANA subsp. ANGUSTATA PLATE 1371 Text on reverse side Icones Plantarum Tropicarum