

Lockhartia variabilis A. & S. sp. nov. Herba humilis, variabilis. Caulis basibus foliorum imbricatis omnino obtectus. Folia disticha, scapelliformia, leviter falcata, obtusa. Flores flavi, in sicco membranacei. Sepala elliptico-lanceolata, mucronata. Petala elliptica, latiora, acuta. Labellum in circuitu quadratum, basi rotundatum, medio rhombicodilatum, deinde angustatum, apice bilobatum; discus basi callosus. Columna late alata.

Plant low for the genus, 14 cm. tall to the apex of the uppermost leaf. Roots fibrous, glabrous. Stem compressed, entirely concealed by imbricating leaf-bases. Leaves distichous, equitant, scalpelliform, slightly spreading-falcate, narrowed to an obtuse apex, up to 3.35 cm. long on the lower margin, 2.6–6.5 mm. wide near the base (the lowest leaves not 2 cm. long, 4.5 mm. wide). Inflorescences apparently single in the axils of the two uppermost leaves. Flowers membranaceous when dry. Lateral sepals elliptic- or oblong-lanceolate, 3.9–4.9 mm. long, about 2 mm. wide below the middle, 1- or 3-nerved, mucronate. Dorsal sepal similar. Petals slightly larger than the sepals, elliptic to suborbicular, acute, 4.1–5 mm. long, 2.4–3.2 mm. wide, 3-nerved. Labellum quadrate in outline, 7.1–8.1 mm. long, 4.9–6.4 mm. wide across the middle, deeply bilobed at the apex; lamina rounded at base, more or less rhombic-dilated in the middle, then narrowed and more or less dilated into two anterior subquadrate lobes; basal callus conspicuous, oblong to ovate-oblong, margin raised and finely papillose, depressed within and provided in the centre with a rounded boss. Column short and stout, with a pair of spreading rounded-triangular wings, adherent to the basal part of the lamina of the labellum. Pollinia pyriform, somewhat complanate.

One flower from the type specimen, in addition to being markedly smaller, has the sides of the lip not so sharply dilated and narrowed. A second collection (*Powell 361*) is a much narrower leaved plant, the leaves all less than 3 cm. long and 2.6–4 mm. wide near the base. A vegetatively intermediate caespitose plant (*Powell 372*) has a very slightly indented labellum and indistinct (possibly incomplete) column-wings. A caespitose plant (*R. S. Williams 1008*) reaching 19 cm. in height is apparently the same species, but it has no flowers.

Lockhartia variabilis is a very variable species allied to *L. Pittieri* Schltr., from which it differs in the lip, which is relatively much longer than the sepals and petals. It is separable from *L. parthenoglossa* Reichb. f. by its narrower sepals, its elliptic petals, and rounded column-wings, as well as by its narrower leaves.

PANAMA, Wooded hills near Frijoles, C. W. Powell 355, January–February 1924. Sea level. Grows in medium shade. Flowers yellow with an orange boss at base of lip. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 28131.): Cativa-Porto Bello Trail, C. W. Powell 361: Ft. Sherman and mouth of Chagres River Trail, C. W. Powell 372, January 1924. "Found growing on mossy limbs in medium sun.": Marraganti and Vicinity, R. S. Williams 1008, April 3–9, 1908. 10–200 feet altitude. "Fls. yellow, lip with red centre."