

***Pelexia congesta* A. & S. sp. nov.** Planta terrestris, congesta. Radices tuberosae, crassae, lanuginosae. Folia elliptica, basalia, rosulata, petiolata. Caulis quam folia brevior, vaginis pluribus obtectus. Racemus brevis, crassus, floribus magnis. Sepala lateralibus spathulato-linearibus, parte libera recurva. Sepalum dorsale oblanceolato-oblongum. Petala sepalis lateralibus similia. Labellum pandurato-lineare, apice dilatato trilobatum. Columna antice pubescens.

Plant terrestrial. Roots large, tuberous, lanuginose. Leaves clustered in a basal rosette, petioled; lamina elliptic or elliptic-lanceolate, about 8 cm. long, 2.7 cm. wide, acute, narrowed at base; petiole short, up to 4 cm. long, channeled, dilated to a sheathing base. Stem about 9 cm. tall, mostly concealed by loose tubular scarious sheaths, closely glandular-pubescent. Raceme short, stout, 7.7 cm. long, about 5.4 cm. in diameter. Floral bracts lanceolate, up to 2.65 cm. long, acuminate. Flowers 12 in number, green and yellow. Lateral sepals subspatulate-linear, lower part long connate with the ovary; free portion about 1.8 cm. long, 3.2 mm. wide near the apex, acute, 3-nerved, densely glandular-pubescent on the outer surface, arcuate recurved in the dried specimen. Dorsal sepal oblanceolate-oblong, 1.88 cm. long, 5 mm. wide near the apex, subacute, concave, 5-nerved, densely glandular-pubescent on the back. Petals similar to the lateral sepals, adherent to and little shorter than the dorsal sepal, spatulate-linear, 1.85 cm. long, 2.9 mm. wide near the apex, obtuse, oblique, anterior margins glandular-ciliate, 2-nerved. Labellum pandurate-linear, about 2.7 cm. long when extended, slightly dilated at base with a pair of fleshy retrorse auricles, middle portion an elongate linear isthmus, anterior third gradually dilated and about 6.1 mm. wide, then sharply contracted and again broadened to a small reflexed transversely ovate or reniform lobe. Disc finely pubescent on the outer surface except near the margins and the terminal lobe, long pubescent on the inner surface near the base. Spur very prominent, slender conic, 4.5 mm. long, obtuse. Column long and slender, 1.55 cm. long, densely pubescent on the anterior face; rostellum short, triangular-oblong, abruptly truncate.

*Pelexia congesta* is allied to *P. Funckiana* (A. Rich. & Gal.) Schltr., but it differs from that species and from all its Central American allies in its congested habit, cellular-pubescent anterior surface of the column, prominent conical spur and large flowers. Like *P. callosa* Ames, it has a densely pubescent outer surface of the perianth, but it has short lip-auricles and very short petioles.

The description was made from a single dried plant.

COSTA RICA, Province of Guanacaste, La Tejona, North of Tilarán, Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio 45885, January 25, 1926. 600–700 meters altitude. "Moist forest, terrestrial; flowers green; lip yellow." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33212.)