CENTRAL AMERICAN ORCHIDS

Pleurothallis crescentilabia Ames sp. nov. Caules secundarii elongati, validi, monophylli. Folium ovatum, usque ad apicem angustatum, coriaceum, in sicco nervosum, basi subcordatum, in petiolum conduplicatum brevem contractum. Flores glomerati. Sepala lateralia usque ad apicem cohaerentia, laminam ovato-lanceolatam formantia, basi valde concava, extus nervis prominentibus. Sepalum dorsale lanceolatum, acuminatum, acutum, trinervium, nervis prominentibus, concavum. Petala valde incrassata semiteretia, linearia, usque ad apicem angustata, sepala aequantia. Labellum crescentiforme, basi arrectum statim deflexum, auriculis post columnam attingentibus. Columna brevis, simplex vix in pedem producta.

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Secondary stems erect, about 17 cm. long, up to 5 mm. thick, monophyllous, vaginate, the sheaths tubular and elongated. Leaf 17.5 cm. long. 8 cm. or more wide. ovate. gradually tapering from below the middle to the pointed tip, coriaceous, many-nerved, the nerves conspicuous in dried specimens, base subcordate, contracted into a short petiole. Petiole more or less conduplicate, 8 mm. long. Flowers crowded, springing from a dense cluster of scarious bracts. Pedicels about 5 mm. long. Lateral sepals 11 mm. long, united throughout their length, forming a strongly concave ovate-lanceolate lamina, which is provided on the outside with several carinate or thickened nerves. Dorsal sepal about 12 mm. long, lanceolate, acute, 3-nerved, the median nerve prominent. Petals 11 mm. long, about 1 mm. wide near the middle, linear, semiterete, rounded on the outer side, tapering gradually to the tip, 3-nerved. Labellum crescentiform when seen from above, the horns of the crescent touching or overlapping behind the column; basal half erect; apical half sharply bent downward, and partly coherent to the basal half, 3 mm, wide, very fleshy. Column 1.5 mm. long, somewhat constricted near the middle.

In habit resembling *Pleurothallis cardiothallis* Reichb. f., *P. acutipetala* Schltr. and *P. glomerata* Ames, but wholly distinct in the structure of the flower.

Costa Rica, Without exact locality, C. H. Lankester 359. Sepals hyaline, the upper one with three, the lower with four purple stripes. Petals deep port-wine-purple. Anther-cap yellow. Labellum horseshoe-shaped enclosing the column. Lateral sepals connate, cochleate. (Type in Herb. Kew.)