

Xylobium elongatum

(LINDL. & PAXTON) HEMSL.

BIOL. CENT.-AMER., BOT. 3(16): 252. 1884

Synonyms: *Maxillaria elongata* Lindl. & Paxton, Paxton's Fl. Gard. 3: 69. 1852.

Type: Guatemala. Without locality, G.U. Skinner s.n. (holotype: K-L).

Illustrated specimen: Colombia. Chocó: Municipality of Unguía, "Expedición COLOMBIA BIO Cerro Tacarcuna". 1200 m. 2 April 2017. E. Dominguez 900 et al. (HUA; LCDP voucher).

Plant epiphytic, caespitose, up to 80–100 cm tall; *pseudobulbs* cylindrical, slender, elongate, 65–70 × 1.5–2 cm, the base covered in tubular sheaths. *Leaves* two, apical, plicate, coriaceous, elliptic to ovate, petiolate, 30–40 × 8–12 cm, veins prominent. *Inflorescence* basal, erect to sub-erect, racemose, 10–15 cm long, bearing multiple flowers. *Flowers* simultaneous, non-resupinate, fleshy, whitish-cream with the lip yellowish with purple papillae, and the column cream with pink spots. *Ovary* terete, 1 cm long. *Sepals* spreading, margins somewhat recurved. *Dorsal sepal* oblong-lanceolate, shortly acuminate, 2.0 × 0.5 cm. *Lateral sepals* falcate, ovate-lanceolate, shortly acuminate, 2.0 × 1.0 cm. *Petals* reflexed, lanceolate, shortly acuminate, 1.5 × 0.6 cm. *Lip* articulated at the foot of the column, very fleshy, verrucose-papillose, 3-lobed, rounded, 2.2 × 1.2 cm, the mid-lobe ovate, concave, with the margins incurved, the lateral lobes oblong, rounded, erect; disc with 3 carinate calli running from the base of the lip to before the middle. *Column* cylindrical, 1.5 cm long, including 1.0 cm long foot. *Pollinarium* with 4, round pollinia, held together by a caudicle.

Etymology: from Latin *e-* "extension or dilation" and *longus, longa, longum* "long", in reference to the shape of the pseudobulbs of this species.

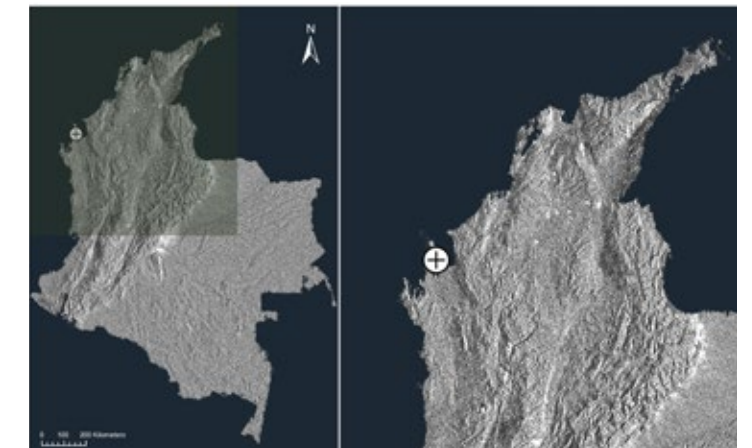
Xylobium elongatum is a widely distributed species that ranges from Mexico to Peru. It is easily distinguished from other *Xylobium* by the conspicuously slender, elongated, cylindrical pseudobulbs bearing two leaves. The pseudobulbs of *Xylobium pallidiflorum* (Hook.) G.Nicholson are also elongate, but are much smaller and bear a single leaf. The whitish-cream flowers are

similar to several other species in the genus, including *X. leontoglossum* (Rchb. f.) Rolfe and *X. variegatum* (Ruiz & Pav.) Garay & Dunst. However, *Xylobium elongatum* may be distinguished by the mid-lobe of the lip that is longer than the lateral lobes and the less prominent callus with a conspicuously papillose, conduplicate apex.

References:

Dodson, C. H., & Dodson, P. M. 1980. *Xylobium elongatum* (lindl. & paxt.) Hemsl. in C. H. Dodson (eds.), Orchids of Ecuador, Series I, *Icones Plantarum Tropicarum* 4: pl. 355.

Hemsley, B. 1884. *Biologia Centrali-Americana*. R. H. Poret and Dulau & Co (Eds.) London, 3(16): 252 pp.



LCDP: *Xylobium elongatum* (Lindl. & Paxton) Hemsl. **A.** Habit. **B.** Flower. **C.** Dissected perianth. **D.** Column and lip lateral view. **E.** Column, ventral and side view. **F.** Pollinarium.

