

Ornithidium conduplicatum A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba crassa. Pseudobulbi magni, ovoidei, monophylli, rugosi. Caulis crassus, vaginis foliorum distichis imbricantibus obtectus. Folia ligulata, conduplicata. Flores numerosi, in axillis foliorum fasciculati. Perianthium campanulatum. Sepala lateralialia lanceolata, acuta. Sepalum dorsale oblongo-lanceolatum. Petala obovato-oblonga. Labellum conduplicatum, lobis rotundatis, lobo intermedio majore bilobato. Columna brevis, crassa.

Plant stout, apparently with a creeping rhizome (broken off below). Roots glabrous, fibrous, stout. Pseudobulbs (only one in our specimen) ovoid, about 5.5 cm. long, deeply striate-rugose and shining when dry, monophyllous (the leaf missing), base sheathed with distichous leaf-bases. Stem stout, about 1 cm. in diameter, with a few ascending branches above, mostly concealed by the distichous imbricating leaf-bases. Leaves apparently numerous, ligulate, 10–13.5 cm. or more long, 18–20 mm. wide above when expanded, strongly conduplicate in the dried specimen, abruptly rounded, minutely bilobed and mucronate at the apex (only two leaves terminating two branches are present). Flowers on slender 1-flowered peduncles which are thickly clustered in the upper leaf-axils. Peduncles 2.3 cm. or more long, entirely concealed by loose imbricating sheaths that are tubular below. Ovary slightly scabrous. Flower small. Sepals and petals slightly fleshy at the tip. Lateral sepals lanceolate, 5.9 mm. long, about 2.5 mm. wide near the base, acute, lightly oblique, somewhat concave at the base, 5-nerved. Dorsal sepal oblong-lanceolate, 5.9 mm. long, about 2 mm. wide, concave, 5-nerved. Petals obovate-oblong, about 5 mm. long, 2.1 mm. wide, acute, often somewhat oblique, 4-nerved. Labellum continuous with the stout column-foot, shorter than the rest of the perianth, quadrate in outline, porrect, 4-lobed when flattened out, about 4 mm. long; lateral lobes erect in natural position, semi-orbicular, contracted above by a transverse fleshy callus extending between the lobes; terminal portion conduplicate in natural position, suborbicular when expanded, about 2 mm. long and 2.6 mm. wide when spread out, sharply divided into two concave rounded lobules. Column very short and stout, 1.75 mm. long dorsally.

Ornithidium conduplicatum has apparently no near allies, but the flower remotely recalls that of *O. fulgens* Reichb. f.

The leaf measurements were taken from the apical leaves on the branches, and, judging by the leaf-sheaths on the main stem, they are evidently much smaller than typical. [Fig. 5: flower and pedicel $\times 12$. 1, column and labellum, in natural position $\times 4$. 2, petal \times about 4. 3, column $\times 7$. 4, lateral sepal $\times 3 \frac{1}{2}$. 5, dorsal sepal $\times 3 \frac{1}{3}$. 6, labellum, front view $\times 6$.]

PANAMA, Province of Chiriqui, Palo Alto Hill, C. W. Powell 341, September–October 1923. 4000–5000 feet altitude. "Grows in much sunlight. . . . The bulbs are bronze when they are mature." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 28138.)