Accepted name: *Dendrochilum abbreviatum* Blume, Bijdr.: 398 (1825)

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*.

Synonyms

*Acoridium abbreviatum* (Blume) Rolfe, Orchid Rev. 12: 219 (1904).

Origin in the Wild

Java

Elevation in the Wild

700 - 2,000 metres

Habitat in the Wild

This species is found all over Java although not common. This species grows as an epiphyte in primary rainforest.

A recent study of orchids within secondary forest in Coban Trisula in East Java found that this species only grew on one tree, *Engelhardia spicata var. colebrookeana* in their study area.

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs are spaced approximately 5 cm apart along the rhizome. Pseudobulbs are an oblong shape and dark green, measure 4-5 cm long and 0.5 cm in diameter. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure c7 cm long. Leaf blades have acute apices. Leaves measure 30-35 cm long and 3.0-3.5 cm wide. The leaf nerves are not recorded.

Inflorescences are synanthous and appear from undeveloped pseudobulbs before the leaves appear. Peduncles are erect, their length is not recorded. Rachises are arching, their length is not recorded. Inflorescences measure 25-32 cm long.

Between 25 and 35 flowers grow on an inflorescence (Comber 1990). Flowers are pale green. The sepals are a broadly lanceolate shape and have acute apices. Sepals measure c8.5 mm long and 3.5 mm wide. The nerves and whether the margins are entire or erose is not recorded. Petals are the same shape but are smaller with erose margins. Petal nerves are not recorded. Labella are pendent and 3 lobed. Side lobes are flat and have finely erose margins from the base to the apex. Mid-lobes are a broadly ovate shape and have shortly apiculate apices. Mid-lobe margins are finely erose. There are two keels that run from the base and flatten towards the apex. Stelidia grow from the base of the column and are shorter than the column apex.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

Specimen L0820103 - Leiden (L)
Isotypes
Unknown

Other herbarium Specimens
Kew Botanic Gardens (K)
Specimen 52923.000

National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden (L)
Specimen L0269495
Specimen L0269496
Specimen L0269497
Specimen L0269498

Natural History Museum (BM)
Specimen Horsfield, T. s.n.

Scent
I could find no record.

Flowering Season
I believe this species flowers during the spring and summer in cultivation (pending the cultivated plants being this species).

Cultivation
Although I have not seen this plant in cultivation, I believe it is found in some private collections. I have seen nursery listings of this plant in Germany and after purchasing one found it to be Dendrochilum pangasinanense.

Similar Species
Dendrochilum longifolium

Other Information
There is a variety described by J.J. Smith as Dendrochilum abbreviatum var reniforme. This plant was given varietal status on account of its smaller flowers and dentate margin on the apical wing. The plant was found in Java on Gunung Salek. I have not created a separate page for this variety as I could not find enough information on it.

An examination of the holotype reveals that the leaf length differs from the type and subsequent descriptions. Further examination and review by a taxonomist is required.
All three photos were taken by the late Jim Comber and bequeathed to the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew. The photos are reproduced with permission from the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
Dendrochilum abbreviatum var reniforme. Photos taken by Jeffrey Champion ©.
Dendrochilum abbreviatum var reniforme.

Photos taken by Jeffrey Champion ©.
Reference –

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

NURFADILAH, Siti. 2015, Diversity of Epiphytic Orchids and Host Trees (Phorophytes)in Secondary Forest of Coban Trisula, Malang Regency, East Java, Indonesia, Biotropia Vol 22, No 2, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Indonesia.