

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum vaginatum* J.J.Sm., Recueil Trav. Bot. Néerl. 1: 61 (1904)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Java and Sumatra

Elevation in the Wild

1520 metres (Sumatra)

1346 metres (Java)

Habitat in the Wild

Found in Java on Mount Karang and Mount Palosari and collected along the Merek to Sidikalang road in Northern Sumatra. This species is likely to be found in west and south Sumatra.

The Plants Description

Rhizomes are pendent and branching and measure up to 35cm long and 3.5mm in diameter. Rhizomes are covered with brown sheaths. Pseudobulbs are spaced 5-8cm apart and are shaped terete. Pseudobulbs measure 3-3.5cm long and 3.5mm in diameter. Leaves are petiolate, petioles measure 1cm long. Leaf blades are an ovate-lanceolate shape and have acute apices. Leaf blades measure 13-15cm long and 2.5cm wide.

Inflorescence

Inflorescences emerge from fully developed pseudobulbs. Peduncles measure 6cm long. Rachises measure 16cm long and are curved or nodding. Flowers are spaced 2-2.25mm apart.

The Flowers

Inflorescences have approximately 30 flowers on it. Sepals and petals spread widely. Sepals measure 4mm long and petals measure 3.5mm long. Sepals and petals are a lanceolate shape and have acute apices. Labella are 3-lobed and measure 3.2mm long and 1.75mm wide. Side lobes are indistinct, a triangular shape and have tooth like apices. Each side lobe has a smaller tooth above it. Mid-lobes are an ovate-rhomboid shape and have acuminate apices. Labella have erose margins. There are two small basal ridges. Columns measure 1mm long. Apical hoods are short and arching and have a five-dentate wing. Stelidia are broad, short and grow from the bases of the column. Stelidia do not reach the column apex.

Herbarium Specimens

Syntype

National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden (L)

[Specimen L0058487](#) (photo)
[Specimen L0058488](#) (photo)
[Specimen L0058489](#) (photo)
[Specimen L0058490](#) (photo)

Other herbarium specimens

Kew Botanical Garden (K)

[Specimen K000079158](#) (mixed sheet with *Dendrochilum cornutum*)

Scent

I could find no record

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during October.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation.

Similar species

Dendrochilum incurvibrachium (see this page for the differences)

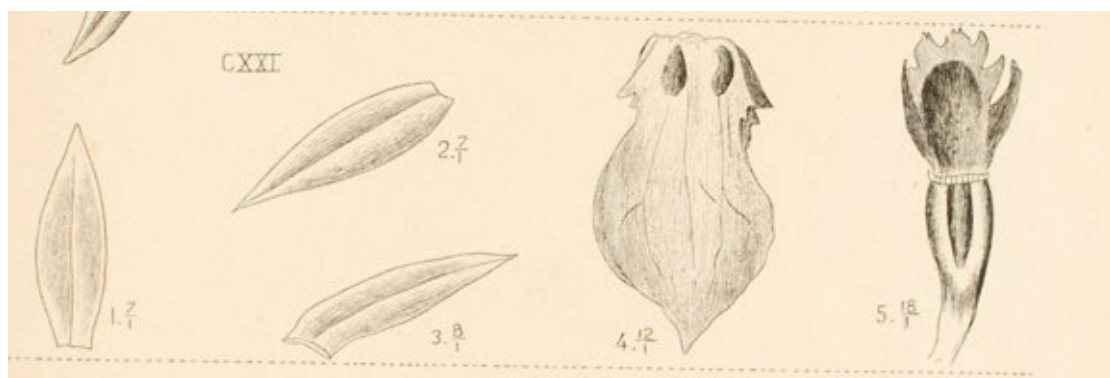
Dendrochilum teleense (see this page for the differences)

Dendrochilum decipiens

Dendrochilum adpressibulbum

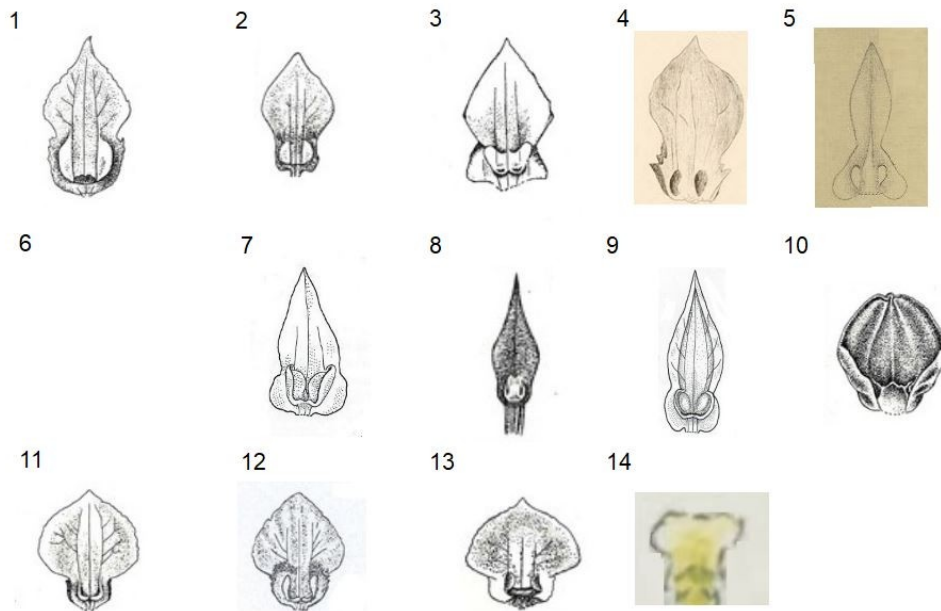
Other Information

Jim Comber wrote that this species was collected on Gunung Palosari in western Java and not collected again. At least during 1990 there was forest remaining there and Comber suggested that the plant should be looked for again and on Gunung Karang (Comber 1990).



J.J. Smith's illustration

The *decipiens* group (Sumatra species, long rhizomes with pseudobulbs spaced at least 2.5cm apart)
- labellum comparison



- 1 – *Dendrochilum decipiens*
- 2 – *Dendrochilum incurvibrachium*
- 3 – *Dendrochilum adpressibulbum*
- 4 – *Dendrochilum vaginatum*
- 5 – *Dendrochilum elegans*
- 6 – *Dendrochilum kabense*
- 7 – *Dendrochilum lepidum*
- 8 – *Dendrochilum acuminatum*
- 9 – *Dendrochilum teleense*
- 10 – *Dendrochilum lamellatum*
- 11 – *Dendrochilum longicaule*
- 12 – *Dendrochilum carnosulilabrum*
- 13 – *Dendrochilum latilobum*
- 14 – *Dendrochilum barbifrons*

Drawings by:

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Rudolf Schlechter
Fritz Kränzlin
Susanna Stuart-Smith

Image created by Trey Sanders for www.dendrochilum.com

Reference –

COMBER, J.B. Orchids of Java, 1990, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, UK

COMBER, J.B. Orchids of Sumatra, 2001, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 24 September 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **24 September 2008**.