

Sobralia fragrans

LINDL.

GARD. CHRON. 598. 1853

Type: Native country of the plant unknown, flowered in the collection of Robert Hanbury, Esq., at Poles near Ware [England], 07 September 1853, *Hanbury s.n.* (holotype, K).

Illustrated specimen: Colombia. Juan de Dios, Bahía Málaga-Buenaventura (Chocó Biogeographic Region), tropical rain forest, 0 m, on red mangrove branches (*Rizophora mangle* L.). Jan 2018. YAA 214 (VALLE; LCDP voucher).

References:

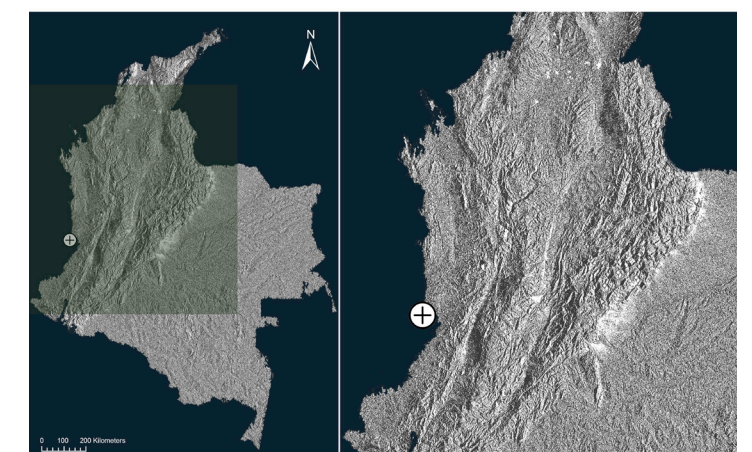
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Epiphytic, caespitose herb, up to 25 cm tall. *Roots* ca. 5 mm wide. *Stems* 120–150 × 3–4 mm, 1-foliate; covered by a basal, acute, glumaceous sheath. *Leaves* elliptic, acute, plicate, 16.5–23.5 × 4.0–5.5 cm. *Inflorescence* terminal, covered by a ovate foliar bract, with a single ephemeral and membranous flower; *floral bracts* concealed by a infundibuliform sheath, 1.2–2.0 × 0.6–1.8 cm; peduncle ancipitose, 16–26 cm long. *Ovary* terete to clavate, ca. 20 mm long, 1.8 mm wide. *Flowers* cream yellow, the lip white with yellow trichomes and keels. *Sepals* lanceolate, obtuse, with a prominent middle vein on the abaxial surface, minutely apiculate, *dorsal sepal* 37–40 × 7.7–8.0 mm, *lateral sepals* 33–36 × 7.4–7.5 mm. *Petals* cream yellow, translucent, lanceolate, acute, minutely apiculate, 40 × 8 mm. *Lip* obovate, emarginate, 3-lobed, fimbriate; midlobe markedly undulate, 9-keeled, the keels covered with trichomes on the apical half; callus basal, ca. 5 × 3 mm. *Column* subclavate, ca. 2 cm long, 1.7 mm wide, the apex with two upcurved arms, 6 × 2 mm. *Stigma* ca. 3.0 × 2.5 mm. *Anther cap* ovate, cucullate, two-celled, 2.5 × 2.8 mm. *Pollinia* 8, pale yellow, soft, granulose, in two pairs of different size.

Sobralia fragrans is distinguished by its 1-leaved stem and its ancipitose and long peduncle. The species occurs from Mexico to Ecuador and Venezuela, can be found growing from sea level up to 1200 m elevation. The epithet '*fragrans*' refers to the pleasant smell emitted by the flowers.



LCDP: *Sobralia fragrans* Lindl. **A.** Habit. **B.** Flower. **C.** Dissected perianth. **D.** Column and lip, three quarters view. **E.** Lip, lateral view. **F.** Column, ventral and dorsal views. **G.** Anther cap (ventral and dorsal view) and pollen mass (lateral views).

