

ORCHIDACEAE QUAEDAM AMERICANAE

***Pleurothallis abjecta* Ames sp. nov.** Herba epiphytica, dense caespitosa. Caules secundarii abbreviati, monophylli. Folium in petiolum sulcatum productum; lamina elliptica, marginata, apice breviter apiculata, coriacea, quam pedunculus brevior. Pedunculus singulus, filiformis, infra flores nudus. Flores subfasciculati vel in racemum valde abbreviatum contracti, purpureo-tincti. Sepala lateralia usque ad medium vel supra medium cohaerentia, laminam ellipticam formantia. Sepalum dorsale valde concavum, quam sepala lateralia multo angustius. Petala triangulari-lanceolata, acuminata, acuta. Labelium anguste linguiforme, per medium sulcatum, utrinque prope marginem incrassatum, obtusum, margine dense pilifero. Columna in pedem brevem producta, apice denticulato.

Plants densely caespitose with slender spreading whitish roots. Secondary stems slender, up to 5 mm. long, clothed with scarious sheaths which soon pass away, monophyllous. Leaf with the petiole included up to 1 cm. long, about 3 mm. wide; lamina 5 mm. long, elliptical, apiculate at the tip, strongly marginate, coriaceous, rigid, erect. Peduncle single, with the raceme up to 1.5 cm. long, very slender, naked below the contracted few-flowered raceme, erect, slightly exceeding the leaves. Flowers few, purplish, subfasciculate, subtended by infundibuliform scarious acute bracts. Pedicels persistent, about 2 mm. long, slender. Ovary 2 mm. long, dilated upward from a slender base, articulated with the pedicel. Lateral sepals 3-4 mm. long, coherent (for about three-fourths or one-half of their length), forming an elliptical lamina 2 mm. wide across the middle, 4-nerved, free tips somewhat convergent, subacute. Dorsal sepal 3.5 mm. long, elliptic-lanceolate, elongate-cucullate, obtuse, 3-nerved. Petals 3 mm. long, about 1 mm. wide near the middle, triangular-lanceolate from a broad base, acuminate, acute, 1-nerved. Labellum nearly 3 mm. long, hardly 1 mm. wide, up to the base provided with hairs of irregular length along the strongly deflexed margin, oblong-lanceolate; apex obtuse, entire, with shaggy glandular hairs. Disc sulcate to about the middle, thickened on each

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side of the groove. Column 2 mm. long, produced into a short foot, dilated upward, denticulate at the apex.

A close ally of *Pleurothallis abbreviata* Schltr., from which it differs in having an entire, hairy labellum.

GUATEMALA, Department of Alta Verapaz, Chamá, *Harry Johnson 905*, August 5, 1920. On trees. 900 feet altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 22741. DUPLICATE TYPE in U. S. Nat. Herb. No. 1081164.)