

Cyrtochilum dipterum

(Lindl.) Kraenzl.

Notizbl. Bot. Gart. Berlin-Dahlem 7: 99. 1917

Synonym: *Odontoglossum dipterum* Lindl., Orchid. Linden.: 16. 1846.
Oncidium dipterum (Lindl.) Beer, Prakt. Stud. Orchid.: 285. 1854.

Type: Colombia. Tolima: Mariquita, "Forests of Tolima, at the height of 900 feet". J.J. Linden 1277 (holotype: K; isotypes: BR, P).

Illustrated specimen: Colombia. Tolima: Municipio de Roncesvalles, Yerbabuena, 3366 m. 25 Nov 2019. J.S. Moreno s.n. (LCDP voucher).

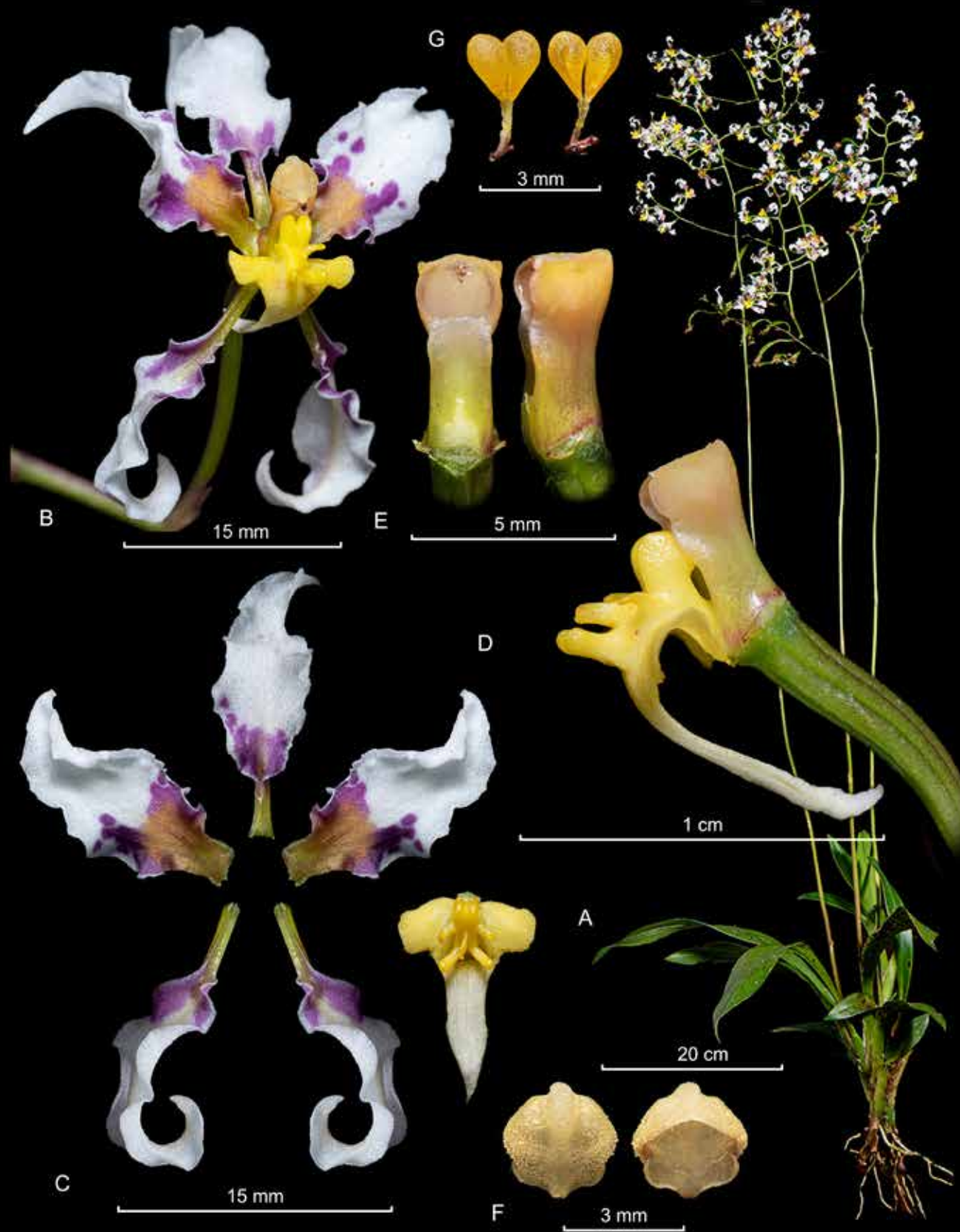
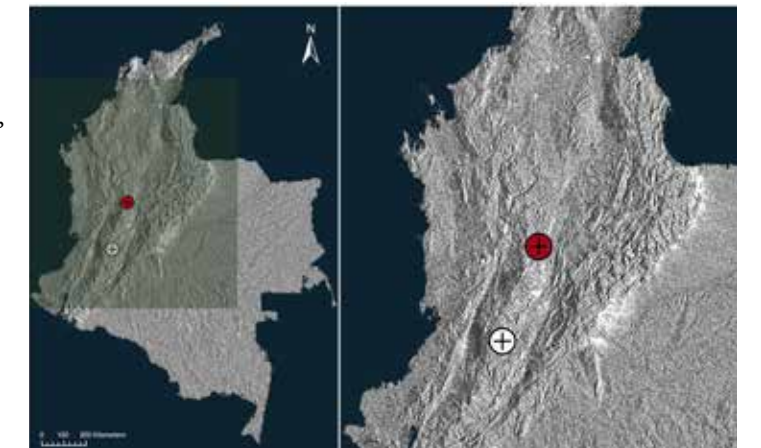
Epiphytic herb, sympodial, up to 42 cm tall excluding the inflorescence. Rhizome shortly ascending. Pseudobulbs heteroblastic, ovoid, slightly compressed, smooth, 6 × 3–4 cm, subtended basally by foliaceous sheaths. Leaves 18–35 × 2.5–4.5 cm, narrowly obovate, apex acuminate. Inflorescence to 118 cm long, erect, stout, paniculate, with spreading, few-flowered branches. Floral bracts 8–10 mm long. Pedicel and ovary 20–30 mm long. Flowers with sepals mainly white, greenish at the extreme base and purple-spotted over the remaining basal half; petals with an ovate brown macula at the base, purple-spotted along the margins of the middle third, and white distally; lip with hypochile and callus yellow, epichile white. Column rosy-brown, greenish at the base. Dorsal sepal prominently unguiculate; claw ca. 3 mm long, narrow, canaliculate, wingless; blade 12–14 × 5.5–6.5 mm, lanceolate-ovate, cuneate, margins undulate, entire, apex acute, recurved. Lateral sepals prominently clawed; claw ca. 4.5 mm long, narrow; blade 16–18 × 4–6 mm, obliquely elliptic-lanceolate in general outline, base cuneate, apex attenuate, acute, strongly recurved, margins undulate. Petals broadly clawed; claw ca. 2.2 mm long; blade 12–14 × 6–7 mm spread, elliptic-ovate, apex acute, recurved, oblique, margins somewhat undulate, more or less entire. Lip up to 12 mm long, 3-lobed; hypochile up to 4 mm long, transversely subrectangular; callus fleshy, with a large central knob-like outgrowth, supported anteriorly by a prominent digitate projection and flanked on each side by two long, linear to ligulate projections; epichile ligulate-ensiform, acuminate. Column 5 mm long, erect, adnate basally to the lip, lateral appendages transformed into wings flanking the column. Pollinia 2, obovate, grooved, yellow, viscidium rounded, white.

Etymology: In reference to the taxonomic order of flies (*Diptera*), maybe in reference to the resemblance of the flowers of this species to a fly.

Cyrtochilum dipterum belongs to *Cyrtochilum* sect. *Myanthium* Kraenzl. and appears to be morphologically similar to *Cyrtochilum ioplocon* (Rchb.f.) Dalström, both sharing a column basally connate with the lip, erect, winged, with no lateral appendages, but the former has whitish, purple dotted flowers (vs. almost entirely purple, suffused with white towards the apex), and a larger lip callus with central, large knob-like outgrowth supported in front with digitate, prominent projection and additionally flanked by two pairs of long, linear to ligulate projections on both sides (vs. a tuft of short digitate processes in front of nose-like callus).

References:

Szlachetko, D.L. & Kolanowska, M. Towards a taxonomic revision of the genus *Cyrtochilum* (Orchidaceae) in Northwestern South America (Northern Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela). PeerJ. 14 Feb 2020. doi: <https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.8566>



LCDP: *Cyrtochilum dipterum* (Lindl.) Kraenzl. A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Dissected perianth. D. Lip and column, side view. E. Column, ventral and side view. F. Anther cap, dorsal and ventral view. G. pollinarium, dorsal and ventral view.

