

Scaphyglottis propinqua C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.

Herba magna, vagans. Caules fasciculati, superpositi, cylindricei, graciles, saepissime laxè ramosi. Folia in caulium apice duo subopposita, lineari-oblonga vel lineari-lanceolata, apice oblique bilobulata, sessilia. Inflorescentiae abbreviatae, dense fasciculatae, uniflorae. Flores perparvi, membranacei. Sepalum dorsale oblongum, valde concavum, subacutum. Sepala lateralia similia, paulo majora. Petala lineari-oblongeolata, apice rotundato minute apiculata, sepalum dorsale vix aequantia. Labellum in positu naturali tubulari-concavum, expansum rhombico-obovatum, medio lobulato-dilatatum, apice rotundato minute apiculato. Columna recta, exalata.

Plant large, straggling, epiphytic. Rhizome abbreviated. Roots fibrous, glabrous, long, slender, situated at base of plant and also at base of stem-members. Stems fascicled, superposed, slenderly cylindric, usually loosely

branching above, with the stem-members concealed below by several close, imbricating, scarious sheaths, the lowest stem-member up to 18 cm. long. Leaves in subopposite pairs at the apex of the stem-members, linear-oblong or linear-lanceolate, rather gradually narrowed to an obliquely bilobulate apex, slightly narrowed to a sessile base, spreading, up to 10 cm. long and 1 cm. wide. Inflorescences abbreviated, densely clustered in the axils of the leaves at the summit of the stem-members, 1-flowered, numerous. Flowers very small, pinkish white to white, membranaceous. Dorsal sepal oblong, subacute, deeply concave, about 3.7 mm. long and 1.2 mm. wide. Lateral sepals similar, forming an indistinct mentum with the column-foot, about 3.9 mm. long and 1.3 mm. wide. Petals linear-oblong, minutely apiculate at the rounded apex, slightly oblique, nearly as long as the dorsal sepal. Lip erect and subparallel to the column, with incurved sides in natural position, about 3.8 mm. long, rhombic-obovate in outline when expanded, lobulate-dilated in the middle with indistinct rounded lateral lobules, broadly rounded and minutely apiculate in front, about 2 mm. wide across the middle when expanded. Column stout, straight, wingless, about 2.9 mm. long, extended into a very short foot.

This species is very similar to *Scaphyglottis leucantha* Reichb.f. vegetatively, but has a very different lip. Among the South American members of the genus, this plant has relatively short, broad leaves.

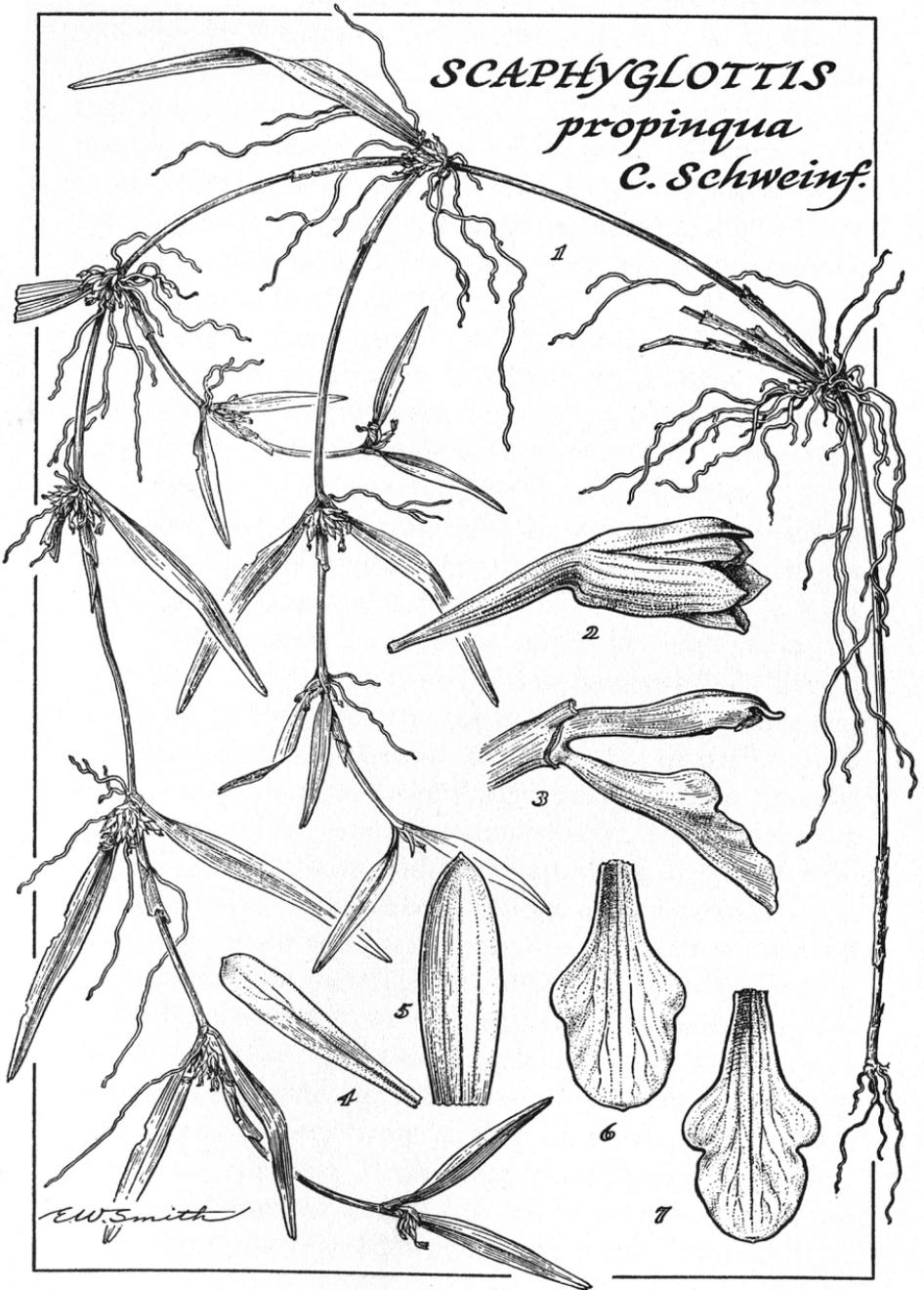
PERU: JUNÍN; Pichis Trail, San Nicholas, at about 1100 meters altitude, epiphyte in dense forest, July 4-5, 1929, *E. P. Killip & A. C. Smith 26061* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 61413; ISOTYPE in Herb. Field Mus. No. 622159).

EXPLANATION OF THE ILLUSTRATION

PLATE XVIII. SCAPHYGLOTTIS PROPINQUA *C. Schweinf.*
1, plant, one half natural size. 2, flower from side,
natural position, six times natural size. 3, column
and lip from side, natural position, about nine times
natural size. 4, petal, about nine times natural size.
5, dorsal sepal, about nine times natural size. 6, 7,
lips expanded, about nine times natural size.

Drawn by ELMER W. SMITH

SCAPHYGLOTTIS
propinqua
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E.W. Smith