TEXT by M. Sierra Ariza & J. S. Moreno LCDP by J. S. Moreno

## Bifrenaria longicornis

LINDL. EDWARDS'S BOT. REG. 24: Pl. 93. 1838

**Synonyms:** *Stenocoryne longicornis* (Lindl.) Lindl., Edwards's Bot. Reg. 29(Misc.): 53. 1843.

Adipe longicornis (Lindl.) M.Wolff, Orchidee (Hamburg) 41: 36.

**Lectotype:** Without locality (Tabula 93 in Lindley 1838, designated by Koehler & do Amaral 2004).

Illustrated specimen: Colombia. Vaupés: Municipality of Mitú, Urania. 175 m. 11 November 2019. *J.S. Moreno 526* (LCDP voucher).

Epiphyte *herb*, sympodial, scandent, 30–40 cm tall, *roots* thin, up to 20 cm long. *Pseudobulbs* distant, heteroblastic, oblong-elliptic, sub-tetragonal,  $8-10\times 3-4$  cm. *Leaves* pseudopetiolate, apical, erect, plicate, elliptic, coriaceous, acute,  $20-28\times 5-7$  cm, *sheaths* triangular, lateral, basal. *Inflorescence* racemose, lax, basal, erect, 25 cm long. *Floral bracts*, triangular. *Ovary* slightly striate, 1.5 cm long. *Sepals* and petals primrose with maroon spots, membranaceous, smooth. *Dorsal sepal* ovate, acute,  $10\times 6$  mm. *Lateral sepals*, ovate, connate, acute,  $15\times 7$  mm. Petals elliptic, acute,  $8\times 4$  mm. *Lip* white with terracotta stripes, membranaceous, pubescent towards the callus, unguiculate to spathulate, sinuate, base cuneate, apex trilobate; callus laminar, elongate from the base to the middle area. *Column* white, slightly curved, 15 mm long including the foot. *Anther* ovate, papillose, white maroon spots. *Pollinia* 4, pale yellow, rounded, with a bifurcate viscidium.

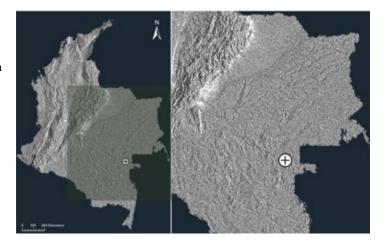
*Etymology*: From the Latin *longicornis* meaning "long horn", referring to the long spathulate base of the lip.

Bifrenaria longicornis Lindl. is restricted to the Amazon ecosystem where it is a widely distributed epiphyte that grows at elevations below 600 m. The species can be recognized by long, scandent rhizomes, a feature shared only with Bifrenaria venezuelana C.Schweinf. From the latter it can be distinguished by the several-flowered inflorescence that is longer than the pseudobulbs (vs. 1-2 flowers, shorter than the pseudobulbs), the prominent spur (vs. inconspicuous), the white-yellow flowers with brown-red spots (vs. flowers purple to pale brown).

## References:

Koehler, S., & do Amaral, M. D. C. E. 2004. A taxonomic study of the South American genus *Bifrenaria* Lindl. (Orchidaceae). *Brittonia* 56(4): 314–345.

Lindley, J. 1838. Miscellaneous notices. *Edwards's Botanical Register* 24: 93–94.



LCDP: Bifrenaria longicornis Lindl. A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Dissected perianth. D. Column and lip, side view. E. Column, ventral and side view. F. Anther cap and pollinia.



