

# *Epidendrum splendens*

SCHLTR.

REP. SPEC. NOV. REGNI VEG. BEIH. 9: 93. 1921

**Type:** Peru. Epiphytisch auf Sträuchern im Savannengehölz bei Moyobamba, alt. 1000m, A. Weberbauer no. 4544, August 1904. (holotype: B†). LT designated by Schweinfurth, Fieldiana, Bot. 30: 458 (1959).

**Illustrated specimen:** Colombia. Cauca: Municipio de Santa Rosa. Corregimiento Descanse. Pie de monte amazónico. En borde de carretera. 1000 m, 22 de agosto de 2016, *Rengifo L. 098* (CAUP; LCDP voucher).

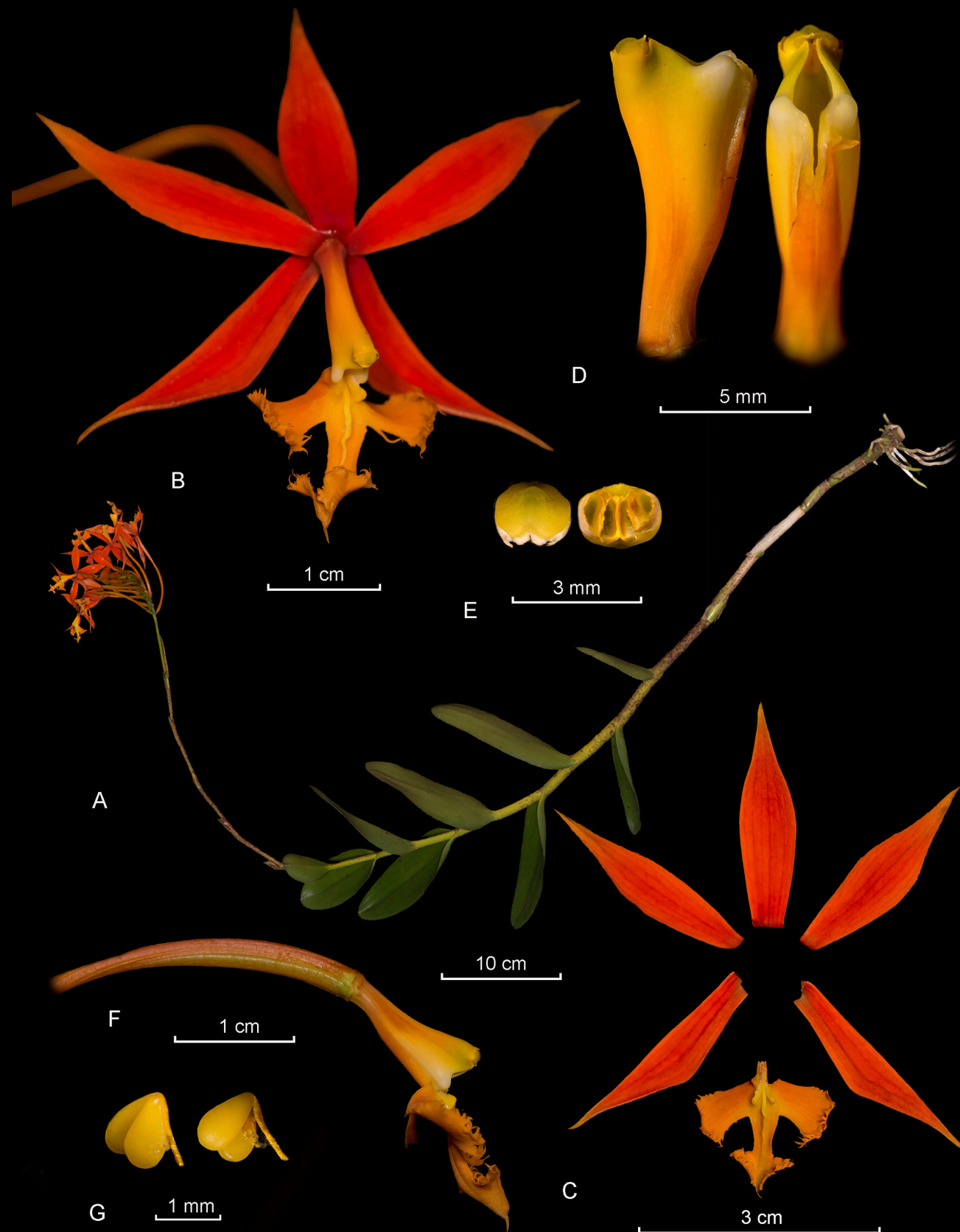
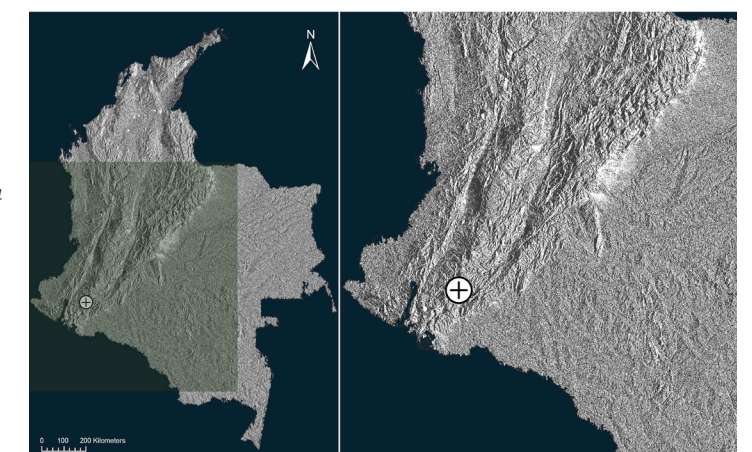
plant, but the last differs by having a yellow ring in the apex of the column.

**References:**

Kolanowska, M., Hågsater, E., Szlachetko, D.L., Santiago Ayala, E. & Saldaña, L. S. 2014. Orchids of the Department of Valle del Cauca (Colombia). Volume 2: Epidendroideae (Epidendreae 1): Subtribes Laeliinae, Epidendrinae, Ponerinae. Koeltz Scientific Books, Königstein. 494 pages.

Epiphytic, sympodial, caespitose, erect, terete *herb*, 30 cm tall including the inflorescence. *Roots* fleshy, 1–2 mm, basal, thick. *Stem* 12 × 0.15–0.18 cm, simple, terete, cane-like, covered at the base by sheaths, 3–7 cm long, tubular. *Leaves* distichous, alternate, dark green, oblong to oblong-elliptic, coriaceous, apex obtuse; sheaths 40–45 × 3.5–3.7 mm, tubular, striated. *Inflorescence* apical, up to 18 cm long, racemose, successive, densely many-flowered, peduncle elongate, terete, erect, straight; covered by several tubular, acute, imbricating bracts, 2.2–3 cm long. *Flowers* numerous, successive, 12–19 open at one time, resupinate, red, callus yellow to orange in mature flowers; fragrance absent. *Floral bracts* 3–4 mm erect, lanceolate, acuminate. *Ovary* 2 cm long, terete, thin, not inflated, arching at the apex, slender, glabrous, striated. *Sepals* 25–30 × 3.5–4 mm, free, acuminate, slightly acute at the apex, margin entire; *dorsal sepal*, reflexed in natural position, narrowly oblanceolate; *lateral sepals*, oblong, oblique. *Petals* 25–30 × 4–4.5 mm, free, oblanceolate, acuminate, margin entire. *Lip* 16–18 × 15–16 mm, united to the column, base truncate, deeply 3-lobed, margin fimbriate; bicallose, calli prominent, disc represented by a long middle carina in the middle lobe. *Column* 4.5–5 mm long, erect, straight, the apical margin truncate. *Clinandrium* reduced, dorso denticulated, obtuse. *Anther cap* ovoid, apiculate, 4-celled. *Pollinia* 4, obovoid, laterally compressed, sub-equal, caudicles granulose.

*Epidendrum splendens* is recognized by its epiphytic habit, distichous leaves, an apical inflorescence of numerous and successive resupinate flowers. The lip deeply 3-lobed with a long middle carina in the middle lobe. It can be found on the roadsides. Similar to *Epidendrum schomburgkii* Lindl. with similar red flowers and



**LCDP:** *Epidendrum splendens* Schltr. **A.** Habit. **B.** Flower. **C.** Dissected perianth. **D.** Ovary with column and lip. **E.** Column, side and ventral view. **F.** Pollinia. **G.** Anther cap.

