

Accepted name: *Dendrochilum basale* J.J.Sm., Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg, III, 5: 56 (1922)

### Subgenus – *Platyclinis*

#### Synonyms

None

#### Origin in the Wild

Sumatra

#### Elevation in the Wild

1,550 -2,000 metres

#### Habitat in the Wild

This species was collected from Mount Dempo in the Bengkulu Mountain Range. Jim Comber wrote that he found this species just north of Lake Toba in northern Sumatra (Comber 2001). Todd Barkman collected a plant along the Merek to Sidikalang Road at 1600 metres. This means that this species is widespread and extant across the two *Dendrochilum* regional zones as outlined in Pedersen et al (Pedersen 2019).

#### The Plants Description

Pseudobulbs cluster along a short rhizome. Pseudobulbs are an ovoid to almost globose shape and measure 8-9.55 mm in diameter. Leaves are petiolate; petioles measure 1.5 cm long. Leaf blades are a lanceolate shape and have acute apices. Leaf blades measure up to 6.6cm long and 1.8cm wide. Leaf nerves are not recorded.

Inflorescences are synanthous and appear before the leaves have fully formed. Peduncles are erect and measure up to 9 cm long. Rachises are arching and measure up to 7 cm long. Flowers are spaced 4mm apart. Rachises are quadrangular in cross-section. The distance between flowers and number of non-floriferous bracts are not recorded.

Approximately 17 flowers grow on an inflorescence, flowers are light brown with darker brown labella. Dorsal sepals are a lanceolate shape with narrowed and recurved acute apices. Dorsal sepals measure 1 cm long and 2.75 mm wide. The number of veins and margins are not recorded. Lateral sepals are a lanceolate shape with recurved acuminate to acute apices. Lateral sepals measure c1 cm long and c3 mm wide. The number of veins and margins are not recorded. Petals are an obliquely ovate shape and have recurved acuminate to acute apices. Petals have erose margins and measure 8.75 mm long and 3.4 mm wide. The number of veins is not recorded. Labella are pendent and 3-lobed. Side lobes are flat, an obliquely triangular shape and have acute apices. Mid-lobes are a broadly ovate shape and measure 4.7 mm long and 3.2 mm wide. The margins of labella are irregular to erose. There are two keels on the labellum. Columns are curved and triangular in cross section. Apical hoods are almost quadrangular and have truncate apices. Stelidia grow from the base of the column are a linear shape and do not reach column apices.

#### Herbarium Specimens

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

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Holotype

I could not locate the holotype

Other herbarium specimens

Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew (K)

[Specimen 55888.000](#)

[Specimen 61474.000](#)

#### Scent

I could find no record.

#### Flowering Season

Flowering plants have been collected in the wild during January and October.

#### Cultivation

I do not think this species is in cultivation outside of Indonesia.

#### Similar Species

*Dendrochilum linearifolium*

#### Other Information

J.J. Smith wrote that this species is similar to *Dendrochilum linearifolium* but differs by its wider leaves with acute apices and the densely hairy bracts, the 2 keels and a larger apical hood on the column.



An illustration by J.J. Smith

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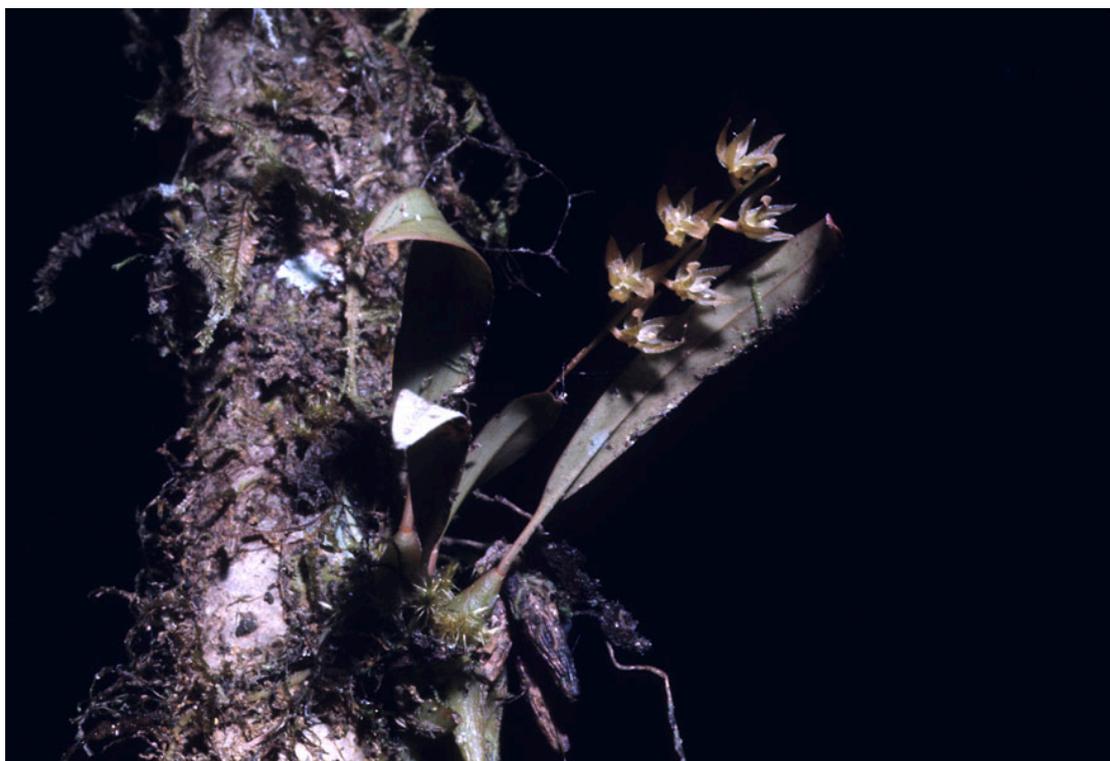
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Reference –

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

PEDERSEN, Henrik., PETERSEN, Gitte., GRAVENDEEL, Barbara., BARKMAN, Todd., DE BOER, Hugo., SULISTYO, Bobby., SEVERGI, Ole. 2019, Phylogenetics of Dendrochilum (Orchidaceae): Evidence of pronounced morphological homoplasy and predominantly centric endemism. Taxon, International Association for Plant Taxonomy.

World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. 20 December 2008. The Board of Trustees of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet; <http://www.kew.org/wcsp/> accessed **20 December 2008**.