

## CENTRAL AMERICAN ORCHIDS

**Pleurothallis saccata** *Ames sp. nov.* Caules secundarii elongati, validi, erecti, monophylli. Folium ellipticum vel ovato-ellipticum, valde coriaceum, basi cordatum. Pedunculi folium aequantes, fasciculati. Bracteae infra racemum tubulatae, arcte appressae, apice vix dilatatae. Bracteae flores subtendentes anguste infundibuliformes. Racemus arcuatus, floribus numerosis secundis purpureo-maculatis. Sepala lateralia usque ad apicem cohaerentia, saccum semiovatum formantia, extus utrinque carinata, carinis usque ad apicem extensis. Sepalum dorsale ellipticum, obtusum, trinervium, porrectum. Petala clavato-spathulata, supra medium valde incrassata, obtusa. Labellum basi arrectum, statim deflexum, basi ipsa columnam amplectenti, valde incrassatum, oblongum, apice rotundatum, minute apiculatum, basi cordatum, auriculis basilaribus retrorsis leviter incurvis triangularibus. Discus bicallosus, callis prope basim labelli prominentibus. Columna carnosa.

Epiphytic herb. Secondary stem stout, elongated, erect, 4 mm. in diameter near the base of the leaf. Leaf incomplete, apparently up to 15 cm. long, 9 cm. more or less wide, ovate-elliptic, leathery, rigid, nervose, cordate at base. Peduncles fasciculate, four or five in each fascicle, with the raceme up to 10 cm. long. Bracts below the raceme about 4 mm. long, closely appressed, tubular, hardly dilated at the summit. Bracts of the raceme about 3.5 mm. long, tubular, hardly dilated, obliquely truncate at the apex. Pedicellate ovary about 4 mm. long. Flowers more or less secund, cream color spotted with purple, globular in aspect. Lateral

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sepals 5 mm. long, united up to the apex, forming a deep semiovate sac which is bicarinate on the outside with the carinae converging and united at the tip of the sac. Dorsal sepal 4.5 mm. long, 2.5 mm. wide, elliptic, obtuse, 3-nerved, forwardly inclined. Petals 2 mm. long, clavate-spatulate, obtuse, conspicuously thickened above the middle, 3-nerved. Labellum 2 mm. long, 1 mm. wide, oblong, rounded at the tip, apiculate, cordate at the base, the auricles retrorse and closely appressed to the column. Disc bicallose, with a protuberant rounded callus on each side near the base, one in front of each triangular auricle. (Seen from the side, the erect base of the labellum appears to have fused with the abruptly deflexed pendent apical part.) Column fleshy, 1.75 mm. long. Pollinia two, slenderly pyriform.

In habit similar to *Pleurothallis Pittieri* Schltr., but in floral structure entirely different from it. It would seem that this species after anthesis becomes much larger in its vegetative parts. The labellum is similar to that of *P. geniculata* Lindl.

COSTA RICA, Cascajal, C. H. Lankester K340. When fully developed over one meter high. (TYPE in Herb. Kew.)