

Prosthechea gilbertoi

(GARAY) W.E.HIGGINS

PHYTOLOGIA 82(5): 378. 1997[1998]

Synonyms: *Epidendrum gilbertoi* Garay, Orquideologia 6: 16. 1971.
Hormidium gilbertoi (Garay) P.Ortiz, Orquideas Ornament. Colombia 150. 1982, *nom. inval.*
Encyclia gilbertoi (Garay) P.Ortiz, Orquideologia 18: 99. 1991.
Anacheilium gilbertoi (Garay) Withner & P.A.Harding, Cattleyas & Relatives: Debatable Epidendrums: 86. 2004.

Type: Colombia. Caldas: Anserma, 2.000 m. G. Escobar 586 (holotype: AMES!).

Illustrated specimen: Colombia. Antioquia: Municipality of Jardín. road to Cueva del Esplendor, secondary forest, 2200 m. September 2015. J.S. Moreno & A. Erazo 526 (LCDP voucher).

Epiphytic, creeping, erect *herb*, 60 cm tall including the inflorescence. *Roots* fibrous. *Rhizome* separating growths up to 15 cm. *Pseudobulb* long spindle-like, slightly compressed, up to 15 cm. Foliar sheath 1, deciduous or persistent. *Leaves* 2, elliptic, 15 × 3 cm. Floral spathe 4 cm long, brown. *Inflorescence* 15–18 cm long, terminal. *Ovary* 5 mm, three sided, three low wings laterally. *Flowers* numerous 6–10, long lasting, non-resupinate, patent; sepals and petals dark red maroon, yellow at tips; lip white with dark red maroon veins becoming solid apical to callus; callus white basally, yellow apically; column green with maroon striations dorsally. *Sepals* 15 × 7.5 mm, elliptic, acute. *Petals* 13 × 7 mm, spatulate, acute. *Lip* entire to obscurely three lobed, 1.5 × 1 cm, cochleate, suborbicular, margins crenulate; callus pulvinate, three lobed at apex, extending to mid lip. *Column* short 0.6–0.7 cm long, fused to lip base minimally 2 mm, base hollowed out, apex with broad apical teeth equal, dorsal tooth with ligule; stigma, semicircular, bilobed, apical, rostellum bi-toothed ventrally. *Anther cap* 4-celled. *Pollinia* 4, obovoid, equal, stipe 1 mm, viscidium small.

Eponymy: Named in honor of Gilberto Escobar R. of Medellín, Colombia, collector of the species.

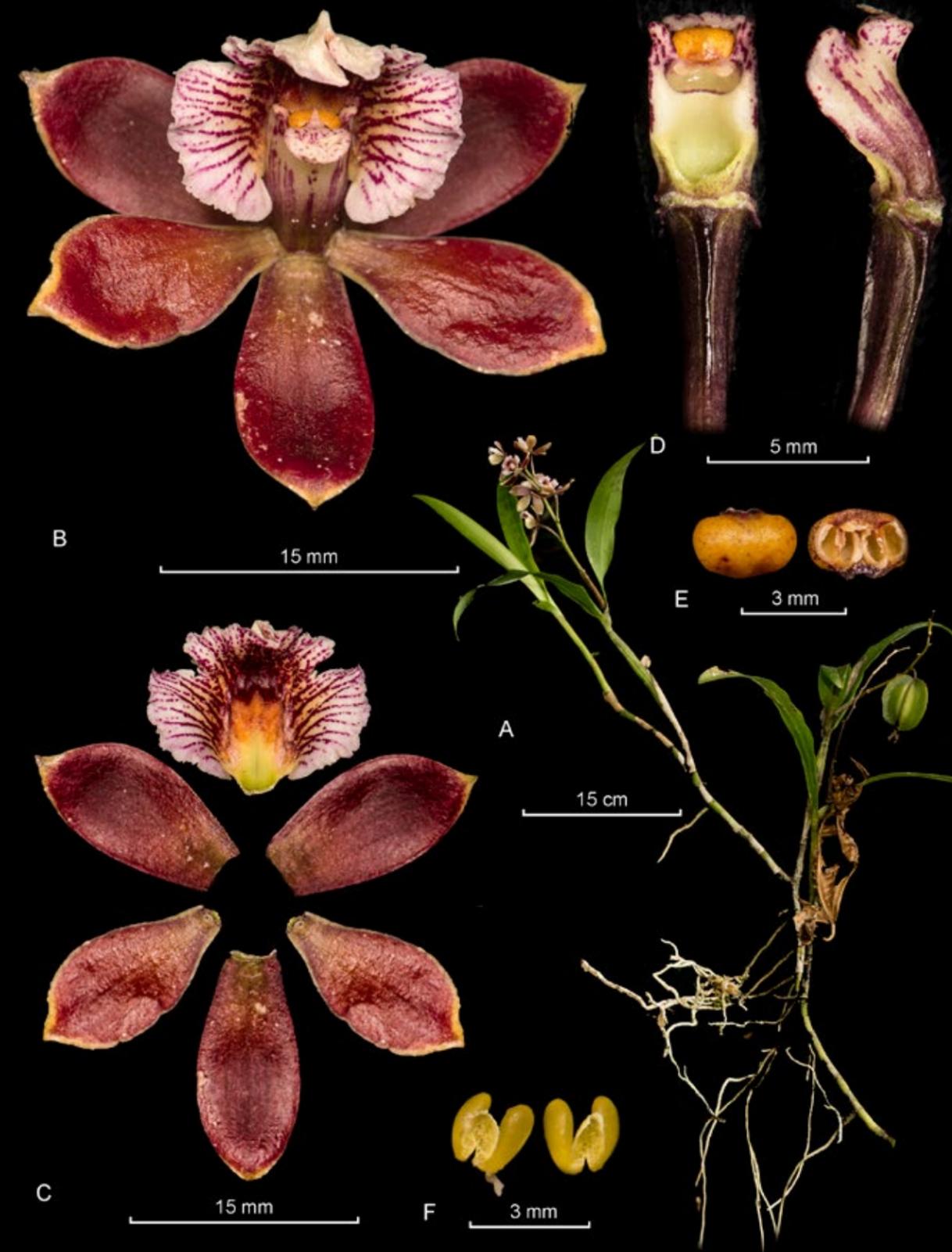
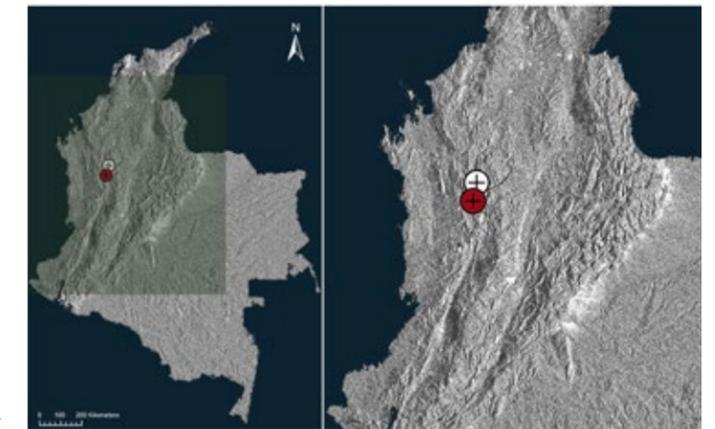
Prosthechea gilbertoi was originally compared to *P. lambda* (Linden & Rchb.f.) W.E.Higgins (as *Epidendrum rueckerae* Rchb.f.), but the latter is smaller, has a triangular cordate lip with a distinct-

ly apiculate tip, and the apical column teeth are narrower. It more closely resembles *Prosthechea radiata* (Lindl.) W.E. Higgins, but the pseudobulbs of *P. gilbertoi* never become as wide and stout as *P. radiata*, and the column and callus are notably different. The color of *Prosthechea gilbertoi* can be orange to deep and shiny red to red maroon.

References:

Higgins, W. E. 2008. New Combinations in *Prosthechea* Knowles & Westc. (Orchidaceae). *Selbyana* 29(2): 214.

Whitner, C.L. & Harding, P.A. 2004. The *Cattleyas* and their relatives Vol. VII : The Debatable Epidendrums. 300 p.



LCDP: *Prosthechea gilbertoi* (Garay) W.E. Higgins. A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Dissected perianth. D. Column with ovary, ventral and side view. E. Anther cap. F. Pollinarium.

