

Encyclia racemifera Dressler, *sp. nov.* TYPE: COSTA RICA: Prov. San José: vicinity of El General, 1470 m, Aug. 1936, A. F. Skutch 2807 (holotype: AMES; isotype MO). Figure 1, A–G.

E. pygmaeae (Hook.) Dressler affinis sed inflorescentia racemosa multiflora et lobi lateralibus labellii oblique ovatis.

Epiphytic or lithophytic; **pseudobulbs** ellipsoid to obclavate, $2.5\text{--}6 \times 0.4\text{--}0.9$ cm, with sheathing bracts $2.5\text{--}3 \times 1\text{--}1.5$ cm, some with rudimentary blades; **leaves** 2 or 3, elliptic to oblong-lanceolate, $2\text{--}8 \times 0.7\text{--}1.3$ cm; **inflorescence** $2\text{--}4.5$ cm, of 6–15 flowers, racemose, from narrow spathe $7\text{--}17 \times 2.5\text{--}3$ mm (folded), **floral bracts** thin, triangular-lanceolate, $4\text{--}5 \times 1.8\text{--}2$ mm; sepals greenish white, green or brownish green, **petals** similar or white, lip white with purple spot on midlobe; sepals triangular-lanceolate, acute or acuminate, $5\text{--}7 \times 1.5\text{--}2$ mm; petals lance-linear, acute, $5\text{--}5.5 \times 0.7\text{--}0.9$ mm; lip $4\text{--}4.8$ mm long, 3-lobed, **lateral lobes** $1.5\text{--}2.1 \times 2\text{--}2.5$, subflabellate or ovate (parallel with lip axis), subacute

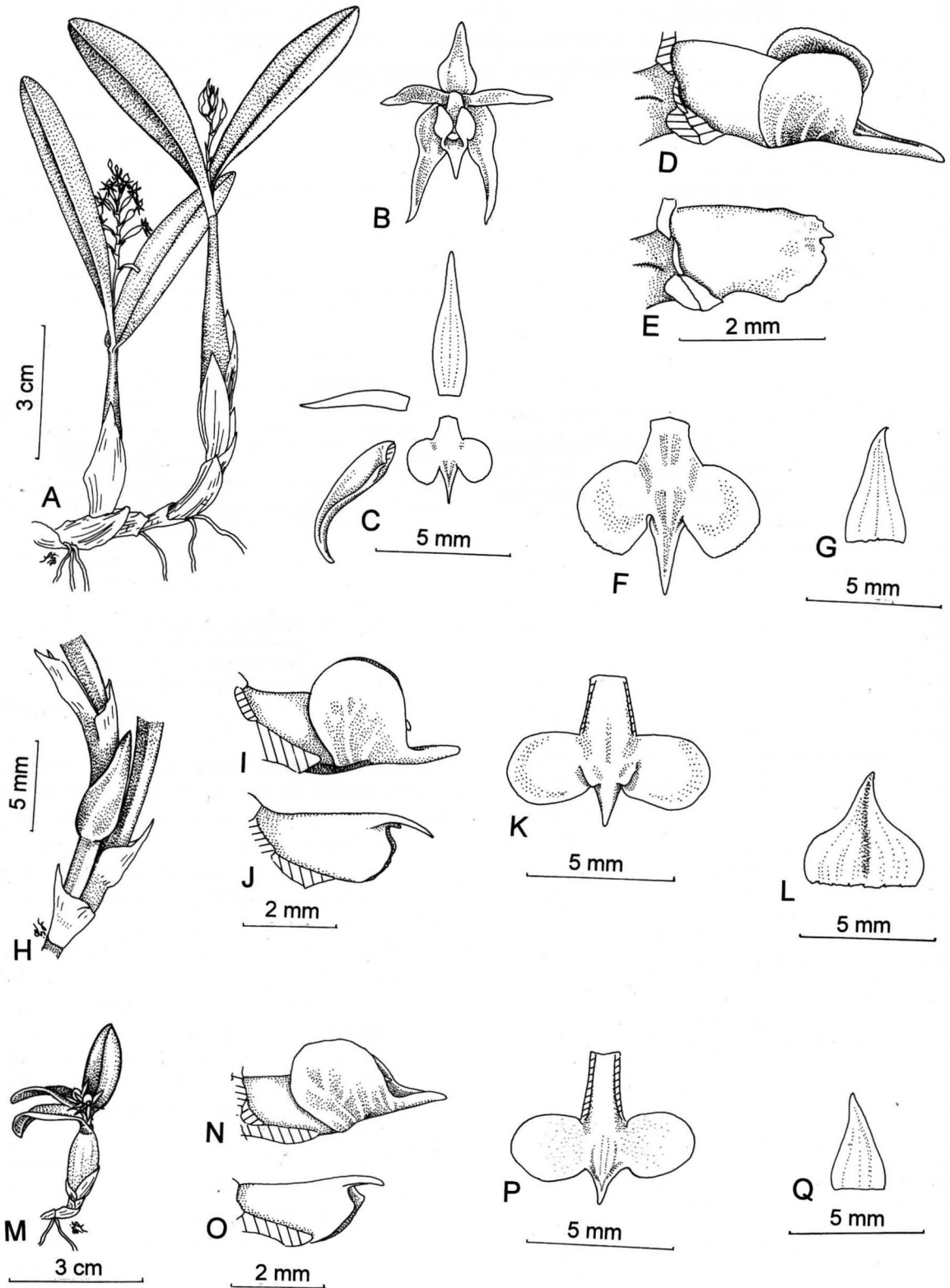


Fig. 1. *Encyclia racemifera*, A–G; *E. pseudopygmaea*, H–L; *E. pygmaea*, M–Q. A, M. Shoots with inflorescences. B. Flower (upside down). C. Perianth, spread out. D, I, N. Columns and lips, side view. E, J, O. Columns with lip removed. F, K, P. Lip.

in front; midlobe triangular, acute, $1-1.5 \times 1-1.8$ mm; column ca. 3 mm, with midtooth subequal to lateral teeth.

PARATYPES: COSTA RICA: Guanacaste: La Cruz de Abangares, elev. 1400 m, 24 Sept. 1985; *W. A. Haber & E. Bello* C. 2873 (MO), 2897 (MO, SEL); $10^{\circ}19'N$ $87^{\circ}45'W$, 1200 m, 2 Dec. 1986, *Haber & Bello* 6328 (MO); Alajuela: San Pedro de San Ramón, Nov. 1921, *A. M. Brenes* 159 (AMES); San José: Entre Tablazo y La Carpintera, 27 Sep. 1933, Comprado a un campesino, *Brenes* 226 (AMES, F); Sabanillas de Acosta, Aug. 1927, *C. H. Lankester* 1148 (AMES); Cartago: Road from Cartago to San Isidro del General, elev. 1800–2800 m, *C. H. Dodson* 2483 (SEL); Puntarenas: Sabanas Murur Bisuk, $9^{\circ}19'50"N$ $83^{\circ}17'20"W$, 1800 m, 28 Sep. 1985, *G. Herrera & W. Gamboa* 3583 (MO); between Sitio Cotón and Sitio Tablas, elev. 1500–1600 m, ca. $8^{\circ}57'N$, $82^{\circ}46'W$, 2 Sep. 1983, *G. Davidse* 24499 (MO, SEL); area of Sitio Cotón, elev. 1500–1700 m, ca. $8^{\circ}57'N$, $82^{\circ}46'W$, 3–4 Sep. 1983, *Davidse* 24576 (MO); NW of Las Alturas, $8^{\circ}57'N$ $82^{\circ}51'W$, elev. 1450–1600 m, 30 Aug. 1983, *Davidse* 24337 (MO). Panama: Chiriquí, 3 km NE of El Hato del Volcán, base of Volcán Chiriquí, elev. 1500–1800 m, 22 Nov. 1975, *G. Davidse & W. G. D'Arcy* 10,356 (MO, SEL); Upper Río Chiriquí Viejo, vicinity of Monte Lirio, 27 June–13 July, 1300–1900 m, *R. J. Seibert* 426 (MO); Camp Hornito, Fortuna dam site, 1200–1500 m; 16 Aug. 1976, *R. L. Dressler* 5405 (FLAS); vicinity of Fortuna Dam, 1100 m, 5 Dec. 1987, *G. McPherson* 11802 (MO).

Plants with shorter, thicker pseudobulbs may be confused with *E. pygmaea* if one ignores the relatively large and many-flowered inflorescence. Plants with longer, more slender pseudobulbs simulate *E. pseudopygmaea*, but the thin, evenly tapering floral bracts are quite distinct, even on old inflorescences without flowers. The similarities in flowers and floral bracts indicate that *E. racemifera* may be the sister species of *E. pygmaea*, suggesting a Central American origin for that widespread species.

A few collections, such as *Brenes* 159, *Davidse*

24337 and *Haber & Bello* 6328, each show several capsules and appear to be autogamous, but most available collections of *Encyclia racemifera* have few or no capsules, suggesting that outcrossing predominates.

spread. **G, L, Q.** Floral bracts, flattened. **H.** Axis of inflorescence with basal bud and pedicels of two open flowers (distal flower fallen). *E. racemifera* based on *Dressler* 5405; *E. pseudopygmaea* based on liquid preserved material from Jardín Lankester; *E. pygmaea* based on liquid preserved material from Palenque, Chiapas, Mexico.