

Cyrtochilum amphiglottis

(RCHB.F.) DALSTRÖM
LANKESTERIANA 20(1): 26. 2020

Synonym: *Odontoglossum amphiglottis* Rchb.f., Linnaea: 41. 1877.

Type: Colombia, Medellín. B. Rözl s.n. (holotype: W).

Illustrated specimen: Colombia. Antioquia: Municipality of Yarumal, Llanos de Cuivá, 2740 m. 28 May 2019. S. Vieira 045 (JAUM; LCDP voucher).

Terrestrial herb, caespitose, up to 50 cm tall without the inflorescence. *Pseudobulbs* ovoid, bifoliate, 3.5–5.0 × 2.0–3.0 cm, mostly hidden by foliaceous bracts. *Leaves* conduplicate, linear to narrowly lanceolate 25–45 × 2.3–3.5 cm. *Inflorescence* axillary, from the base of the uppermost bract, an erect, stiff up to 95 cm long panicle with a dense cluster of flowers on very short, sub-erect branches near the apex. *Bract* tubular and appressed, acute, ca. 5–10 mm long. *Pedicel* with ovary 10–30 mm long. *Flower* showy, flushed with lavender pink throughout, with short darker bands and spots near the base, more or less stellate with irregularly spreading segments. *Dorsal sepal* basally canaliculate, spatulate, then distinctly elliptic, undulate, obliquely acuminate, ca. 9.5–17 × 4.5–6 mm; *lateral sepals* basally canaliculate, elongate spatulate, then distinctly elliptic, undulate, obliquely acuminate, ca. 16–23 × 5–6 mm. *Petals* basally flat and broadly linear, then slightly obliquely ovate to elliptic, undulate and obliquely acuminate, ca. 14–18 × 5–6 mm. *Lip* rigidly attached at the base of the column through a longitudinal ridge for ca. 2.5 mm, cuneate, indistinctly trilobate with rounded lateral lobes and triangular acute frontal-lobe with a slightly canaliculate, obliquely acuminate apex; *callus* of a pair of fleshy ridges with an intermediate channel emerging from the base of the lip for ca. 6.5 mm, ending bluntly by rounded lobes, with two or three subsequent pairs of digitate, fleshy denticles, with a median nasicular lobe, ca. 13–15 × 6–7 mm. *Column* straight, fleshy with slightly curved lobes embracing the base of the callus, ca. 7–9 mm long. *Anther cap* yellowish, campanulate with an indistinct dorsal lobule. *Pollinarium* of a pair of folded/cleft pyriform pollinia on a ca. 0.8 mm long strap-like stipe on a pulvinate viscidium.

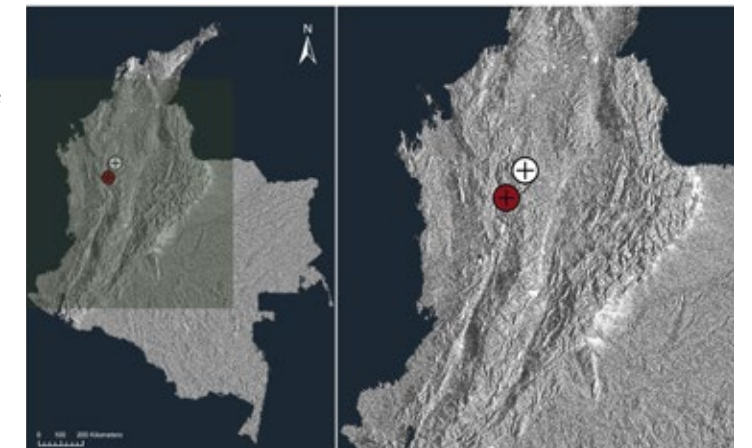
Etymology: The specific epithet refers to “two kinds of, or double tongues”, most probably due to the shape of the callus on the lip.

Cyrtochilum amphiglottis is an obscure species based on a specimen collected by Benedict Rözl somewhere near “Medellín”, Antioquia. The type specimen (sheet 48735, W) consists of two ca. 18 cm long few-flowered racemes. A rough drawing is made of the flower, presumably by H.G. Reichenbach. It is closely related and confusingly similar to the Venezuelan *C. ramosissimum* (Lindl.) Dalström, and to the widespread *C. sodiroi* (Schltr.) Dalström, of which it has been considered a synonym by several authors (Bockemühl 1989, Dalström 2001). The most distinctive features of *C. amphiglottis* are the plant habit and the erect, stiff panicle carrying a very dense corymbose cluster of attractive lavender-pink flowers at the very top, as opposed to the generally widely spaced elongate branches on more arching panicles of the closely related species.

References:

Bockemühl, L. 1989. *Odontoglossum, Monographie und Iconographie - a Monograph and Iconograph*. Brücke-Verlag Kurt Schmiersow, D-3200 Hildesheim, Germany.

Dalström, S. 2020. New combinations in *Cyrtochilum* (Orchidaceae: Oncidiinae). *Lankesteriana* 20(1): 21–29.



LCDP: *Cyrtochilum amphiglottis* (Rchb.f.) Dalström. A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Dissected perianth. D. Lip and column, side view. E. Column and ovary, ventral view. F. Anther cap and pollinarium.

