TEXT by J. S. Moreno & E. Santiago Ayala LCDP by J. S. Moreno

Epidendrum bispathulatum

HÁGSATER, O.PÉREZ & E.SANTIAGO ICON. ORCHID. 13: T. 1307. 2010

Type: Colombia. Valle del Cauca: Municipality of Yotoco, Yotoco Natural Reserve, 1600 m. 11 April 2010. *O.A. Pérez-Escobar, E. Parra & V. Hidalgo 513* (holotype: VALLE).

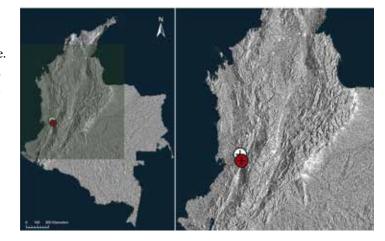
Illustrated specimen: Colombia. Valle del Cauca: Municipality of Calima, El Darién, 1800 m. March 2017. *W.G. Vargas 29477* (COL; LCDP voucher).

Epiphytic, sympodial, caespitose, herb, 160 cm tall with the inflorescence. Stems simple, cane-like, pendent up to 120 cm long. Leaves alternate, elliptic, acute, margin entire, 8-12 cm long. Inflorescence apical, paniculate, many-flowered, 35 cm long. Ovary terete, thin, 16.6-17.3 cm long. Flowers green with the apex of the column and the disc of the lip white, fragrant. Sepals reflexed, free, spatulate, sub-acute, slightly concave, $15 \times 3-4$ mm. *Petals* reflexed, free, filiform, apex rounded, 13.0×0.5 mm. *Lip* united to the column, 3-lobed, base truncate, 10×17 mm; bicallose, short; disc with 3, narrow, acute, parallel keels; lateral lobes obliquely triangular, acuminate, somewhat cirrhose, outer margin crenulate, 3.5×3.0 mm; mid-lobe deeply bilobed, the lobes slightly divaricate, each lobe linear-spatulate, obliquely truncate, erose, 8×3 mm. Column straight, short, entire, 15 mm long. Pollinia 4, "birdwing" type, laterally compressed, 1.7 mm long. Anther cap ovoid, 4-celled, 1.7–1.8 mm long.

Epidendrum bispathulatum is recognized by the very long tall stems, the flowers green with the apex of the column and the disc of the lip white, the bilobed mid-lobe of the lip with the lobes linear-spatulate, widened towards the apex and obliquely truncate. It is most similar to Epidendrum cirrhochilum F.Lehm. & Kraenzl. with shorter stems, similar flowers, but the lateral lobes and lobes of the mid-lobe are cirrhose and the lip has a circular purple ring surrounding the disc of the lip.

References:

Hágsater, E., Pérez, O. & Santiago, E. 2010. *Epidendrum bispathulatum*. In E. Hágsater & L. Sánchez S. (Eds.), *The Genus Epidendrum, Part 9, Icon. Orchid.* 13: t. 1307.



LCDP: Epidendrum bispathulatum Hágsater, O.Pérez & E.Santiago. A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Dissected perianth. D. Ovary with column and lip. E. Column, side view, dorsal view and longitudinal dissection. F. Pollinia. G. Anther cap.



