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AN ADDITION TO THE GENUS *HEXADESMIA*

BY
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THE NEW SPECIES of *Hexadesmia* described below might readily be mistaken for a tall, slender form of *H. crurigera* Lindl., but in the texture and color of the flowers, and in the outline of the very different labellum it is quite distinct.

Hexadesmia hondurensis *Ames sp. nov.* In habitu *H. crurigeræ* Lindl. similitudinem gerit, sed labelli lobis et magnitudine differt. Caules caespitosi, valde elongati, diphylli. Folia anguste linearia. Pedunculus quam folia brevior. Racemus plus minusve septemflorus. Sepala lateralia mentum rotundatum formantia, ovato-lanceolata, acuta, extus per medium leviter carinata. Sepalum dorsale oblongo-lanceolatum, concaviusculum. Petala oblonga, apice abrupte rotundata. Labellum subpanduratum, apice valde bilobatum, prope basim bicallosum. Columna in pedem producta.

Stems densely caespitose, erect, 12–15 cm. tall, minutely pseudobulbous at the base, very slender and many-sheathed for about 6 cm. then abruptly thickened to form an elongated secondary pseudobulb which is 8–9 cm. long, about 5 mm. in diameter when dry, subtended by several imbricating truncate sheaths and diphyllous at the apex.

Leaves linear, grass-like, 15–23 cm. long, about 3 mm. wide, obtuse, apiculate, obliquely erect. Inflorescence racemose, arising in the axil of the leaves, 6–7 cm. long, erect, with several imbricating scarious sheaths at the base, about 7-flowered. Bracts of the raceme about 5 mm. long, narrowly lanceolate, conduplicate. Pedicels with the ovary 1–1.3 cm. long, slender, obliquely ascending, distichous. Flowers pale yellow with lavender striations on the labellum. Lateral sepals 5 mm. long, about 3 mm. wide, ovate-lanceolate, acute, strongly concave, connate at the base forming a conspicuous rounded mentum, lightly carinate along the middle nerve on the outer surface. Dorsal sepal 5 mm. long, oblong-lanceolate, acute, closely appressed to the petals, 3-nerved to the tip. Petals 5 mm. long, about 2 mm. wide, oblong, abruptly rounded at the tip, subacute. Labellum about 9 mm. long, 6 mm. wide across the bilobed tip, obliquely ascending then sharply deflexed, subpandurate from a rounded base; the apical lobes 3 mm. long, 3 mm. wide, rounded, slightly divaricate, obscurely erose on the margin. Disc with two obliquely placed basal calli from each of which a lightly raised keel extends nearly to the sinus formed by the terminal lobes, with a central keel between them and a short supplementary keel on each side. Column about half as long as the dorsal sepal, produced into a conspicuous foot. Pollinia six.

REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS, Department of Comayagua, Minas de Oro. Epiphyte in open mountain forest, at 4,000 feet altitude. Sepals and petals pale yellow, labellum pale yellow with lavender stripes. December 26, 1932. *J. B. Edwards 334*. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 39065); Epiphyte in open mountain forest, at 4,000 feet altitude. Sepals and petals green with lavender ticking, labellum bronze. December 28, 1932. *J. B. Edwards 337*.

ILLUSTRATION: Plant natural size. 1, lateral sepal enlarged. 2, dorsal sepal enlarged. 3, petal enlarged. 4, flower enlarged. 5, lip and column viewed from the side, enlarged. 6, pollinia enlarged.

HEXADESMIA

hondurensis

Ames





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