

CENTRAL AMERICAN ORCHIDS

Pleurothallis arietina *Ames sp. nov.* Radices graciles, fibratae. Caules secundarii valde elongati, conspicue alati, paucivaginati. Vaginae caulis elongatae, arcte appressae. Folium lanceolatum, acutum, coriaceum. Flores fasciculati, quam folium multo breviores, e spatha complanata orientes. Sepala lateralibus usque ad apicem cohaerentibus, laminam concaviusculam oblongam formantibus. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala unguiculata, supra unguem oblonga, triquetra, obtusa, valde incrassata, minute et breviter glandulosa. Labellum unguiculatum, explanatum triangulari-crescentiforme, longe auriculatum auriculis porrectis, antice valde incrassatum, glandulosum. Discus callo transverso in basi et carina incrassata in medio. Columna elongata, antice prope basim callo instructa, usque ad apicem minute glandulosa.

Roots fibrous. Secondary stems 20–25 cm. long, conspicuously alate, provided above with two elongated closely appressed cylindrical sheaths, one near the middle of the stem, the other basal, monophyllous. Leaf up to 8.5 cm. long, 3.5 cm. wide below the middle, lanceolate, rounded at base, acuminate, acute, coriaceous, longer than the inflorescence. Flowers fasciculate in the axil of the leaf, the pedicels arising from a complanate sheath. Flower-stalks about 3 cm. long, slender, subfiliform. Lateral sepals 9 mm. long, united to the tip, forming a more or less fleshy, oblong, navicular lamina which is about 3 mm. wide when spread out. Dorsal sepal 8 mm. long, similar to the lamina formed by the lateral sepals, 3-nerved, the nerves prominent. Petals 8 mm. long, 1 mm. wide, unguiculate, oblong above the claw and triquetrous-thickened, subacute, minutely glandular. Labellum suggesting a ram's head when spread out, about 2 mm. long to the base of the slender claw, triangular-crescentiform when the lateral lobes which are normally porrect are spread out, acute, 2 mm. wide in front of the basal porrect auricles which are 1 mm. long and narrowly triangular-acute, apical third of the labellum

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thickened, minutely glandular. Disc with a T-shaped callus in front of the claw. Column 3 mm. long, minutely glandulose, with a cornute projection near the base in front.

This appears to be a near ally of *Pleurothallis crocodiliceps* Reichb. f., but is much taller, with shorter, broader leaves, and with the sepals very much broader than the petals.

COSTA RICA, Cartago, La Estrella, C. H. Lankester & Alfredo Sancho s. n. Flower Pinard-yellow (Ridgway). Labellum spotted with purple. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 23161.)