

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum foxworthyi* Ames, Orchidaceae 3: 8 (1908)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

Acoridium foxworthyi (Ames) Ames, Orchidaceae 7: 80 (1922).

Origin in the Wild

Luzon

Elevation in the Wild

1,800 – 2,042 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This Luzon endemic has been recorded from Ifugao Province on Mount Polis; Pampanga Province on Mount Pinatubo and Quezon Province on Mount Camatis. This species is recorded as growing as an epiphyte in mossy cloud forest. F.W. Foxworthy's field notes of the Mount Pinatubo specimen (no 2542) state "This is the most prominent thing on top of the mountain. It covers the mossy tree trunks very densely. The leaves are a rather dark shiny green"

Ames wrote that it is an epiphyte from mountain tops.

The Plants Description

This *Dendrochilum* is medium sized and tufted. Pseudobulbs cluster along a short rhizome and are a fusiform to ellipsoid shape. Pseudobulbs measure 1.2-3.2cm long and 0.2-0.3cm in diameter. Pseudobulbs are covered by 3-4 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls disintegrate into persistent fibres as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate, petioles measure 1-5cm long. Leaves are dark shiny green. Leaf blades are a linear-lanceolate shape and have obtuse to finely mucronate apices. Leaf blades measure 3.7-14.5cm long and 0.3-0.6cm wide. Leaves have 3 distinct nerves; the 2 outermost nerves are submarginal.

Inflorescence

Inflorescences are synanthous and free from the subtending leaf at the time of flowering. Peduncles are suberect and measure 6.3-18.8cm long. Rachises are nodding and measure 3-9.2cm long. Flowers are spaced 2mm apart. Flowers open from the proximal end of the rachis.

The Flowers

Ames wrote that about 30 flowers grow on an inflorescence (Ames 1908). flowers are mainly yellow and greenish-yellow; sometimes the labellum is tinged with brown. Dorsal sepals are an oblong shape and have subacute to rounded apices, sometimes minutely mucronate. Dorsal sepals measure 1.6-2.6mm long and 0.7-1.1mm wide. Dorsal sepals have entire margins and are three veined. Lateral sepals are somewhat oblique and are an oblong-elliptic shape, the apices are obtuse to acute, sometimes minutely carinate. Lateral sepals measure 1.7-2.7mm long and 1-1.3mm wide. Lateral sepals have entire margins and are three veined. Petals are an obovate shape and have rounded to obtuse apices. Petals measure 1.5-2.5mm long and 1-1.5mm wide. Petals have entire margins and are three veined. Labella are correct, entire and

sometimes can be clawed. Labella are an oblong to broadly cordate shape and have obtuse, sometime apiculate apices. Labella measure 1.3-1.5mm long and 0.9-1.8mm wide. Labella are 3-veined, glabrous and have entire margins. There are 2 tiny lateral calli that look like swellings, there is no median calli. Columns are suberect and nearly straight and measure 0.7-1mm long. Columns do not have an apical hood.

Herbarium Specimens

Lectotype

AMES

[Specimen 18859](#) (photo)

Isotype

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

I could not find the specimen

Philippine National Herbarium (PNH)

Specimen – destroyed

SING

US

Other herbarium specimens

National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden (L)

[Specimen L0322480](#)

[Specimen L0322481](#)

[Specimen L0322482](#)

Scent

I could find no record.

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild from March to May.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation. If this species is in cultivation it could be labelled as something else.

Similar Species

Dendrochilum marginatum

Dendrochilum philippinense

Dendrochilum rhombophorum

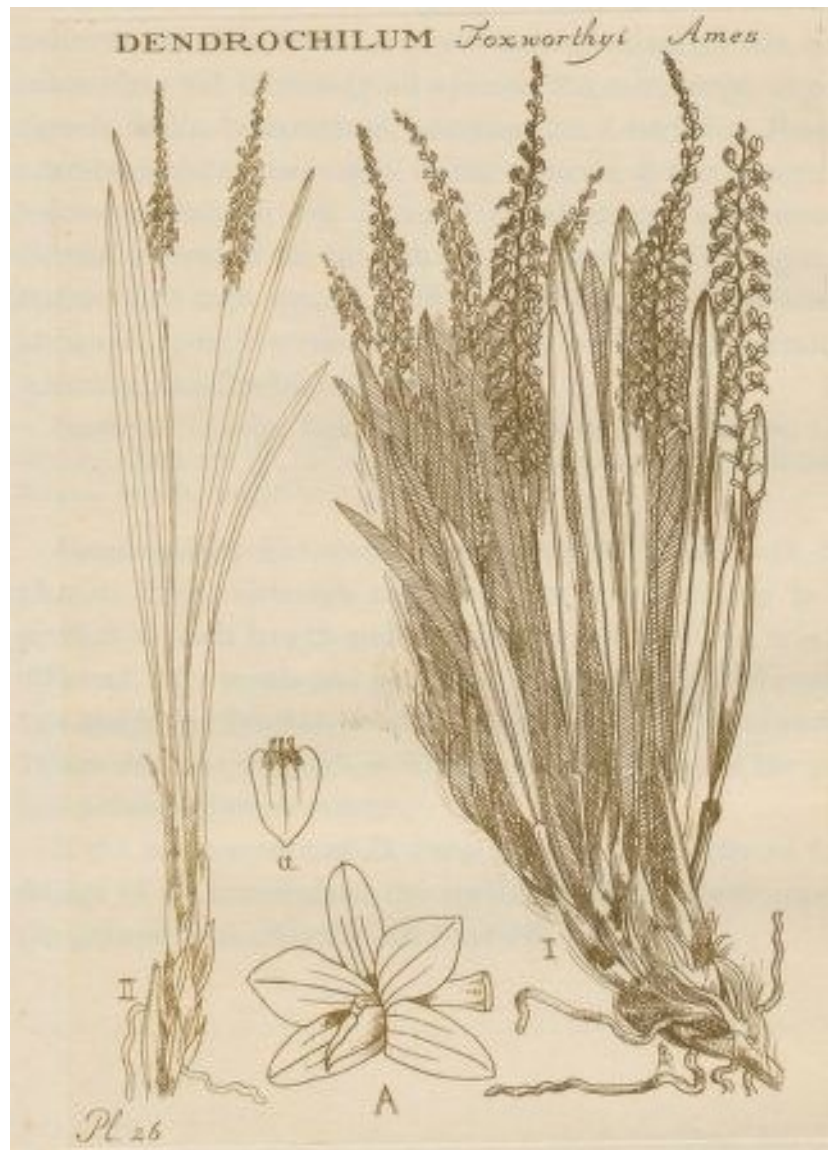
Dendrochilum macgregorii

Other Information

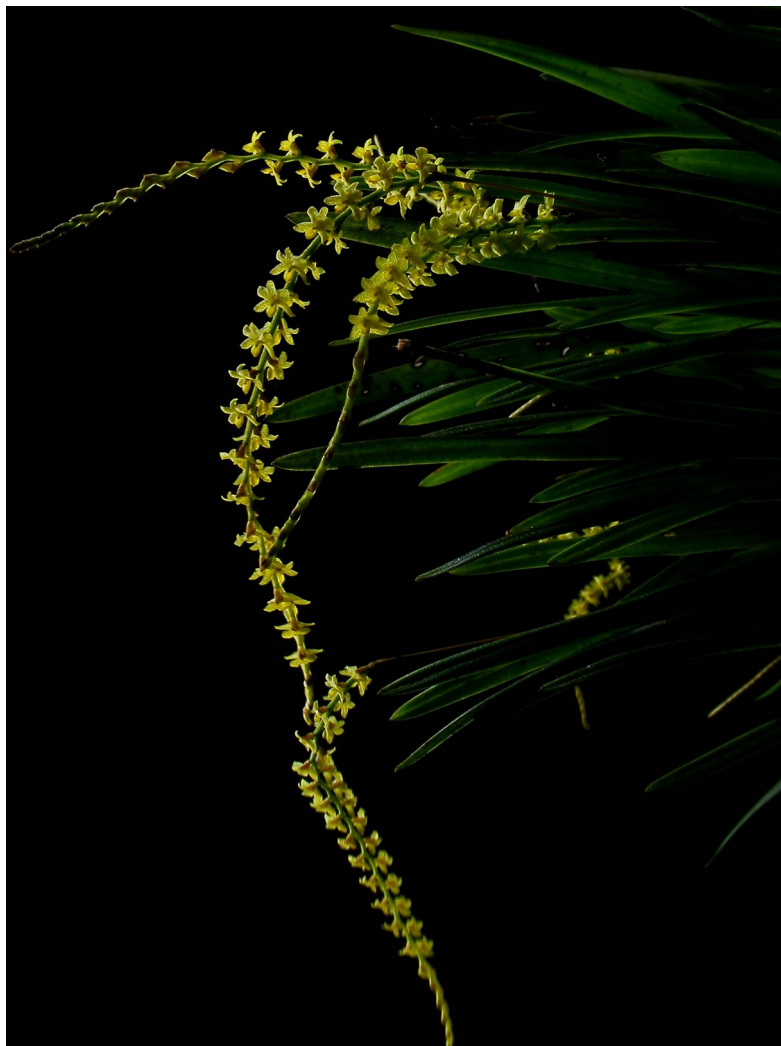
Henrik Pedersen considered this species is similar to those above because, the peduncle is free from the leaf at the time of flowering (except *D. philippinense*), an entire labellum and obscure calli. L.O Williams considered this species to be closely

related to *D. rhombophorum*. Henrik Pedersen considers this species to be closet to *D. macgregorii* because of the appearance of the calli.

Ames wrote "A wide range of variation is noticeable in the material gathered by Foxworthy on Mount Pinatubo, some of the specimens being twice as tall as others, but no corresponding variation that I have been able to discover occurs in the flowers of the extremes" (Ames 1908).



An illustration by Oakes Ames



These two photos were taken by Wally Suarez and are used with permission. ©

Reference –

AMES, Oakes. 1908, Illustrations and studies of the Family Orchidaceae Facsimile 3, Ames Botanical Laboratory, North Easton, Massachusetts, Boston.

PEDERSEN, Henrik. 1997, The Genus *Dendrochilum* (Orchidaceae) in the Philippines – A Taxonomic Revision. Opera Botanica, Denmark

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 18 January 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **18 January 2008**.