

**Kefersteinia bengasahra** D. E. Benn. &  
Christenson, sp. nov. (Fig. 4)

TYPE: PERU. Pasco: Oxapampa, Puerto Bermúdez, Río Lorenzo, 4 Jun 1992, *O. del Castillo ex Bennett 5605* (HOLOTYPE: USM).

Species haec *K. sanguinolentae* Rchb.f. similis sed labello margine denticulato basi saccato, et flore campanulato differt.

Caespitose fan-shaped epiphytes. Leaves 4–5, linear-lanceolate, acute, articulated to imbricating sheaths, 7–14 × 1.2 cm. Inflorescences slender axillary scapes, semi-erect, the peduncle with a solitary loose bract below the middle, the floral bracts 2, dissimilar, subopposite. Flowers campanulate, small for the genus, the sepals and petals greenish-white, the labellum white with purple spots and flecks, the column greenish-white with purple spots and flecks, the anther yellowish white, the viscidium and stipe translucent, the pollinia pale yellow. Sepals and petals subsimilar and subequal, 11–12 × 5 mm, the dorsal sepal lanceolate, apiculate, concave-galeate, the lateral sepals obliquely lanceolate, curved forward, parallel, decurrent on the foot, the petals obliquely elliptic-oblong, acute, apiculate, parallel. Labellum obovate-suborbicular, concave-subsaccate, with a transverse folded ridge near the middle, 11 × 10 mm when expanded, the margins erose above the abruptly subcordate base, the callus elliptic in outline, 0.5 × 0.3 mm, apically with 2 oblique, divergent, complanate teeth and with lateral flaps just below the middle. Column stout, slightly arcuate, with semielliptic wings at the middle, with a short, inconspicuous abaxial keel and below the middle with a thick, raised, oblong rib extending on to the foot, sparsely pubescent dorsally and on wings, 11 × 6 mm, the anther obovoid, 2.8 × 3 mm, the pollinar-

ium 2.6 × 1.2 mm, the viscidium ovate-triangular, 1 × 0.6 mm, the pollinia claviform, compressed, larger pair 1.5 × 0.6 mm.

**Etymology:** Named for Ben-Gasahra del Castillo, the oldest son of the collector of the species, Oliveros del Castillo.

**Habitat:** Wet montane forest (1250 m). This species flowers in April and May under cultivation in Lima and probably during many months of the year under favorable growing conditions.

*Kefersteinia bengasahra* is distinguished from other species by the callus with lateral semielliptic flaps and oblique, divergent, dorsally compressed teeth, the oblong, winged column, and the inconspicuous, very short abaxial column keel with a basal, oblong rib.

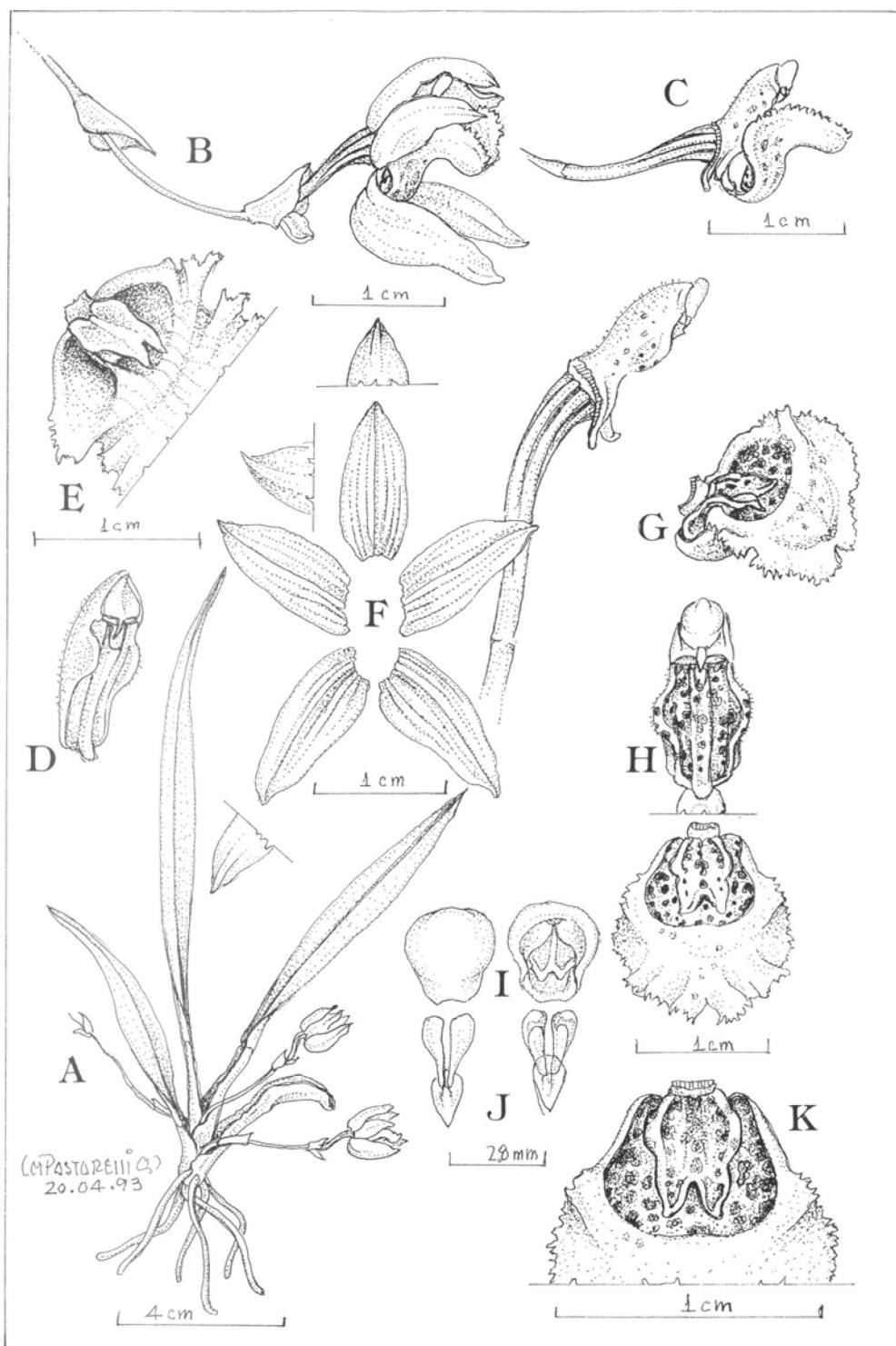


FIG. 4. *Kefersteinia bengasahrae* D. E. Benn. & Christenson (drawn from Bennett 5605). A. Plant in flower. B. Flower. C. Column and labellum in profile. D. Column. E. Callus. F. Floral dissection. G. Labellum. H. Column, abaxial view. I. Anther. J. Pollinarium. K. Callus, adaxial view.