

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum imbricatum* Ames, Orchidaceae 6: 51 (1920)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*.

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Kalimantan, Sabah, and Sarawak

Elevation in the Wild

600 – 2,400 metres

Habitat in the Wild

Clemens collected the type specimen on Mount Kinabalu in November 1915.

Within Kalimantan this species is recorded from between Long Bawan and Panado.

Within Sabah this species is recorded on Mount Kinabalu along the Liwagu River, Tenompok, Penibukan and the Mamut River. This plant has also been recorded in the Sipitang District along the Long Pa Sia to Long Samado Trail.

Within Sarawak this species is recorded in the Limbang District along the Pa Mario River and on Mount Murud.

Jeffrey wood described the habitat as "hill forest; lower montane forest; kerangas forest; dry, rather low and open forest on steep ridges, with small open patches of grasses and *Gleichenia* spp" (Wood 2001).

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs cluster together along short rhizomes, the rhizomes can grow to 6cm long. Pseudobulbs are a narrowly pyriform or cylindrical shape and measure 4.5-8.0 cm long and 0.5-1.5 mm wide. Pseudobulbs are covered by 4 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls disintegrate into fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 7.0-18.0 cm long. Leaf blades are an oblong-elliptic to elliptic shape and have acute to acuminate apices. Leaf blades measure 23.0-52.0 cm long and 3.8-6.0 cm wide. Leaves are coriaceous and have 7-9 nerves along their length.

Inflorescences are synanthous and appear from nearly fully expanded leaves. Peduncles are arching and measure 26.0-56.0 cm long. Rachises are quadrangular in cross section, pendent and measure 38.0-50.0 cm long. There are 4-5 non-floriferous bracts at the base of the rachis. Flowers open from the proximal section of the rachises. Floral bracts push the flowers downwards and are equal to or exceed the length of the flower.

Sepals and petals are pale green or yellowish green, side lobes are pale green or yellowish with chocolate brown coloured margins. Labella Mid-lobes are cream with a chocolate brown coloured basal patch, Keels are chocolate brown (Wood 2001). Dorsal sepals are an oblong-elliptic shape and have acute apices that are slightly carinate. Dorsal sepals measure 7.0-9.0 mm long and 2.9-3.0 mm wide. Dorsal sepals are three veined and have entire margins. Lateral sepals are an oblong-elliptic shape and have acute apices that are slightly carinate. Lateral sepals measure 8.0-9.0 mm

long and 3.0 mm wide. Lateral sepals are three veined and have entire margins. Petals are an oblong or elliptic shape and have acute apices. Petals measure 8.0-8.5 mm long and 2.8 mm wide. Petals are three veined and have entire margins. Labella are not or barely stipitate to columns by a short claw, porrect and 3-lobed. There are three prominent veins on the labella. Labella measure 4.0-4.1 mm long and 2.4-2.5 mm wide. Side lobes are a triangular shape and have acute apices. Mid-lobes are a suborbicular to spatulate shape and have rounded apices which are sometimes obscurely apiculate. Labella margins are entire. There are two keels that are not joined at the base. The keels terminate just beyond the base of the labellum. The median nerve is slightly elevated. Columns are somewhat papillose basally and measure 3.0-3.2mm long. Column feet are short. Apical hoods are elongated into a rounded apex with an obscurely retuse or irregularly obtusely 3-lobed margin. Stelids grow upwards from the middle of the column and are shorter than the column apex. The stelidia measure 1.0 mm long and are subulate.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

AMES

[Specimen 98766](#) (photo)

Isotype

New York Botanical Garden (NY)

[Specimen 39520](#) (photo)

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen K000079113](#) (photo)

BM

BO

SING

Other herbarium specimens

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen 29047.557](#)

[Specimen 61501.000](#)

National Herbarium Netherlands (L)

[Specimen L0269609](#)

[Specimen L0269610](#)

[Specimen L0269612](#)

[Specimen L0269613](#)

[Specimen L0269614](#)

SING

SAR

AMES

I could not locate the specimen

BM

KYO

The Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh (E)

[Specimen E00050088](#) (unspecified kind of type)

Scent

Yes, a strong and sweet scent.

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during July, August, October, November, and December.

Cultivation

I have seen evidence that this species is in cultivation in Australia.

Similar Species

Dendrochilum latifolium
Dendrochilum magnum
Dendrochilum longifolium

Other Information

Ames wrote that this species is similar to *Dendrochilum longifolium* and *Dendrochilum dewindtianum* but is distinct by its bracts that nearly conceal the flowers. Ames also wrote that the flower structure was different. Ames also compared this plant to *Dendrochilum oxylobum*.

This species is distinguished by other Bornean species by the large bracts that push the flowers downwards.

The epithet refers to the overlapping nature of the floral bracts.



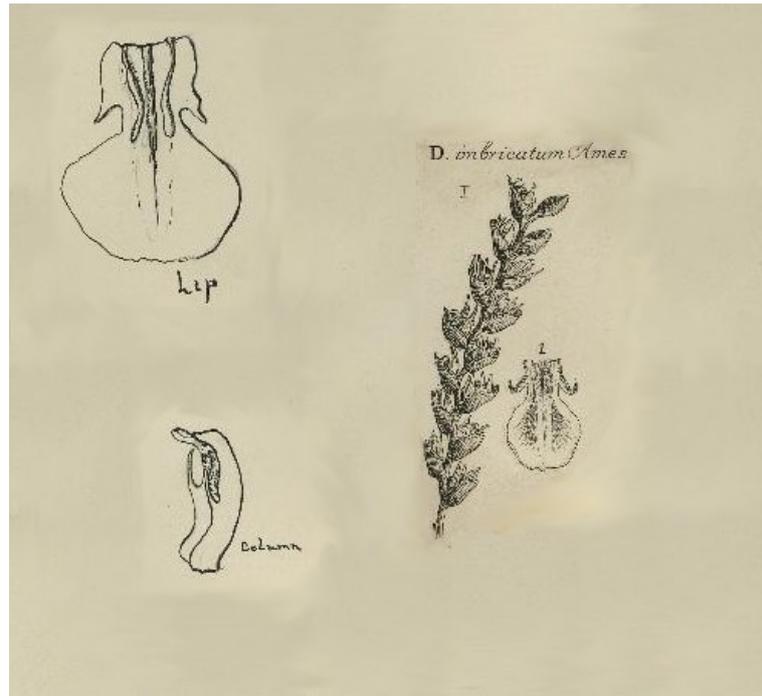
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Reference -

AMES, Oakes. 1920, Illustrations and studies of the Family Orchidaceae Facsimile 6 The Orchids of Mount Kinabalu British North Borneo, Ames Botanical Laboratory, North Easton, Massachusetts, Boston.

WOOD, Jeffrey. 1997, Orchids of Borneo volume 3. The Sabah Society, Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

WOOD, Jeffrey. Dendrochilum of Borneo, 2001. Natural History Publications (Borneo), Malaysia.

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 14 March 2009. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **14 March 2009**.