

***Stellilabium distantiflorum*** A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba gracillima, aphylla ut videtur. Caules aliquid ramosi. Flores perparvi, distantes, virides. Sepala suborbicularia, cucullata, uninervia, acuta. Petala oblongo-lanceolata, trinervia, ciliolata. Labellum hastatum, trilobatum, pubescens; lobi laterales basales, minuti, retrorsi; lobus medius ovatus, multo major. Columna quadrilobata.

Plant slender, leafless. Roots fibrous, flexuous, in dried condition stout, flattened and longitudinally sulcate (resembling those of *Taeniophyllum*). Stems long and slender, the tallest exceeding 46 cm. in height (incomplete in our specimens), flexuous-arcuate, with several long simple branches, basal portion terete, entire upper part flattened in the dried specimen, about 1 mm. in diameter. Flowers in a very loose raceme on the upper part of the branches, apparently about 11 or 12 mm. apart, about 6 mm. across from tip to tip of the lateral sepals when spread out. Lateral sepals suborbicular, oblique, concave, about 3 mm. long, 2.7 mm. wide, prominently 1-nerved, obliquely acute. Dorsal sepal similar, more strongly cucullate. Petals oblong-lanceolate, 3-nerved below the middle, about 4 mm. long, 1.7 mm. wide, acute, margins finely ciliolate. Labellum hastate-ovate, 3-lobed, 3-nerved, finely hairy throughout, margins finely ciliolate; lateral lobes small, basal, retrorse; triangular-oblong, obtuse, about 1.1 mm. long and .8 mm. wide at the base; middle lobe ovate, abruptly acute, about 2.5 mm. long, 2 mm. wide across the middle, convex and thickened in the middle, with three clusters of longer hairs in the very middle. Column low, 4-lobed; anterior lobe protruding onto and deeply connate with the labellum, concave within, finely hairy without; side lobes lingulate in outline, obliquely fleshy-thickened, closely adorned with long forking hairs; dorsal lobe lingulate in outline, triquetrous in transverse section by reason of a high fleshy boss, hairy. Pollinia four, complanate-pyriform.

This remarkable plant is probably the species that Schlechter refers tentatively to *Dipterostele minutiflora* (Kränzl.) Schltr. in Fedde Repert. Beihefte 19 (1923) 70. However, it is apparently not the *Telipogon minutiflorus* Kränzl. as described in Ann. Naturhist. Hofmus. Wien 33 (1919) 14. Moreover, Kränzlin's description was prepared from poor material, so there is some doubt regarding the exact status of his species. The Costa Rican material differs in several points from the genus *Dipterostele* as erected by Schlechter on an Ecuadorean plant (Fedde Repert. Beihefte 8 (1921) 106), as is indicated in Fedde Repert. Beihefte 19, p. 70.

In floral structure at least *Stellilabium distantiflorum* appears to agree fairly well with *S. astroGLOSSUM* (Reichb. f.) Schltr. (Orchideen (1914) 530) based on *Telipogon astroGLOSSUS* Reichb. f., which is illustrated in Xenia Orchidacea 1 (1854) t. 7. [Plate 21: habit life size. 1, flower  $\times$  4. 2, column and labellum  $\times$  4.]

COSTA RICA, Alto de La Estrella, Cartago, C. H. Lankester 582, January 23, 1924. 6000 feet altitude. Flowers "dull oily green." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 28119.)

STELLILABIUM  
*distantiflorum* A&S

