

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum decipiens* J.J.Sm., Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg, III, 5: 38 (1922)

### Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

#### Synonyms

None

#### Origin in the Wild

Sumatra

#### Elevation in the Wild

1,800 - 2,200 metres

#### Habitat in the Wild

This species has been collected from Mount Kerinci in Jambi Province, Gunung Merapi and Bur ni Telong in Aceh Province.

#### The Plants Description

The rhizomes branch and measure up to 50cm long with internodes spaced 3.5cm apart. The pseudobulbs are spaced 12.5cm apart and are cylindrical measuring up to 2.9cm long. The leaves are petiolate; the petiole measures 1cm long. The leaf blade is shaped elliptic-lanceolate. The leaf blade narrows abruptly 2cm from the apex. The leaf blade measures 14cm long and 3.5cm wide.

#### The Inflorescence

The inflorescence is synanthous and appears just before the leaves develop. The peduncle measures 5cm long and the rachis up to 10cm long, the rachis is arching. The flowers are spaced 3.5mm apart.

#### The Flowers

The flowers open widely and are light brown with a dark brown labellum. The sepals are shaped lanceolate and have acuminate apices. The sepals measure 6.5mm long and 1.75mm wide. The petals are shaped elliptic-lanceolate. The petals measure 6mm long and 2mm wide. The petals have erose margins along their upper part. The labellum is held parallel to the column and is 3-lobed. The side-lobes are small and broad. There are 3 keels that run nearly the entire length of the labellum. The column is very small and measures 1.3mm long. The apical hood has a bi-dentate margin. The stelidia grow from just above the middle of the column. The stelidia are shaped linear and exceed the apical hood.

#### Herbarium Specimens

Holotype

I could not locate the type

Other herbarium specimens

National Herbarium Netherlands, Leiden (L)

[www.dendrochilum.com](http://www.dendrochilum.com)

Written by Trey Sanders - Please use with permission

[Specimen L0322448](#)

Scent

Unknown

Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during July.

Culture

I do not think this species is in cultivation

Similar Species

*Dendrochilum kabense* (see this page for differences)

*Dendrochilum latilobum*

*Dendrochilum adpressibulbum*

*Dendrochilum elegans*

*Dendrochilum incurvibrachium*

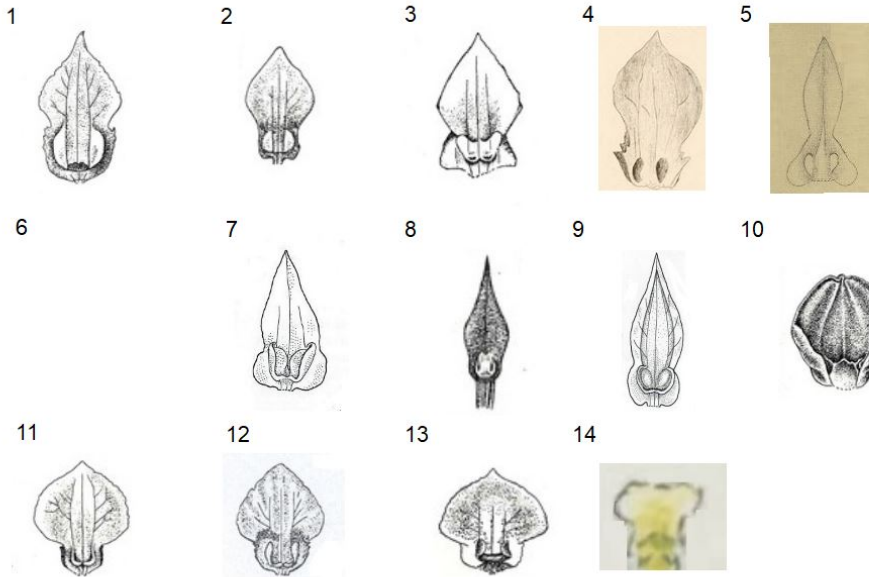
Additional Comments

J.J Smith wrote that this species is similar to *Dendrochilum latilobum* but differs by its bigger flowers, the acute tepals, longer labellum with a base that is as wide as the mid-lobe, straighter column and stielidia that exceed the column apex.



Above: An illustration of *Dendrochilum decipiens*, the illustrator is unknown

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

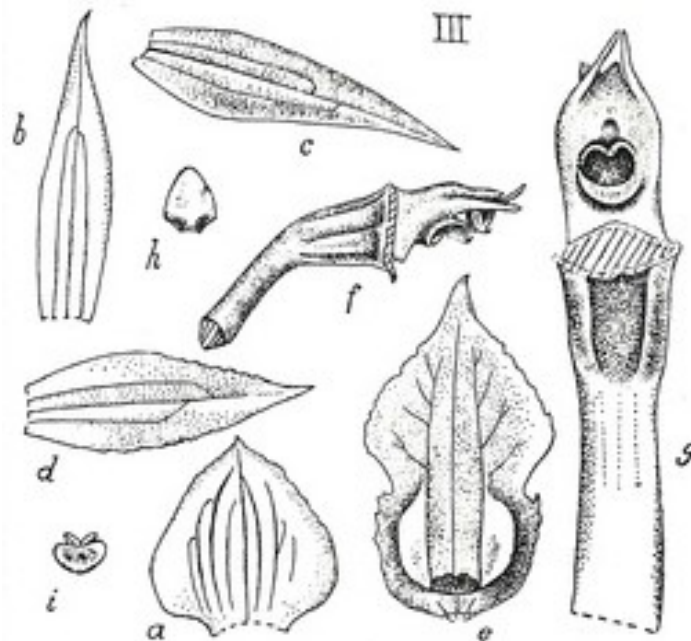


- 1 – *Dendrochilum decepiens*
- 2 – *Dendrochilum incurvibrachium*
- 3 – *Dendrochilum adpressibulbum*
- 4 – *Dendrochilum vaginatum*
- 5 – *Dendrochilum elegans*
- 6 – *Dendrochilum kabense*
- 7 – *Dendrochilum lepidum*
- 8 – *Dendrochilum acuminatum*
- 9 – *Dendrochilum teleense*
- 10 – *Dendrochilum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

Drawings by:

- J.J Smith
- Rudolf Schlechter
- Fritz Kränzlin
- Susanna Stuart-Smith

Image created by Trey Sanders for [www.dendrochilum.com](http://www.dendrochilum.com)



Above: Illustration by J.J. Smith

Reference –

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

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 17 November 2020. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **17 November 2020**