

North Easton, Massachusetts, June 14th, 1928.

My dear Lankester:

To help you ~~separate~~ those Epidendrums referred to in your last letter, I have supplied a key. I described Epidendrum alaniense in 1922, (Sched. Orch. #1: 13). The description should aid you materially in separating this species from E. ramonense Reichb. f. and E. Mooreanum Rolfe. E. alaniense, by the way, is the same as Encyclia Hunteriana Schltr. I think you may safely exclude E. meliosma Reichb. f. from your mind. This is a very rare species, known only from Mexico. In referring to it a Costa Rican species, Schlechter took a leap in the dark. As a matter of fact, Schlechter was not ^{so} familiar as he should have been, with the types of the Mexican and Central American species of Epidendrum.

I have over sixty new species to describe from Costa Rica. My intention is to get these out next autumn. If you have any suspects among your recent finds, send them to me at your earliest convenience so that they may be studied and pushed into the light.

Your photographs are certainly welcome. I still think your results would be better if you used a reading glass when focusing. The Zeiss lens I sent to you is capable of doing outstanding work in the direction of detail. The landscape pictures are excellent, but I am not sure that your local expert gets the best results in developing and printing. Would it be a good plan, do you think, to send me one of your film packs for treatment here? Surely the United Fruit office would see to it that anything sent to me would come through without abuse in the Custom House at New York or Boston.

It seems a very long time ago when your last package of specimens came in. Are you too busy to satisfy my inordinate cravings for a few crumbs from your feast?

Faithfully yours,

Oakes Ames

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SEPARATION OF THREE SPECIES OF
EPIDENDRUM.

Side lobes of labellum much broader near the apex than near the base, i.e. spatulate

Side lobes of the labellum not broader near the apex, but as broad or broader near the base:

Veins of labellum verrucose or papilose, midlobe rounded or obtuse
Epidendrum alaniense Ames

Veins of labellum not verrucose or papilose; midlobe commonly acute or acuminate

NOTE: *Epidendrum meliosma* Reichb. f. appears to come only from Mexico. The Costa Rican material, Brenes 266, referred to *E. meliosma* by Schlechter is clearly referable to *E. ramonense*.

Answer to question about the difference between *Epidendrum ochraceum* and *E. Mooreanum*.

Middle lobe of labellum similar to lateral lobes, not larger; inflorescens racemose. Flowers small. *E. ochraceum.*

Middle lobe of labellum different from the lateral lobes, markedly larger; inflorescens paniculate, flowers large E. Mooreanum.

Determinations of a few LankesterOrchids.

1157 (Formalin material only)	Epidendrum Mooreanum.
1158 (Formalin material)	" ramonense
1125 (Formalin material)	" alanjense.
1090 New Species ined.	" acguiflorum

1092 Not found. Have you any idea of the genus?
1121 " " " " " " " "

1121 15 00 00 00 00 00 00 00

1122 Masdevallia tubuliflora

1123 *Pleurothallis stenostachya*1124 *Hybochilus inconspuus*1126 *Spiranthes aguacatensis*

1127, 1128, 1132, not found. Have these been sent. If so do you remember the genera?

1133 *Leochilus gracilis*

1175 and 1176. Not found.

The missing numbers may have come in and after determination were placed in the herbarium. To find them it would mean a long hunt. If you can duplicate or give me some hint regarding the generic position, it will be possible to furnish the information you desire.



Ames, Oakes. 1928. "Ames, Oakes June 14, 1928 [to C.H. Lankester]." *Oakes Ames Orchid Herbarium correspondence files*

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