Accepted name: *Dendrochilum odoratum* (Ridl.) J.J.Sm., Recueil Trav. Bot. Néerl. 1: 80 (1904)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

**Synonyms**


**Origin in the Wild**

Sumatra and Peninsula Malaysia, Thailand

**Elevation in the Wild**

1,520 metres in Sumatra
1,200 – 1,500 metres in Peninsula Malaysia

**Habitat in the Wild**

In Sumatra this species was collected by Carr along the Merek to Sidikalang Road.

On Peninsula Malaysia this species has been collected from Fraser’s Hill in Pahang, Taiping hills, Gunung Jerai and within the Cameron Highlands.

**The Plants Description**

Pseudobulbs are a cylindrical shape and measure 6.25-8 cm long. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 1.4-5 cm long. Leaf blades are a lanceolate shape and have more or less acute apices. Leaf blades measure 18-22.5 cm long and 1-2-3.5 cm wide. Leaf blades have entire margins and 5 distinct nerves.

Inflorescences are synanthous and free from subtending leaves at the time of flowering. Peduncles are arching to nodding and measure 11.3-11.8 cm long. Rachises are nodding to pendent and measure 11.7-16.4 cm. There are no non-floriferous bracts at the base of the inflorescence.

The flowers are greenish-white, the base of the labellum is darker green. Between 35-47 flowers grow on an inflorescence. Flowers stay open for 6–7 weeks in cultivation. Dorsal sepals are a lanceolate or an oblong-lanceolate shape and have acuminate apices, the margins incurve slightly. Dorsal sepals measure 8 mm long and 1.8-2.0 mm wide. Dorsal sepals have entire margins, the number of veins is not recorded. Lateral sepals are an oblong-lanceolate shape and have elongated acuminate apices. The lateral sepals measure 8.0-9.1 mm long and 1.8 mm wide. Lateral sepals have entire margins, the number of veins is not recorded. Petals are a lanceolate shape and have acuminate or acute apices. Petals measure 5-5.8mm long and 1.0-1.2mm wide. Petals have entire margins, the number of veins is not recorded. Labella are entire, recurved and minutely pubescent. Labella are tongue shaped with obtuse apices. Labella have two keels which run from the base to ¾ of the labellum's length. The keels are thicker basally. Labella margins are minutely erose. Column feet are not recorded. Columns measure 2mm. Apical hoods are irregular with dentate margins. Stelidia grow upwards from the middle of the column, the shape varies, the apices are either bifid or not and are shorter than, equal to or slightly exceeding column apices. The length of stelidia is not recorded.

**Herbarium Specimens**

[www.dendrochilum.com](http://www.dendrochilum.com)
Written by Trey Sanders - Please use with permission
Holotype

I could not locate the specimen

Other herbarium specimens

National Herbarium Netherlands

Specimen L0269675

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (K)

Specimen 23126.000
Specimen 37591.000
Specimen 20287.000

Scent

Yes a sweet scent.

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in Peninsula Malaysia during April and June.
Plants flower in cultivation in Europe during the autumn and flowers stay open for 5-7
weeks depending in conditions.

Cultivation

Plants are in cultivation in Europe and SE Asia

Similar Species

Dendrochilum simile
Dendrochilum arachnites
Dendrochilum duplicibrachium (see this page for differences)
Dendrochilum stenochilum
Dendrochilum planiscapum
Dendrochilum beccarii
Dendrochilum oxyglossum

Other Information

In 2018, a plant was shown on Facebook, Dendrochilum Lovers page, stating that it
was from Narathiwat, Thailand, it was determined to be Dendrochilum simile at the
time, however, a closer examination by me of the plant makes me believe that it is
Dendrochilum odoratum.

This species is varied and I expect that further data will be added to the description
above as more plants are studied.
These three photos were taken by Trey Sanders and are used with permission ©. 

Note the variation with the stelidia. These photos are all from one inflorescence.
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The Dendrochilum simile group

1. Dendrochilum simile
2. Dendrochilum odoratum
3. Dendrochilum malindangense
4. Dendrochilum planiscapum
5. Dendrochilum spathaceum
6. Dendrochilum duplicibrachium
7. Dendrochilum stenochilum
8. Dendrochilum beccarii
9. Dendrochilum zollingeri
10. Dendrochilum oxyglossum
11. Dendrochilum gramineum

Drawings by:
Kränzlin
Rudolf Schlechter
Oakes Ames
Odorado Beccari
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Image created by Trey Sanders, www.dendrochilum.com
Reference

COMBER, J.B. Orchids of Sumatra, 2001, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew
Dendrochilum lovers page, Facebook. 25 July 2018.

SEIDENFADEN, Gunnar;, WOOD, Jeffrey;, HOUFTTUM, Eric;. 1992, The Orchids of Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore