

TROPICAL AMERICAN ORCHIDS

***Oncidium floridanum* Ames sp. nov.**

Oncidium sphacelatum Ames Contrib. Orch. Fl. So. Fla. (1904) 22 (exclude t.), non Lindl.

Herba terrestris, caulibus foliatis pseudobulbo bifoliato terminatis. Folia sub pseudobulbo pauca, plana, coriacea. Pseudobulbi elongati, valde complanati, ancipites, in sicco canaliculati. Folia ligulata, acuta. Pedunculus elongatus, laxe ramosus vel subsimplex. Bracteae inflorescentiae squamiformes, pedicello multo breviores. Sepala lateralia libera, elliptico-oblonga, subtus prope apicem valde sed breviter carinata. Sepalum dorsale simile, subtus inconspicue carinatum. Petala ovato-lanceolata, subtus prope apicem breviter carinata, margine plus minusve undulata. Labellum toto ambitu panduriforme; lobi laterales parvi, rotundati; lobus intermedius transverse oblongus vel obscure reniformis, leviter emarginatus. Crista in basi disci septemdentata, dentibus basilaribus lobulatis. Columna prope apicem utrinque alata.

Terrestrial herb. Roots coarsely fibrous, whitish, spreading. Pseudobulbs congested, subtended by several elongated leaves which are sheathing at the base, 8–12 cm. long, about 2 cm. thick in greatest diameter, strongly flattened, ancipitous, bifoliate at the apex. Leaves ligulate, 4 dm. or more long, 1.5–2 cm. wide, acute, coriaceous in texture. Peduncle stout, about 6 dm. long, terminating in a compound raceme, or rarely in a simple raceme. Bracts of the peduncle below the inflorescence closely appressed,

TROPICAL AMERICAN ORCHIDS

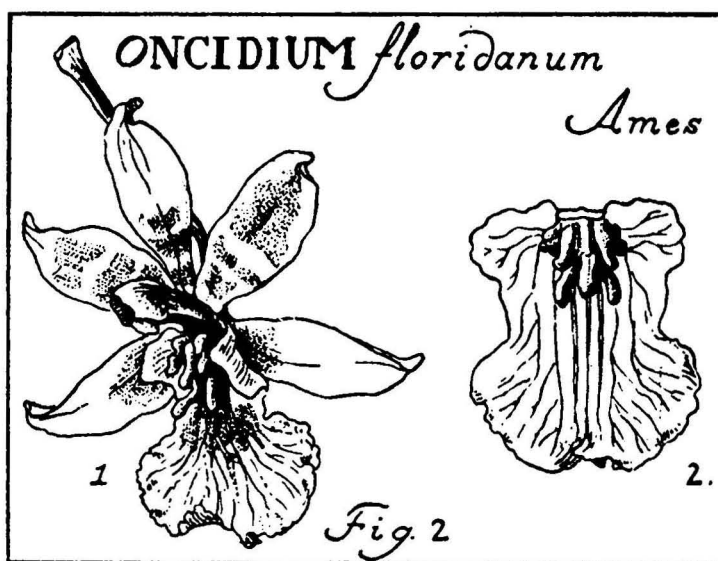
tubular; bracts of the raceme scale-like, about 5 mm. long, much shorter than the pedicels. Pedicel with the ovary 1.5–2.5 cm. long. Flowers yellowish, with brownish stains and markings. Lateral sepals about 1 cm. long, 4 mm. wide, elliptic-oblong, free at the base, obtuse, shortly and prominently carinate beneath near the apex. Dorsal sepal about 1 cm. long, weakly carinate near the tip, otherwise similar to the lateral sepals. Petals about 1 cm. long, 4.5–5 mm. wide, ovate-lanceolate, acute, slightly reflexed at the tip, shortly carinate beneath, undulate on the margin. Labellum about 11 mm. long, broadly pandurate, with the basal lobes much reduced, rounded, more or less spreading, and with the terminal lobe 9 mm. wide and 6 mm. long, transversely oblong or somewhat reniform in outline, emarginate; isthmus between the basal and terminal lobes 2 mm. long, 6.5 mm. wide. Crest at the base of the disc conspicuous, 7-dentate or -lobed, with the anterior pair of teeth obliquely spreading, complanate, obtuse, the basal pair lobulate, the middle pair complanate, obtuse, with a fleshy more or less porrect tooth interposed. Column 5 mm. long, stout, with a conspicuous wing on each side near the summit.

Oncidium floridanum is closely related to *O. Baueri* Lindl. and *O. sphacelatum* Lindl., from both of which it differs most conspicuously in the lobing of the crest at the base of the lip.

The history of this species is rather interesting. The original specimens were collected by A. A. Eaton on November 13, 1903, near Brown's Homestead, in Dade County, Florida. The plants were in fruit, with a few withered flowers still adhering to the branches of the compound raceme. From this very unsatisfactory material I confused the species with *Oncidium sphacelatum* Lindl. In May 1904, Eaton collected the species again, this time near Black Point Creek, and in March 1905, he discovered another station at Coot Bay, east of Whitewater Bay, in Monroe County (no. 1372). Several of the plants flowered in my greenhouse, from which specimens were sent to R. A. Rolfe for confirmation of the belief that the species was undescribed.

TROPICAL AMERICAN ORCHIDS

Mr. Rolfe was unable to identify the specimens and suggested that proposals regarding them be delayed until the Reichenbachian Herbarium should be unsealed. He feared that some of the ambiguous species described by Reichenbach might be conspecific with the Floridian species. In the preparation of an enumeration of the orchids of the United States and Canada it has been necessary to take up again the identity of the species. As I have been unable to ascribe it to any described species, I have proposed for it the name given above. [Fig. 2, $\times 2$.]



FLORIDA, Black Point Creek, A. A. Eaton 957, May 22, 1904. Edge pine woods in damp, rocky soil. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 5375.)