

**EPIDENDRUM PLURIFOLIONOCTURNUM** Hågsater et L. Sánchez, *sp. nov.*

Type: ECUADOR: Sucumbios: Cuyabeno: Reserva Faunística Cuyabeno, Laguna Grande, 265 m, 25 III 1989, *Henrik Balslev, R. Valencia, G. Paz & Miño 84584*, Holotype: QCA! Isotype: AAU! (illustration voucher).

Similar to *Epidendrum longicolle* Lindl. but the lateral lobes of the lip free from the mid-lobe and similar to *E. minus* (Cogn.) Hågsater, but the stems longer, 15–28 cm (vs. 10–20 cm) and with narrower leaves, 4.5–10 x 0.5–0.8 cm (vs. 5.0–7.5 x 0.8–1.4 cm) and larger flowers, sepals 30–42 mm long (vs. sepals 21–24 mm long).

Epiphytic or lithophytic, sympodial, caespitose herb 20–33 cm tall including the inflorescence. **Roots** 1.0–2.5 mm in diameter, basal, fleshy, thick. **Stems** 15–28 x 0.13–0.20 cm, simple, cane-like, terete at the base, laterally compressed towards the apex, straight. **Leaves** 7–11, distributed along the upper 2/3 of the stem; sheath 1.4–2.0 cm long, laterally compressed; blade 4.5–10 x 0.5–0.8 cm, lanceolate, apex narrowly rounded, mucronate, grass-like, slightly carinate, 10:1 to 13:1. Spathe lacking. **Inflorescence** 2 cm long, apical, racemose, producing new racemes with time and thus becoming pluri-racemose, producing one flower at a time from each raceme during several years. **Floral bracts** 4 mm long, much shorter than the ovary, embracing, triangular, acute to acuminate. **Ovary** 30–40 x 0.13–0.22 mm, terete, slightly inflated, unornamented, slightly longer than the sepals. **Flowers** 1–2 per raceme, successive, produce done at a time, resupinate, sepals pale green to yellow, lip white; fragrant. **Sepals** 30–42 x 4 mm, spreading, linear-lanceolate, acuminate, margin entire, spreading; lateral sepals falcate, oblique. **Petals** 28–40 x 2–3 mm, spreading, linear-lanceolate, acuminate, margin entire, spreading. **Lip** 17–22 x 10–13 mm, united to the column, 3-lobed, the mid-lobe appearing twice as long as the lateral lobes; bicallose, calli laminar, prominent, with a short, low mid-rib in between; lateral lobes 11–16 x 5–6 mm, free from the mid-lobe; semi-ovate, obtuse to acute, margin entire; mid-lobe 15–24 x 2–3 mm, linear to linear-lanceolate, acute, margin entire. **Column** 10–15 x 3.0–3.5 mm, arched to slightly arched, dilated towards the apex. **Clinandrium-hood** short, entire to slightly dentate. **Anther** reniform, apex deeply slit, 4-celled. **Pollinia** 4, triangular, the inner margin straight, laterally compressed, caudicles granulose, slightly shorter than the pollinia. **Lateral lobes of the stigma** not seen. **Nectary** penetrating about half the pedicellate ovary, unornamented. **Capsule** not seen.

**OTHER SPECIMENS: COLOMBIA: Amazonas-Vaupés:** Rio Apaporis, Cachivera de Jirijirimo y alrededores, ca. 250 m, 16 IX 1951, *Schultes 14092*, AMES! [Vaupés]: Rio Apaporis, Raudal Yayacopi (La Playa) and vicinity, ca. 800 ft, 15 II 1952, *Schultes 15336*, AMES! **ECUADOR: Orellana:** Aguatico: Yasuni National Park, Laguna Jatuncocha, near mouth of Rio Yaní, 180 m, 8 XI 1981, *Neill 9938*, QCNE! **Sucumbios:** Cuyabeno Nature Reserve, Laguna Grande, 240 m, 9 XI 1982, *Asanza 41133*, AAU! QCA! *Ibid.*, 9 XI 1982, *Asanza 41142*, AAU! *Ibid.*, 11 XI 1982, *Asanza 41166*, AAU! QCA! Rio Güepé, 200 m, 7 V 1980, *Brandbyge 30581*, AAU! Lagunas de Cuyabeno, second lake, situated some 3 km W of the first lake, 300 m, 23 VIII 1981, *Brandbyge 36020*, AAU! Lagunas de Cuyabeno, 300 m, 23 VIII 1981, *Brandbyge 36021*, AAU! Reserva Faunística Cuyabeno, Laguna Grande, 265 m, 18 III 1989, *Balslev 84457*, AAU! QCNE! Shushufindi, Reserva Faunística Cuyabeno, S of Laguna Garzacocha, 265 m, 1 IV 1989, *Balslev 84691*, AAU! Reserva Faunística Cuyabeno, near Palma Roja in Laguna Grande, 265 m, 6 IV 1989, *Balslev 84863*, AAU! MO! QCA! Reserva Faunística Cuyabeno, Laguna Grande and surroundings, including Rio Cuyabeno from Pto. Bolívar to above Laguna Cananguera, 265 m, 11 III 1990, *Balslev 97168*, MO! QCA! QCNE! *Ibid.*, *Balslev 97372*, MO! QCNE! Rio Lagartococha, 220 m, *Dodson 18832*, MO! digital image of live flower, AMO! Laguna Cuyabeno, 7 VII 1980, *Jaramillo 2875*, AAU! QCA! Shushufindi; Laguna de Cananguera, 23 IV 1986, *Jaramillo 8386*, AAU! QCA! Estación Científica Cuyabeno, 220 m, 15 VIII 1992, *Jaramillo 14819*, QCA! Rio Lagarto Cocha, 2 hours upstream from Rio Aguatico. Above Gamitana Cocha, 190 m, 13 VI 1983, *Lawesson 44341*, AAU! Rio Lagarto Cocha, 2 hours upstream from Rio Aguatico, 190 m, 14 VI 1983, *Lawesson 44350*, AAU! QCA! Reserva de producción Faunística Cuyabeno, Laguna Grande, 265 m, *Nielsen 76088*, MO! Reserva Cuyabeno, área totalmente inundada por Laguna Grande (aguas negras), 230 m, 16 XI 1991, *Palacios 9075*, QCNE! Reserva Faunística Cuyabeno, Laguna Grande and surroundings, including Rio Cuyabeno from Pto. Bolívar to above Laguna Cananguera, 230 m, 18 XI 1991, *Palacios 9115*, QCNE! **GUYANA:** Beyond Mure-Mure; along Mure-Mure Creek to ca. 3 miles above mouth, 1400 ft, 15 III 1962, *Cowan 2202*, US! Kaieteur Falls, Potaro River, 23 X 1923, *De la Cruz 4468*, AMES! NY! US! Barima-Waini: Assakatta, 7°45'N 59°05'W, 18–28 IX 1923, *J. S. De la Cruz 4276*, US! (illustration AMO) AMES! **TRINIDAD & TOBAGO:** Without locality, *Dawns 42*, AMES!

**OTHER RECORDS: VENEZUELA: Amazonas:** Municipio Autónomo Maroa, Maroa, bana al oeste del punto más al norte del aeropuerto, 4 IX 2008, *Romero 4026-A*, illustration, (*Romero et al.* 2010), pg. 169, fig. 2, parts B–G. Part A, the large stem in flower corresponds to the real *E. longicolle* (Part A, based on *García Barriga 15778*, AMES 115073) from Colombia, Vaupés, Rio Kuyadari, sabana con arenisca [cerro] Yapoboda, lithophytic at 300 m altitude.

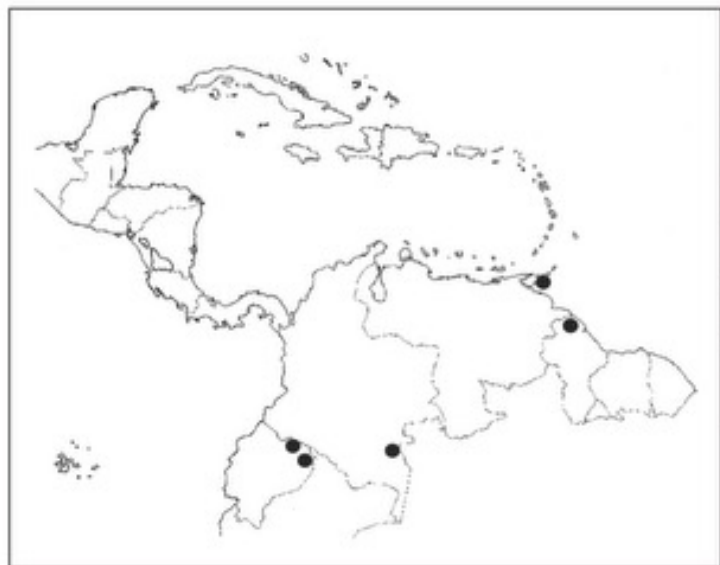
**DISTRIBUTION AND ECOLOGY:** Widespread and common along the upper Amazon basin in the Cuyabeno Reserve in Ecuador at the Rio Negro basin in Colombia and Venezuela, as well as coastal Guyana and Trinidad. Epiphytic at 240–450 m altitude, often in seasonally inundated forests. Flowering throughout the year.

**RECOGNITION:** *Epidendrum plurifolionocturnum* belongs to the Nocturnum Group which is characterized by the sympodial, caespitose plants, short, racemose or pluri-racemose inflorescence, without spatheous bracts, usually large, star-shaped flowers, with similar sepals and petals, and the Nocturnum Subgroup which has cane-like stems, non-thickened towards the middle, and usually successive flowers; the flowers are mostly indistinguishable in shape. The species can be recognized by the laterally compressed stems 20–33 cm tall, with 7–11 linear-lanceolate, acuminate leaves, 10:1 to 13:1, 4.5–10 x 0.5–0.8 cm, sepals 30–42 mm long, lateral lobes of the lip free from the mid-lobe; ovary 30–41 mm long. It is similar to *Epidendrum longicolle* Lindl. which has somewhat taller plants, 17–40 cm tall, lateral lobes of the lip united to the mid-lobe united along 1/3 to 1/2 their length, leaves 5–12, 5–15 x 0.4–0.8 cm. *Epidendrum minus* (Cogn.) Hågsater, widespread in the Amazon basin, has up to 6 lanceolate leaves, 5–6:1, 5.0–7.5 x 0.8–1.4 cm, sepals 21–24 mm long, lateral lobes of the lip free from the mid-lobe, divergent, the ovary 30 mm long [Cogniaux 1907]. *Epidendrum micronocturnum* Carnevali & G.A. Romero generally has 2–4(6) leaves distributed along the apical half of the stem, 0.4–0.6 cm wide, small flowers, sepals 15–20 mm long, and the ovary 22–26 mm long. *Epidendrum mininocturnum* Dodson, ranging along the Pacific slope in southern Colombia and northern Ecuador, has small plants, 5–15 cm tall, 4–5 narrow leaves (8–20 mm wide), small flowers, sepals 27–28 mm long, ovary 27–30 mm long, and is easily recognized by the numerous thickened veins on the lateral lobes of the lip. *Epidendrum bahiense* Rchb.f. has stems 9–11 cm long, leaves 40–82 x 5–10 mm, ovary 28 mm long, sepals 19 mm long, the lateral lobes of the lip sub-ovate-rhombic, acute, divergent, about half the length united to the mid-lobe which is ensiform, acute [based on the type at W-42385].

**\*NOTE:** In an earlier note, Hågsater & Sánchez (2015) had reduced *E. minus* to a synonym of *E. bahiense* Rchb.f., but after careful consideration, in the present evaluation, it is evidence that we had lumped together species of similar size, though the color of leaves and proportion of length:width had not been considered. We thus consider them distinct species. Specimens here listed were also listed under *E. minus* in Sánchez & Hågsater (2010b). The description of *E. minus* given by Sánchez & Hågsater (2010) is the sum of lumping together several species of similar size, including the one here described, and thus the data given above is based solely on the type (Cogniaux, 1907).

**ETYMOLOGY:** In reference to the many-leaved stem, which is characteristic to this species, and only shared by *Epidendrum longicolle*, with which has been confused.

**REFERENCES:** Carnevali, G. & G. A. Romero, 1996, *Orchidaceae Dunstervilleorum VII: The Epidendrum nocturnum Alliance in the Venezuelan Guyana and Guianas, Lindleyana* 11(4): 239–249. Cogniaux, A., 1907, *Epidendrum nocturnum* (Jacq.) var. *minus*, *Bull. Soc. Roy. Bot. Belgique*, 43: 323. Sánchez S., L., & E. Hågsater, 2010, *Epidendrum longicolle* in E. Hågsater & L. Sánchez S. (eds.), *The Genus Epidendrum*, Part 9, *Icon. Orchid.* 13: pl. 1350. Sánchez S., L., & E. Hågsater, 2010, *Epidendrum micronocturnum* in E. Hågsater & L. Sánchez S. (eds.), *The Genus Epidendrum*, Part 9, *Icon. Orchid.* 13: pl. 1356. Sánchez S., L., & E. Hågsater, 2010, *Epidendrum mininocturnum* in E. Hågsater & L. Sánchez S. (eds.), *The Genus Epidendrum*, Part 9, *Icon. Orchid.* 13: pl. 1357. Sánchez S., L., & E. Hågsater, 2010, *Epidendrum minus* in E. Hågsater & L. Sánchez S. (eds.), *The Genus Epidendrum*, Part 9, *Icon. Orchid.* 13: pl. 1358. Romero-González, G.A., C. Gómez & G. Carnevali F.C., 2010, *Novelties in the Orchid Flora of Venezuela III-Epidendrum*, *Harvard Pap. Bot.* 15(1): 168.



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ICONES ORCHIDACEARUM 16(2). 2018. Plate 1695