

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum haslamii* Ames, Orchidaceae 6: 53 (1920).

Subgenus – *Platyclinis*.

Synonyms

None

Origin in the Wild

Sabah - (*var. haslamii*)

Sarawak - (*var. quadrilobum*)

Elevation in the Wild

2,400 - 3,100 metres (*var. haslamii*)

2,190 – 2,225 metres (*var. quadrilobum*)

Habitat in the Wild

(*var. haslamii*)

This species has been collected from Mount Kinabalu at various locations, often along the summit trail. The habitat is described by Jeffrey Wood as "upper montane forest, frequently on ultramafic substrate; growing low down on trunks and branches, often in exposed sites; recorded as epiphytic on *Leptospermum recurvum*" (Wood 2001).

(*var. quadrilobum*)

This species was collected on Mount Mulu in the Gunung Mulu National Park along the path from sub-camp 4 to the summit. The habitat is described as upper montane forest and ridge top montane forest (Wood 2001).

The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs cluster along abbreviated rhizomes that grow to 8cm long. Pseudobulbs are caespitose and a subfusiform or ovoid shape. Pseudobulbs measure 0.5-2 cm long and 0.2-0.4 cm in diameter. Pseudobulbs are covered by 3-4 cataphylls while they are growing. The cataphylls disintegrate into persistent fibres that slowly disintegrate as the pseudobulbs mature. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 2-7 mm long. Leaf blades are a linear-ligulate to linear-lanceolate shape and have obtuse apices that are minutely apiculate. Leaf blades measure 2.5-6 cm long and 0.2-0.6 cm wide. There are 3 distinct nerves on the blade.

Leaves contain crystalline calcium oxalate bodies. The bodies are also present in related species as well.

Peduncles are erect, suberect to curved and measure 1.2-5 cm long. Rachises are erect or arching and measure 3-7 cm long. Rachises are quadrangular in cross-section. Flowers alternate distichously and are spaced 1.8-2.5 mm apart. Rachises and peduncles are a dull red colour. There is 1 or no or non-floriferous bracts at the base of the rachises. Flowers open from the proximal section of rachises.

Jeffrey Wood wrote that between 15 and 30 flowers grow on an inflorescence (Wood 2001). The flower colour is variable, and the following colours have been recorded, sepals and petals, creamy yellow, yellowish green or yellow. Labella, bright brown, or brownish orange. Columns are olive brown. Stelids are pale brown with yellowish-brown

tips or pale creamy green (Wood 2001). Sepals and petals are strongly concave. Dorsal sepals are an oblong-ovate shape and have obtuse or subacute apices. Dorsal sepals measure 1.5-1.9 mm long and 1-1.1 mm wide. Dorsal sepals have entire margins and are one veined. Lateral sepals are an oblong-ovate shape and have obtuse or subacute apices. Lateral sepals measure 1.5-1.9 mm long and 1-1.1 mm wide. Lateral sepals have entire margins and are one veined. Petals are an ovate to oblong-ovate shape and have obtuse to subacute apices. Petals measure 1.5 mm long and 1 mm wide. Petals are directed forward, have entire margins and are one veined. Labella are 4-lobed; the side lobes are obscure. Labella measure 2 mm long and 1.5-1.6 mm wide below the middle. Side lobes are minute, rounded, and undulate or distinct a short, rounded shape in *var. quadrilobum*. Mid-lobes expand into ovate to oblong shaped side lobules that are falcate; there is a tiny mucro in between the side lobules. Labella margins are entire. There is a U-shaped callus that extends the length of the disc and terminates at the mucro between the side lobules of the mid-lobe. Columns measure 1 mm long with no column foot. Apical hoods are obtuse and have entire margins. Stelids grow from the base of columns and are equal in length to the apical hoods. Stelidia are a linear shape with obtuse apices and measure 1-1.1 mm long.

Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

AMES

I could not locate the specimen.

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K) (*var. quadrilobum*)

[Specimen 43215.000](#)

[Specimen K000078195](#) (photo)

Isotype

NA

Other herbarium specimens

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (K)

[Specimen 56499.000](#)

[Specimen K000078194](#)

[Specimen 61407.000](#)

BO

National Herbarium Netherlands (L)

[Specimen L0269599](#)

[Specimen L0269600](#)

[Specimen L0269601](#)

[Specimen L0322533](#)

[Specimen L0322534](#)

[Specimen L0322535](#)

SING

KSEPL

www.dendrochilum.com

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SAR

The Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh (E)

[Specimen E00050035](#)

BM

Scent

No

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during March and from July to December. The only plant (in flower) of *var. quadrilobum* to be collected in the wild was during October.

Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation.

Similar Species

Dendrochilum gibbsiae

Other Information

Ames wrote that this species is similar to *Dendrochilum gibbsiae*, *Dendrochilum kinabaluense* and *Dendrochilum quinquelobum* both later plants now considered synonyms of *Dendrochilum gibbsiae*. Ames wrote that the linear leaves and labellum differ on *D. haslamii* (Ames 1920).

Jeffrey Wood wrote that this species forms large clusters of pseudobulbs sometimes numbering over 50 (Wood 1997).

The epithet refers to A.G Haslam who collected the type specimen.

The differences with *var quadrilobum* is its distinct side lobes; the side lobes on *D. haslamii var haslamii* are minute and obscure. The side lobules of the mid-lobe are straight or subfalcate.

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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.

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