



Orchids of Mexico





There are about 30,000 orchids in the world. Over 1,200 of them can be found in Mexico. Of these, about 250 are found **ONLY** in Mexico.

Many of the orchids shown here are common, however, some are rare, many are threatened and a few are endangered. At least one is extinct in the wild.

Acineta barkeri



Found in Oaxaca and Chiapas in cloud forests at elevations around 1000 to 2000 meters as a medium sized, warm growing epiphyte with ovoid, slightly compressed, longitudinally sulcate pseudobulbs partially enveloped by fibrous sheaths and carrying 3 to 4, apical, erect, plicate, coriaceous, elliptic, acuminate, attenuate and channeled below into the base leaves that blooms in the summer on basal, 2 to 3, pendant, terete, racemose, slightly flexuous, 12 to 16" (30 to 40 cm) long, 15 to 20 flowered inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb as a new growth appears, with several, tubular, scarious, coffee brown bracts and elliptic-ovate, cucullate, round to obtuse floral bracts carrying simultaneously opening, fragrant flowers.

Acianthera breviflora



Found in Oaxaca, a miniature sized epiphytic orchid. Very little data is available on this apparently rare orchid.

Acianthera chrysantha



Found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico and Oaxaca on Pacific facing slopes or in humid sub-deciduous forests at elevations of 1500 to 2400 meters as a small sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with a stiff, erect ramicaul carrying a single, apical, thick, rigid, sessile, oblong, obtuse apically and below into the elongate, channeled, petiolate base leaf that blooms on a apical, short, stiff, erect, fasciculate, (1" (2.5 cm) long, few (4 to 5) flowered inflorescence arising through a narrow spathe that holds the flowers close to the base of the leaf.

Acineta hagsateri



Found in Guerrero in humid oak forests at elevations around 1950 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with ovoid, furrowed pseudobulbs carrying 4 apical, plicate, ascending, coriaceous, elliptic, basally attenuate in a channeled pseudopetiole, acute to acuminate apically leaves that blooms in the summer on a pendent, 12" (30 cm) long, loosely 20 to 25 flowered inflorescence carrying Cinnamon scented, simultaneously opening, resupinate flowers

Alamania punicea

This dwarf epiphytic orchid is found only in Mexico at elevations of 1500 to 2700 meters and is a miniature sized, cool growing species, in pastures and open woodlands, lava flows and attached to large oaks or on rocks beneath them with clustered, ovoid pseudobulbs with 2 to 3, coriaceous, oblong-elliptic, obtuse, slightly conduplicate, articulate basally, broad leaves and blooms in the spring and early summer on an erect, terminal, racemose, 1 to 5 flowered inflorescence that arises on a leafless pseudobulb and is equal to or slightly shorter than the leaves. This species requires an autumn and winter rest with no water and fertilizer but the humidity and cool nights. Water and fertilizer should be resumed when the new growth appears in the early spring.



Anathallis scariosa



Found in Michoacan, Mexico, Morelos, Guerrero and Oaxaca in montane rainforests and cloud forests at elevations of 1800 to 2300 meters as a miniature to small sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte with slender erect ramicauls enveloped basally by 2 to 3, tubular, scarious sheaths and carrying a single, apical, erect, coriaceous, arcuate, convex, elliptic to oblong-elliptic, obtuse-rounded, gradually narrowing below into the petiolate base leaf that blooms in the late spring and early summer on 1 to 2, erect, 4" (10 cm) long, racemose, many flowered inflorescence carrying simultaneously opening flowers

Anathallis sclerophylla

A miniature to small sized, cool to hot growing, caespitose epiphyte that is found from to northern South America in wet montane forests and cloud forests at 480 to 3100 meters. It blooms in the fall on an apical, racemose, to 12" [30 cm] long several to many flowered inflorescence with the flowers held well above the leaf and having simultaneously opening, fragrant flowers.



Arpophyllum giganteum



Found in Central America, Colombia, Venezuela and Jamaica as a medium to large sized, warm growing epiphyte in foothill forests, at elevations of 800 to 1500 meters with cylindric, unifoliate, laterally compressed pseudobulbs enveloped with scarious bracts, with lanceolate to strap-shaped, lightly falcate leaves. It should be grown like a cool Cattleya with ample light and water, It will bloom in the late winter through spring on a terminal, 16" [40 cm] long, racemose inflorescence arising on a newly maturing pseudobulb. This species has flat strap shaped leaves.

Arpophyllum spicatum



A medium to large sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte, a lithophyte as well as a terrestrial at elevations of 1000 to 2400 meters, in open mountain forests. This species has a single curved, terete "v" shaped leaf and is found from Mexico to Colombia, Venezuela and Jamaica. It blooms in the spring on a erect, terminal, 6" [15 cm] long, crowded raceme with a compressed basal sheath and many small flowers held in a cylindrical shape, above the leaves.

Artorima erubescens



Found in the evergreen cloud forests of Oaxaca and Guerrero, on the highest peaks at high elevations of 2400 to 3100 meters as a cool to cold growing epiphyte with a thick rhizome and widely spaced conical-ovoid pseudobulbs carrying 3 to 6 elliptic to oblong-lanceolate, acute-obtuse leaves with an 8" to 4' long (20 to 120 cm), terminal panicle with a loose, few to many (6 to 100), fragrant, showy flowers that bloom in the winter through early spring. It is reportedly very difficult to grow probably because in situ it blooms when there are nocturnal freezing temperatures and this is difficult to reproduce within the greenhouse. Best grown mounted on tree fern kept cold and given plenty of humidity, water and fertilizer. This orchid has become rare due to logging in the area. This genus is related to Epidendrum but removed because of its unusual stigma which has a "T" shaped slit that catches the foot of bees and is fairly unique within the orchidaceae.

Barkeria barkeriola



From Nayarit, this specimen was rescued on a small branch floating in a small swift stream, 5 km East of Huacicori, at about 100m. This southwestern Mexican epiphytic species occurs at elevations of 600 to 1000 meters on trees and shrubs on the Pacific coast with slender, swollen spindle shaped pseudobulbs carrying thin apical, deciduous leaves that fall before it blooms on an apical, 8 3/4" (27 cm) long, racemose inflorescence with up to 10 flowers blooming in late summer and fall.

Barkeria dorotheae

A hot growing, miniature epiphyte or lithophyte that is found under dry scrub on the dry Pacific coast near Jalisco in shaded to fully exposed positions among cacti and small trees at elevations of sea level to 100 meters. They are best grown mounted on small bark covered branches, given water only while in growth and it will bloom in the late fall and winter, with an apical, up to 2'8" (80 cm) long, many flowered, racemose to occasionally branched inflorescence that should be kept intact as it can rebloom. The plant blooms on leafless fusiform pseudobulbs in its deciduous state in the late fall and winter.



Barkeria lindleyana

subsp. vanneriana



Found in Puebla, Guerrero and Oaxaca on cliffs or steep rocky slopes in tropical deciduous forests, dry oak forests and in xerophytic scrub with columnar cacti at elevations of 950 to 2000 meters as a medium to large sized, cool to warm growing lithophyte with acrotonic (the new stem arises from 1/3 up on the old stem), sympodially ascending, subcylindrical, swelling to fusiform, 9 to 11 noded stems enveloped by scarious, adpressed, grey sheaths and carrying 5 to 7, distichous, articulate, lanceolate-elliptic to ovate, acute to acuminate, coriaceous to fleshy, green profusely tinted purple beneath leaves becoming deciduous at blooming in the fall on an apical, erect, very thin, subterete, 6 to " (15 to 90 cm) long, racemose inflorescence enveloped by scarious, tubular, basally imbricate bracts and distant towards the apex and producing 3 to 18, 1 1/2" to 2" showy rose-lavender flowers with a dark purple disk on the lavender lip

Barkeria melanocaulon

This miniature sized, hot to warm growing sometimes epiphytic but mostly lithophytic species is found in central Oaxaca in the transition zone between tropical deciduous forests and dry oak forests on limestone boulders or the trees above at elevations of 1600 to 1700 meters and has thickened, compressed, 3 to 8 noded stems enveloped completely by scarious, tubular leafless to leaf-bearing sheaths carrying 3 to 6, articulate to the leaf sheath, elliptic to narrowly ovate, acute, coriaceous to sub fleshy leaves that blooms on a medium length to 15" (17.5 cm) long, laxly few to many flowered, racemose inflorescence arising from a newly developing stem occurring in the summer with nonfragrant flowers. This species and the similar *B whartonia* differ mainly in the fact that this species has the column adpressed to the lip surface.



Barkeria naevosa



Found as a miniature to small sized, as a hot to warm growing epiphyte in Guerrero, and Oaxaca on the Pacific coast at elevations of sea level to 1600 meters with thick, fleshy roots, an abbreviated rhizome giving rise to fusiform, 5 to 7 noded pseudobulbs enveloped completely by close-fitting, silver-grey sheaths and carrying 2 to 6, distichous, fleshy, linear-lanceolate, acuminate, conduplicate and articulate to the sheaths below, green spotted purple leaves that blooms on an erect 2.4 to 14" (6 to 35 cm) long, apical, many flowered inflorescence that can have additional racemes arising after the original raceme has finished occurring in the late fall, winter and early spring and carrying strongly fragrant flowers.

Barkeria palmeri



From mid-western, Pacific coastal Mexico at elevations of sea level to 1300 meters, this hot to warm growing epiphyte is found in tropical deciduous or semi-deciduous forests species and needs to be mounted on a small branch of wood and have fusiform, slender pseudobulbs that are enclosed by scarious sheaths and having reddish green, deciduous, coriaceous, fleshy, narrowly lanceolate leaves that will bloom on an apical, simple or branched, 12" (30 cm) long, several to many (2-100) flowered inflorescence occurring in the mid-winter. This orchid is deciduous and loses its leaves in the fall before the mid winter blooming. Best to mount this species on wood sticks and give plenty of bright light, water and fertilizer while growing. As the leaves yellow and fall off in the mid to late fall it is time to stop watering and fertilizing, withholding until the new growth appears in the early spring after blooming.

Barkeria scandens



Found in Michoacan, Guerrero, and Oaxaca in subtropical scrub, dry oak forests and moist scrub meters as a small to large sized, cool to warm growing twig epiphyte or lithophyte at elevations of 1000 to 1900 meters with sympodially ascending, cylindrical stems enveloped by close fitting sheaths and carrying 3 to 8, distichous, deciduous, fleshy, ovate-elliptic to lanceolate, acute to subacute, obtuse-subcordate below, green suffused with purple, carinate beneath leaves that blooms in the fall on a terminal, racemose, very thin, subterete, 4 to 22" (10 to 55 cm) long, densely 2 to 18 flowered inflorescence and grows best mounted on slabs of cork or tree fern.

Barkeria shoemakeri

From Michoacan, Guerrero and Oaxaca at elevations around sea level to 620 meters along dry creek beds as a deciduous leafed, mini-miniature to medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with slim, fusiform, 4 to 7 noded pseudobulbs enveloped white, scarious, close fitting sheaths and carrying 2 to 6, ascending-erect to arcuate, distichous, lanceolate, acuminate, basally round and clasping, very fleshy, purple spotted beneath often strongly conduplicate leaves that blooms on an apical, rarely racemose to often paniculate, 2 to 4 branched, laxly (3 to 40) several to many flowered inflorescence with successive opening flowers occurring in the mid-winter. This species is the same as most Barkeria, needs to be mounted on a branch or twig and given ample water, fertilizer and bright light through the spring and summer and then needs a cooler dry period in the winter.



Barkeria skinneri



Found in Chiapas and northwestern Guatemala as a slender, medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte and lithophyte at elevations of 900 to 1900 meters, mostly on oak trees in tropical deciduous rainforests with clustered, fusiform-cylindric stems subtended by several scarious leaf sheaths and carrying several, elliptic or elliptic-lanceolate, fleshy leaves. It blooms in the fall to mid-winter on an erect, 12" [30 cm] long, racemose to paniculate, few to many flowered, long-lived inflorescence enveloped by long, imbricate, scarious sheaths.

Barkeria spectabilis

Found in southern Mexico, Guatemala and El Salvador where it grows as a small sized epiphyte or lithophyte in dry areas on oak trees and bushes at elevations of 1300-3500 meters. It has fusiform, erect pseudobulbs carrying ovate to linear-lanceolate leaves. It is a cool to cold growing orchid and likes to be mounted on wood branches with moderate shade and even watering while growing. It likes a drier winter rest after leaf drop. It flowers in the summer on a few to many flowered, apical, 10" [25 cm] long, racemose or paniculate inflorescence arising on a new pseudobulb with short-lived non-fragrant flowers.



Barkeria strophinx



Found in Michoacan along streams in tropical deciduous forests at elevations of 700 to 1100 meters as a small to medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with stalked, fusiform pseudobulbs enveloped by scarious sheaths and carrying erect, coriaceous, linear-lanceolate, acuminate, deciduous leaf that blooms in the winter and early spring on a terminal, 4" (10cm) long, paniculate, 5 to 30 flowered inflorescence

Barkeria uniflora

This small epiphyte from the Mexican states of Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Mexico, Guerrero and Oaxaca at elevations of 670 to 1300 meters is found on trees and shrubs along dry creekbeds as a miniature to large sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with a very thin, 4 to 9 noded pseudobulb carrying 2 to 7, distichous, very fleshy, linear to lanceolate, acuminate to subacute, olive green lined with purple leaves. It blooms in the fall and winter on an apical, racemose to paniculate, few flowered, 2 to 3 branched, 2 to 20" [5 to 50 cm] long, with several [1 to 20] 1 to 3 flowered inflorescences enveloped by a few bracts and has ovate, obtuse to acute, concave, brown, scarious floral bracts.



Barkeria vanneriana



Found in the Mexican states of Puebla, Guerrero and Oaxaca, on cliffs or steep rocky slopes in tropical deciduous forests, dry oak forests and in xerophytic scrub with columnar cacti at elevations of 950 to 2000 meters as a medium to large sized, cool to warm growing lithophyte. It becomes deciduous at blooming in the fall. It produces 3 to 18, 1 1/2" to 2" showy rose-lavender flowers with a dark purple disk on the lavender lip on an apical, erect, very thin, subterete, 15 to 90 cm long, racemose inflorescence enveloped by scarious, tubular, basally imbricate bracts.

Barkeria whartonianana

This small sized lithophyte and occasional epiphyte from Oaxaca is found in hot, dry, deciduous forests or stunted forests around rock outcroppings occurring at elevations of 200 to 300 meters with thickened slightly compressed stems enveloped by scarious, adpressed sheaths and carrying 4 to 7, ensiform to narrowly ovate, acute, deciduous coriaceous, articulate to the leaf sheath leaves and blooms in the fall in the wild and into the winter and early spring in cultivation on an apical, racemose several flowered inflorescence with non-fragrant flowers. Can be confused with *B melanocaulon* and *B fritz-halbingeriana* but differs in having the column free from the lip, the other two have the column adpressed to the lip.



Bletia adenocarpa



Found in western Mexico near the Pacific coast on bluffs, grassy slopes and hillsides in oak or semi-deciduous forests at elevations of 1000 to 1900 meters as a small to medium sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial orchid with ellipsoid, horizontal or vertical pseudobulbs carrying narrowly lanceolate, plicate, long petiolate leaves and blooms in the spring through fall on an erect, 12 to 28" (30 to 70 cm) long, racemose, to 15 flowered inflorescence arising from the base of the leaves.

Bletia campanulata

It grows mainly in rocky (volcanic) grassy hillsides in open oak forest in Nayarit, Jalisco and Michoacan from 1500 m to 2100 m. This one was photographed in situ in the lava flow above Uruapan, Michoacan. Blooming in August. The plant has subterranean corms that give rise to erect, plicate, lanceolate leaves and blooms on an erect, racemose to 20" (to 50 cm) long, few to several flowered inflorescence carrying large, campanulate flowers



Bletia ensifolia



Found in the Mexican states of Nayarit, Durango, Jalisco on rocky and grassy hillsides and banks in dry oak or oak-pine forests at elevations of 1500 to 2500 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial with erect, ovoid corms carrying 1 to 4 very long, narrow, attenuate leaves. It blooms in the summer through early fall on a short, loosely 1 to 5 flowered inflorescence.

Bletia gracilis



Found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos and Oaxaca on rocky or grassy hillsides in oak and oak-pine forests at elevations of 600 to 2200 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial orchid with ovoid, erect, solitary or clustered corms enveloped basally by fibrous bases of old leaf bearing sheaths and carrying 1 to 2, apical, erect, plicate, purple below, green above, oblong-elliptic, to lanceolate, acute to acuminate, petiolate leaves and blooms in the summer and fall with or without leaves and sometimes as late as mid-winter on leafless corms, occurring as a basal, slender, wiry, 8 to 30" (20 to 75 cm) long, few to 10 flowered inflorescence that is enveloped basally by several, imbricating, scarious sheaths. This species and *B roezlii*, which is often listed as *B gracilis var roezlii* can be distinguished by the papillose lip of the latter and the flowers that open better and have more substance.

Bletia keinastii



A western Mexican terrestrial species that grows warm to cool and is found in soil of volcanic origin at elevations of 1500 to 2300 meters and blooms on a basal, erect, racemose, several flowered inflorescence.

Bletia lilacina



Found in western Mexico at elevations of 1900 to 2200 meters as a small to medium sized, cool growing terrestrial that blooms in the winter.

Bletia macristhmochila

Found in Mexico at elevations of 1000 to 2000 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial, at times occurring in lava fields or open deciduous forests in clumps of coarse grass in well drained loamy soils with brownish green corms carrying a few plicate, narrowly oblong-elliptic leaves that blooms in the spring on a to 3' long, few flowered inflorescence.



Bletia purpurea



This species is found in the Caribbean and Central America. It is a small to large sized, cool to warm growing terrestrial or lithophyte found in dry woods and fields or on cliff faces, or at the base of tree trunks or in swamps. It has subterranean, radish-shaped pseudobulbs with 2 deciduous, elliptic, petiolate, plicate leaves. It can be found up to 2000 meters and blooms in the spring and early summer on a basal, to 5' [150 cm] long, erect, basal, sometimes branching inflorescence with a few to many [9 to 40], color variable, successively opening flowers arising on a mature pseudobulb.

Bletia roezlii



Found in DF and Oaxaca in lava fields at elevations of 1780 to 2700 meters as a medium to large sized, cool to cold growing, deciduous terrestrial with semi horizontal to horizontal, conic-subglobose, whitish to brown corms giving rise to 2 to 3, plicate, only 2 present at flowering, elliptic, acute, gradually narrowing below into the clasping base leaves that blooms in the late spring and early summer on an erect, scapose, 13.2 to 26.4" (33 to 66 cm) long, racemose, 3 to 8 flowered inflorescence with subulate, acuminate floral bracts and carrying ascending flowers.

Brassavola cucullata

One to two (or more) flowered, epiphytic plant that is fragrant at night, grows best mounted on wood. It comes from Central to South America as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte of coastal rainforests up to 1800 meters with slender, terete, jointed stems enveloped by white, scarious, tubular sheaths and carrying a single, apical, linear subulate, terete, fleshy coriaceous leaf that blooms from summer till autumn on a short to 8" [20cm] peduncle that is borne at the junction of the single leaf and terete stem.



Brassavola nodosa



A hardy, medium sized, hot growing epiphyte or lithophyte with terete, short stems enveloped by scarious sheaths with a single, sub-terete, sulcate, acute-apiculate leaf. It has a pleasant strong, citrus fragrance at night and the flowers are close to 4" across. Flowering can occur in the spring and summer but is possible at any time of the year. Found in Central America and northern South America from sea level to about 500 meters as epiphytes or lithophytes and can be salt tolerant.

Brassia maculata

A large epiphyte and occasional lithophyte that is commonly found growing in detritus at altitudes below 750 meters in Mexico, Belize, Honduras, Guatemala, Cuba and Jamaica with ovoid to oblong-elliptic, compressed pseudobulbs. It has 2 apical, oblong-ligulate leaves and blooms in the spring on a 36" [90 cm] long, loosely few to many flowered inflorescence arising from a mature pseudobulb with remote, tubular sheaths and large, waxy, long-lived fragrant flowers. They do well in baskets or pots with a open mix that provides good drainage.



Brassia signata



This medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphytic species is found in Guerrero and Oaxaca in moist oak and montane rainforests at elevations around 1200 to 2200 meters with oblong to ovate, elongate, laterally compressed pseudobulb partially enveloped basally by 1 to 3 pairs of distichous, imbricating, conduplicate leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 2, apical, spreading, oblong to oblanceolate, acute, gradually narrowing below into the short, narrow, petiolate base leaves and blooms on a 12" (30 cm) long, suberect to arching, few to several (2 to 10) flowered inflorescence arising through the leaf sheaths on a newly matured pseudobulb with fragrant flowers occurring in the spring and summer.

Brassia verrucosa



This large species is a warm to cool growing epiphyte found in open humid, evergreen to semi-deciduous cloud forests on tree trunks and larger branches from altitudes of 900 to 2400 meters, from Mexico to Brazil. It is distinguished from the other Brassia by the green warts on the base of the lip. It flowers in late spring through early autumn on a 2' [60 cm] long, erect to arching, inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb. It has a slight fragrance of black pepper and needs regular waterings and fertilizer year round.

Camaridium pulchrum

Found in southern Mexico, Belize and Guatemala at elevations around 150 meters as an epiphyte. It can be grown in a fine bark medium, full sphagnum moss, or mounted on tree fern or cork. Grow in cool to warm conditions with medium amounts of light. Water regularly and keep mix moist but not wet. Plant requires semi-dry rest through the winter months.



Campylocentrum micranthum

Known as the “toothbrush” orchid or the “spaghetti” orchid. This is a miniature to small sized, warm to hot growing, epiphytic, hanging, monopodial herb that is found in swampy areas in hot tropical forests in Central America, Caribbean Islands, and northern South America. It has adventitious roots. It blooms in the late summer and fall on fleshy inflorescence with minute floral bracts and tiny distichous flowers occurring along both sides of the thick rachis. It requires deep shade and high humidity as well as a mossy substrate on the wood or tree fern mount.



Catasetum laminatum



This is a medium sized, hot to warm growing, epiphytic species found at medium altitudes in deciduous forests and at lower elevations in deciduous jungle that blooms on a basal or lateral (from within a brown leaf sheath), erect, several flowered, racemose inflorescence arising on a newest forming pseudobulb and occurring in the early to late summer and requires light to moderate shade.

Catasetum pendulum

A medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte found on palms, deciduous oaks, dead and dying trees and stumps in hillsides forest and occasional terrestrial in pine oak mulch below trees in western Mexico at elevations of 60 to 1600 meters with fusiform, slightly curved pseudobulbs enveloped by imbricating, leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying medium green, plicate, oblanceolate, flexible, apically acuminate, long-tapering into the articulate base leaves that blooms on a basal, pendant (female), erect (male), to 18" (45 cm) long, several (3 to 17) flowered, racemose inflorescence occurring in the summer and fall. This plant requires a distinct long rest period and must be grown in light to moderate shade.



Chysis aurea



Found from Mexico to Peru as a large sized, pendulous, warm to hot growing, epiphytic or semi-terrestrial orchid, in dense shade in humid forests and palm thickets at 700 to 1700 meters. It has many noded, compressed pseudobulbs with many leaves. It blooms in the summer with a pendulous to arching, robust, 12" [30 cm] long, racemose inflorescence with up to 12 waxy, fragrant, long-lived, color variable flowers.

Chysis bractescens

This species has fat, fusiform canes concealed by white, scarious sheaths and several linear or oblong-lanceolate leaves. It bears flowers from the base of a new growth as it appears in the spring with a pendulous to arching, robust, 12" [30 cm] long, racemose inflorescence with up to 10 waxy, fragrant flowers. This beautiful species is found from Mexico to Nicaragua and is a large sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte found in humid forests at elevations of 800 to 1500 meters, It is semi-deciduous and likes a drier winter to insure blooming. It is best grown mounted.



Chysis laevis



A deciduous orchid, the pseudobulbs are bare most of the year. The waxy, yellow flowers are touched with violet. The flower stem, which grows from the base of the plant, sometimes grows down rather than up.

It blooms in spring and in summer, with flowers that last two to three weeks. It prefers intermediate temperatures, filtered light, and should be kept evenly moist during active growth. Keep it dry after the leaves fall off.

Chysis limminghei



Found in Mexico as a pendant growing epiphyte found at altitudes close to sea level and needs hot conditions to thrive so that it can bloom in the summer as a new growth arises on a pendulous, robust, 12" (30 cm) long, racemose inflorescence with fragrant, waxy, long-lasting flowers.

Clowesia dodsoniana



Found in Michoacan at elevations of 100 meters as a medium sized, hot growing epiphyte in tropical forests. Like other Clowesias, it is a strong grower and requires a long rest period in winter.

Clowesia glaucoglossa



Found in Michoacan on palms in savannahs often in association with ant nests at elevations of 520 to 1200 meters as a giant sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with clustered, 7 to 11 internoded, globose to ovoid pseudobulbs enveloped in youth by leaf bearing sheaths each carrying 7 to 11 distichous, deciduous, plicate, marrow, linear-oblancheolate to elliptic-oblancheolate, acuminate, longly attenuate and canaliculate base leaves that blooms in the late spring and early summer arising on a newly arising pseudobulb, pendulous, 10 to 15.2" (25 to 38 cm) long cm) long, racemose, fairly dense, 9 to 25 flowered inflorescence with amplexicaul, triangular, acuminate, greenish white floral bracts and carrying semi-closed flowers.

Clowesia rosea

Found in Michoacan and Oaxaca on the Pacific slope in oak forests or tropical deciduous forests at elevations around 500 to 1300 meters as a small to medium sized, deciduous leaved epiphyte with pseudobulbs enveloped basally by gray overlapping sheaths and carrying 4 to 5, apical, elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, flexible, long-attenuate to the articulate base leaves that blooms in the early winter on a short to 4 3/4" (to 12 cm), racemose inflorescence that has several, campanulate, fragrant flowers and arises from the base of mature leafless or leafed pseudobulbs. This species starts to lose its mature leaves in the fall. As this occurs water and fertilize much less, until the new growths appear and are 1" or longer. Then you can resume a well watered and heavily fed regimen needed for the new pseudobulb and leaves to mature.



Clowesia russelliana



A large sized, warm to hot growing, epiphytic species from Mexico, to Venezuela found in fairly dry, open forests at elevations of 600 to 1000 meters with ovoid pseudobulbs mostly enveloped by the sheaths of 6 to 8 plicate, suberect, oblanceolate to oblong-oblanceolate, acute leaves. This orchid is deciduous and blooms in the late spring to summer through fall on a 15" [37.5 cm] long, basal, pendulous, many [15 to 20] flowered inflorescence arising on a mature leafed or leafless pseudobulb with many sweetly fragrant, fleshy flowers.

Clowesia thylaciochila



Found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Morelos, and Oaxaca in tropical deciduous forests at elevations of sea level to 1200 meters as a medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with pseudobulbs enveloped by persistent sheaths and carrying several, elliptic, acuminate, plicate, petiolate, deciduous leaves and blooms in the late spring and early summer on a basal, pendant, many flowered, to 14" (35 cm) long, racemose inflorescence with 15 to 30 very fragrant flowers.

Coelia macrostachya



Found from Mexico to Panama as a medium to large sized, warm to cold growing epiphytic, lithophytic or terrestrial herb with clustered, olive green pseudobulbs with up to 5 leaves at elevations of 500 to 2500 meters. It blooms in the spring and summer with a cylindrical, crowded, 18 to 24" [45 to 60 cm] long, basal raceme arising on a newly emerging pseudobulb with many, fragrant flowers.

Coelia triptera

This is a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte with clustered, olive green pseudobulbs carrying up to 5 leaves. It is found at 500 to 1400 meters in pine-oak, liquambar forests and montane rainforests in Central America, Cuba and Jamaica. It blooms in the late winter and spring with 4 to 10" [10 to 26 cm] long raceme arising on a mature pseudobulb with very fragrant flowers that do not open well. It is found high in trees along streams, and grows into very dense masses of plants.



Coilostylis ciliaris



Formerly known as *Epidendrum ciliare*, this orchid is native to Central America, many of the Caribbean Islands, and northern South America. It is found in wet montane forests high in trees at elevations of 500 to 1000 meters, and grows as a warm growing, medium to large sized epiphyte and sometimes as a lithophyte with one or 2, elliptic, obtuse, coriaceous leaves on a clavate pseudobulb with 5 to 6 nodes covered by close distichous, imbricating sheaths. It blooms in the winter and early spring on a terminal, 12" [30 cm] long, racemose inflorescence arising on a newly maturing pseudobulb with few to several [5 to 6] fragrant flowers.

Coilostylis falcata



Endemic to Mexico, this lithophytic species is found on limestone rocks and cliffs in pine and pine oak cloud forests, and xerophytic shrub and thorn forests at altitudes of 1000 to 2100 meters with pendant fusiform pseudobulbs carrying a single, articulate, coriaceous-fleshy, narrowly linear-lanceolate, acute, sickle shaped leaf that flowers in the spring and summer on a terminal, 2" (5 cm) long, umbelliform raceme arising on a newly maturing pseudobulb with 4 to 8, large, simultaneously opening flowers that have a soapy smell at night. Differs from *C parkinsonianum* by having coarse, thick and gnarly rhizomes and pseudobulbs.

Cuitlauzina pendula

Named for Cuitlahuazin, a Mexican King
This plant is a small to medium sized, cold to cool growing epiphyte and sometime terrestrial from Sinaloa, Jalisco and Michoacan in oak-pine forests at elevations of 1400 to 2200 meters with a short rhizome carrying ovoid, clustered, compressed, ancipitous, dull or glossy light green, sulcate with age pseudobulbs carrying 2 apical, coriaceous, broadly ligulate, acute or obtuse, coriaceous leaves that blooms in the late spring and fall on an axillary, pendant, to 12" (30 cm) long, cylindrical, several flowered, racemose inflorescence arising vertically out of a formed new pseudobulbs leaf sheath, with the lemon-scented, waxy, long-lived flowers clustered towards the apex.

This genus needs to be planted in a basket, to accommodate the pendant inflorescence, with wood chips mixed with charcoal and tree fern. They need a cool dry winter rest followed by a heavy water and fertilizer regimen after new growths are initiated in the spring which also give rise to the inflorescence.



Cuitlauzina pulchella



This June and July-flowering plant has ovoid clustered, compressed dull or glossy green pseudobulbs on short rhizome internodes. Each pseudobulb is topped by 2 broadly tongue-shaped leaves. Plants are found in the Mexican states of Sinaloa, Jalisco and Michoacan between 1400 and 2200 meters. Plants grow epiphytically on the bark of trees in evergreen oak forests that experience seasonal changes in climate from a rainy season to a long dry period with no rain. Grow this species in the cool or cold house with winter night temperatures down to the low 40's F (short periods even lower may be tolerated depending on the balance of other conditions). Plants are best grown mounted or in baskets to accommodate their long, wiry, pendent inflorescences.

Cycnoches ventricosum

Found from Mexico to Panama as a large sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte that occurs on living or rotten tree trunks in dense tropical forests at elevations of 400 to 1000 meters. It is a deciduous plant with cylindric-fusiform, slightly compressed pseudobulbs with 5 to 6 elliptic or linear-lanceolate, leaves that are articulated to the basal leaf sheaths. It blooms in the summer on a several flowered, 12" [30 cm] long, pendant inflorescence with the waxy, long-lasting, fragrant They are commonly called the swan orchid because of the arched column.



Cypripedium irapeanum



This spectacular, large sized, cool to cold growing terrestrial can be found from central Mexico south to Guatemala and Honduras on rocky brushy slopes in mixed pine and oak forests at elevations of 1000 to 3200 meters with a pubescent stem carrying ovate-lanceolate bright green leaves with the upper ones merging into ovate, leaf bearing bracts. It blooms in the summer and early fall with 1 to 8 successive flowers on an erect, slender, terminal, 4" [10cm] long, racemose inflorescence.

Cypripedium molle



Found in Oaxaca and Puebla in seasonally dry oak and pine-oak forests on reddish, clayey, lateritic soils on limestone at elevations of 1750 to 2400 meters as a medium to large sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial with to 15, erect, terete stems per season that are enveloped by 7 to 9, basal, imbricate sheaths and carrying 8 to 18, spread in a spiral all along the stem, concave, narrowly lanceolate-ovate, usually acute to acuminate, vein hugging basally, clear green, conspicuously nerved, densely pilose beneath leaves that blooms in the summer on a terminal, erect, lax, racemose, to 2.4" (6 cm) long, successively 1 to 5 flowered inflorescence which rarely can carry 4 large flowers open at once.

Cyrtopodium punctatum



When seen in bloom from a distance, this terrestrial can be mistaken for a cluster of butterflies. Commonly called the “cigar” orchid because the pseudobulb is cigar shaped and can be up to 1 meter in size.

A large sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte, lithophyte or terrestrial native of Florida, Central America, many Carribben islands and northern South America in arid areas at elevations of 20 to 1400 meters with clustered, erect, fusiform elongate, many noded pseudobulbs enveloped by grey white sheaths when young and carrying linear to elliptic-lanceolate, acute to acuminate, distichous, spreading or recurved, elongate at the subpetiolate base, plicate leaves. It blooms in late spring on a basal, branching, heavily bracteate, up to 5' [to 150 cm] long, many flowered inflorescence.

Deiregyne eriophora

Found in Durango, Guerrero, Mexico, Morales, Nuevo Leon, Oaxaca and Vera Cruz in grasslands and open areas in pine oak forests at elevations of 1500 to 3200 meters as a medium sized, cool to cold growing terrestrial with an erect, rather stout, scapose, usually leafless at flowering stem, carrying basal, petiolate leaves, that blooms in the winter through spring on an erect, pilose, 6" (15 cm) long, few to many flowered inflorescence enveloped below by long-acuminate, whitish and nearly transparent, brown veined bracts and similar, pubescent, exceeding the flowers in length floral bracts and carrying fragrant spirally arranged flowers.



Dendrophylax porrectus



This “jingle bell” orchid was previously named *Campylocentrum porrectum*, and *Harrisella porrecta*.

It is a ghost (leafless) orchid, that can be found in Florida, Mexico, El Salvador, Cuba, Jamaica, Hispanola, and Puerto Rico on smaller branches and twigs at elevations of sea level to 700 meters as a mini-miniature sized, leafless, cool to warm growing epiphyte with a few silver grey roots radiating from a central short stem, from which arises in the late summer and early fall a short to 3/4" to 2" [2 to 5 cm] long, 1 to 6 flowered, fractiflex inflorescence with scarious, lanceolate floral bracts and carrying 1/8" flowers

Dichaea squarrosa



Found from Jalisco, Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos, Oaxaca, Vera Cruz, Chiapas as a small to medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte on tree trunks with tangled, pendant stems enveloped completely by imbricating leaf bearing sheaths carrying many, distichous, linear, tapering towards the tips and narrows below into the clasping base leaves and blooming in the spring on a short, apical, 1 to 2 flowered inflorescence.

Dinema polybulbon

Found from Mexico to Nicaragua also in Jamaica and Cuba, in humid forests as a miniature epiphyte or lithophyte, at elevations of 600-3200 meters. It is a cute dwarf species that likes a warm to cold environment with partial shade. It is composed of ovoid to narrowly ovoid, laterally compressed, yellow-green pseudobulbs carrying 1 to 3, retuse leaves and blooms from fall to early spring on a 1/2" to 1 1/5" [1.25 to 3 cm] long inflorescence subtended by a slender spathe, arising from the apice of the mature pseudobulb and having a large fragrant flower.



Encyclia adenocaula



This is a small to medium sized, cool to warm growing, epiphytic species that comes from W Durango, Sinaloa, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero and Mexico in dry forests of oak and or pine at altitudes of 1000 to 2000 meters with clustered, ovoid to subconical pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, towards the apex, strap-shaped to linear, acute or obtuse apically, gradually narrowing below into the base leaves and blooms in the summer on an apical, to 3'+ (90 cm+) long, many flowered panicle that has a warty rachis, pedicel and ovary, as well as long-lasting, fragrant flowers. This species needs a distinct dry rest from water and fertilizer from fall through late spring when new growth starts, then water and fertilize copiously until growth matures in the fall. This species is found in very open forests so bright light and some direct sun is beneficial.

Encyclia aenicta

Found from central Mexico, Honduras and Nicaragua as a small sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte at elevations of 500 to 2000 meters in oak-pine and oak forests with clustered, conic-ovoid, to rounded pseudobulbs carrying 1 to 3, apical, very stiff, acute to obtuse, gradually narrowing below into the cuneate base leaves that blooms in the spring and summer on an apical, 10" [25 cm] to 40" [1m] long, branched, many flowered inflorescence.



Encyclia alata

This medium to large sized, hot to warm growing species is found from Mexico through Costa Rica at altitudes of sea level to 1000 meters, epiphytically on trees in open forests and occasionally terrestrially in soil pockets. They have ovoid-conical to pyriform pseudobulbs with 1 to 3 tough leaves that are often tinged with purple. There can be diverse differences in flower morphology in this species, most often in size and the shape of the lateral sides of the lip. It has a honey-sweet smelling fragrance and blooms from spring to fall on a 5 foot [150 cm] long, arching, branched inflorescence with many, variable in color and shape flowers.



Encyclia ambigua



Found in Chiapas Mexico, as a medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte at elevations of 950 to 1875 meters and is similar in habit to *Enc. alata*. They have clustered, ovoid-conical pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3 apical, linear-ligulate, acute, gradually narrowing below into the clasping base leaves. They bloom in the late spring and summer on a terminal, 3 1/2' (105 cm) long, many flowered, racemose or branched inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb with to 30, lightly fragrant flowers, akin to beeswax and honey. This species is confused with *E trachychila* found in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras which has "brown sepals and petals, obovate-spathulate petals, a deep yellow lip with a midlobe carrying many prominent, purplish warts arising from raised lamellae and subquadrate column auricles, *E ambigua* has pale greenish cream flowers with narrowly oblanceolate-spathulate petals, a few broken lines of purple-pink dots on the lobes of the lip the midlobe of the lip with a few slightly raised veins showing very few to no warts and has a proportionally longer lip callus and obliquely triangular column auricles.

Encyclia atrorubens

A bifoliate, medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphytic species found only in Oaxaca and Guerrero at elevations of 1100 to 2000 meters mostly in humid, oak forests with clustered, conical to spherical pseudobulbs carrying 2 narrow, linear leaves that blooms in the summer on a 40" (1 meter+) long, branched, many (20 to 100) flowered inflorescence.



Encyclia bractescens

Found in Mexico, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala in humid forests at elevations up to 1200 meters as a miniature to small sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with clustered, conical to ovoid-conical, pseudobulbs carrying 2 apical, lustrous leaves that blooms in the late winter and spring on an apical, short to 15" [up to 37.5 cm], simple or few branched inflorescence with 2 to 12, fragrant, long-lived flowers.



Encyclia calderoniae



Found in Oaxaca in dry oak forests, and humid pine/oak forests on trees or on granite boulders as a small sized, warm growing epiphyte or lithophyte with conic-ovoid to subspheric pseudobulbs enveloped partially in youth by thin, scarious sheaths and carrying a single, rarely a second, coriaceous- fleshy, ensiform to oblong-ligulate, obtuse, basally clasping leaf that blooms in the late spring on a terminal, few branched paniculate, 10 to 40 flowered inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb. This species is similar to *E. candollei* but is found on the Pacific coast, is a smaller plant mostly with one leaf per pseudobulb, has less conspicuous arcuate column and petals and the lateral lobes are not correct and overlapping but embracing the column and slightly reflexed at the apices and the flowers usually exhibit rich chestnut to chocolate brown sepals and a pale yellow lines with purple.

Encyclia candollei

Found in Mexico, Guatemala and Belize as a medium sized, cool growing epiphyte usually on oaks at elevations of 1000 to 1500 meters. It has clustered, ovoid-conical to globose pseudobulbs enveloped basally by several scarious, sheaths and 1 to 3, coriaceous, elliptic-ligulate leaves. It blooms in the later spring and summer on a terminal 3 foot [to 90 cm] long, many flowered panicle arising on a mature pseudobulb with several short branches and carrying 2 to 8, weakly fragrant flowers.



Encyclia chiapasensis

A successive blooming, warm to hot growing *Encyclia* from southern Mexico at elevations around 950 meters where it blooms in the spring through winter on a short to long, successively several flowered, laxly paniculate inflorescence that can rebloom again out of the end of the branches and main stem and can continue to do this for a few years. No other *Encyclia* can do this, so leave old inflorescence until they are thoroughly dried out.



Encyclia cordigera

Found from Mexico to northern South America as a medium sized, bifoliate, hot to warm growing epiphyte, in dry forests, tropical rainforests and in dense scrub at an altitude of 0 to 900 meters with ovoid-pyriform, to subglobose pseudobulbs, with 2 oblong-elliptic, leaves. It blooms in the winter and spring on an apical, 2' [60 cm] long, few to many flowered, racemose inflorescence with a short, basal bract and strongly fragrant, heavily textured flowers.



Encyclia dressleriana



Found at 457m elevation, about 35km South of Puerto Vallarta, epiphytic on oaks in oak - palm woods. This plant was identified by Hagsater as a new, yet to be described species.

Encyclia guadalupeae



Newly discovered (1999) and found in Nayarit and Colima in tropical forests at elevations around 1400 meters. Flowers are lavender and have a narrow, spade-shaped lip with darker markings. Flowers are borne on a densely flowered simple or branched inflorescence.

Encyclia hanburyi

From Mexico and Guatemala, this medium sized, cool growing, terrestrial species found in well drained clay soil amid dry oak and pine forests on trees or occasionally rocks at elevations of 1200 to 1800 meters with clustered, ovoid-conical pseudobulbs with 1 or 2, elliptic-lanceolate or elliptic oblong, obtuse leaves. It flowers in the late winter through early summer on an apical, erect, to 3'4" [100 cm] long, racemose or branched, many flowered inflorescence with as many as 35 flowers.



Encyclia huertae



Endemic to Sinaloa, Nayarit, Durango, Jalisco, Michoacan, Morelos, Mexico and Guerrero where it occurs at 750 to 1900 meters in elevation as a medium sized, warm to cool growing lithophyte in oak forests or lava flows near tropical forests with large conical pseudobulbs carrying a single apical, strap-shaped leaves and blooms in the summer on an apical, branched, to 4' (120 cm) long, many flowered inflorescence.

Encyclia incumbens

An epiphytic species found in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize and El Salvador that grows in warm to cold climates at elevations of 750 to 2100 meters in pine-oak and oak forests. It has conical to subspheric, clustered pseudobulbs that are often dark purple brown with 1 to 2 apical, linear-ligulate or elliptic-ligulate, acute or obtuse leaves. It blooms in the spring on an apical, to almost 3' [90 cm] long, erect to gently arching paniculate, many flowered inflorescence carrying close set, fragrant, but not pleasantly so, flowers that can be highly variable in color.



Encyclia kennedyi

Found only in Durango and Sinaloa as a medium sized, warm to cool growing, 2 leafed epiphyte in pine-oak forests at elevations around 1800 to 2000 meters where it flowers in the late spring and early summer on an apical, simple, 3 to 12 flowered inflorescence. Very similar to and often cited as a synonym of *E adenocaula* yet differs in having redder flowers and a prominent midvein on the lip as well as narrower lateral lobes.



Encyclia lorata



A rare small sized, cool growing epiphytic species from the wet pine-oak forests of Guerrero around 1875 to 2100 meters in elevation with subglobose, somewhat wrinkled, clustered pseudobulbs carrying 2, apical, lanceolate-elliptic to narrowly elliptic, acute to subobtuse, rigid, coriaceous, fleshy, dark green, conduplicate below into the clasping base leaves that blooms in the spring and summer on an apical, simple or few branched, warty, 8 to 9 flowered inflorescence that is shorter than the leaves.

Encyclia macdougali



A Mexican species, blooms on an apical, long paniculate inflorescence with many flowers. No other information is available. Not recognized by the World Checklist of Selected Plant Species. (WCSP)

Encyclia meliosma

A spring and early summer bloomer with occasionally fragrant flowers arising on an apical, to 3' (to 1 m) long, branched, many flowered inflorescence from Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos and Oaxaca at elevations of 300 to 1500 meters, as a medium sized, warm to hot growing epiphyte in trees on dry hillsides with subspheric to ovoid-conical pseudobulbs carrying 1 to 2 apical, ligulate to elliptic-ligulate, acute or obtuse leaves. This species and *Encyclia spatella* and *Encyclia aenicta* are all very close in most characteristics and are certainly related, Dressler & Pollard separate them essentially by the lip being acuminate (ending in a point) the length of the column 5.5 to 7mm for *E meliosma* the lip being obtuse, retuse or mucronate and the column measuring between 7 to 10.5 mm for *Encyclia spatella*. *Encyclia aenicta* is more often a terrestrial than an epiphyte and has less flair to the lip.



Encyclia microbulbon



Found in Jalisco, Mexico, Puebla, Morelos, Oaxaca, Guerrero and Michoacan in seasonally, very dry oak forests or in moist pine-oak forests at elevations of 1400 to 2300 meters as a small to medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphytic species. The numerous, clustered, 3 noded, bronze-colored, longitudinally rugose pseudobulbs are round to conic-ovoid and enveloped by papery bracts and carrying 1 to 2, linear to linear-ligulate, acute to obtuse, apiculate, basally conduplicate, sulcate and paniculate above, coriaceous-fleshy, rigid leaves that blooms in the late winter through spring on a terminal, erect, often branched, terete, purple, 4.4" to 18" (11 to 45 cm) long, few to many flowered inflorescence with amplexicaul, triangular-ovate, obtuse, mucronate, membraneous-papery floral bracts and carrying fragrant flowers when in the sun.

Encyclia nizandensis

Found in Oaxaca in tropical, lowland montane, deciduous forests at elevations of sea level to 450 meters as a small sized, hot growing epiphyte, terrestrial or lithophyte on limestone outcrops with clustered, conic-ovoid pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by scarious sheaths and carrying 2 or 3, apical, coriaceous-fleshy, linear-lanceolate, arcuate, obtuse, basally clasping leaves that blooms in the spring and summer on a terminal, erect, racemose to paniculate with short branches, verrucose, 10 to 26" (25 to 66 cm) long, 3 to 20 flowered inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb and carrying, fragrant, successively opening flowers.



Encyclia oestlundii



Found in the dry coastal areas of Guerrero where it is an epiphyte at lower elevations and blooms on an erect, terminal, several flowered, racemose or paniculate inflorescence with fragrant flowers occurring in the late spring and summer.

Encyclia pollardiana



Found in Nayarit, Jalisco and Michoacan at elevations of 1400 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with large pseudobulbs carrying 2 or 3 apical leaves and blooms on a paniculate, 2' (60 cm) long inflorescence occurring in the spring.

Encyclia selligera

A medium sized, cool to cold growing epiphytic species that can be found in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Bahamas growing on small trees and on the limestone rocks at altitudes of 1400 to 2200 meters in oak and pine-oak forests, It grows high up on the trunks or higher branches of trees with conical-ovoid to pyriform pseudobulbs with 2 conduplicate clasping leaves. It blooms in the winter and spring on a terminal, apical, large, to 3' [90 cm] long, branched, loosely many flowered inflorescence arising on a newly matured pseudobulb with showy, long-lived, fragrant flowers.



Encyclia spatella

Endemic to Jalisco, Michoacan, and Morelos, where it occurs at 750 to 1500 meters in elevation as a medium sized epiphyte in oak forests or lava flows near tropical forests with conical to oblong-pyriform pseudobulbs carrying 2, apical, coriaceous, strap-shaped, acute leaves and blooms in the summer on an apical, branched, to 4' (120 cm) long, fractiflex, few to many flowered inflorescence. This species which is always an epiphyte, *Encyclia huerta* (always a lithophyte), *Encyclia meliosma* and *Encyclia aenicta* are all very close in most characteristics and are certainly related, Dressler & Pollard separate them essentially by the lip being acuminate (ending in a point) the length of the column 5.5 to 7mm, for *E meliosma* the lip being obtuse, retuse or mucronate and the column measuring between 7 to 10.5 mm for *Encyclia spatella*. *Encyclia aenicta* is more often a terrestrial than an epiphyte and has less flair to the lip.



Encyclia suaveolens



This is a western Mexican species from Nayarit and Jalisco where it is found in oak forests of the Pacific coast at elevations from 800-2000 ft with ovoid to subglobose pseudobulbs subtended by scarious sheaths and carrying 2 apical, oblong-elliptic, obtuse, gradually narrowing below into a conduplicate basally clasping leaves which blooms in the spring on a terminal, 4" (10 cm) long, 3 to 12 flowered, simple or few branched inflorescence that arises from a newly forming pseudobulb and is slightly longer than the leaves with 3 to 12 showy flowers that have a citrus fragrance.

Encyclia subulatifolia



A miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphytic and rarely lithophytic orchid that is found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Mexico, Guerrero and Oaxaca on thin oak branches in dry open forests with light shade at elevations of 1500 to 2100 meters having clustered, thickened stems (not forming pseudobulbs) carrying 2 to 3 apical, subcylindric, acute leaves that blooms on a terminal, thin, pendant, 1' (30 cm) long, sometimes branched, laxly few-flowered inflorescence with fragrant flowers from mid-winter through summer.

Encyclia trachycarpa



Found only in Jalisco and Colima in tropical deciduous forests and hot dry lowlands as a hot growing epiphyte on trees and cacti, occurring at sea level to 1300 meters with clustered, conic-ovoid pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3 apical, striate nerved, linear, acute leaves that flowers in the late spring and early summer on a simple to few branched, 1 1/2' (45 cm) long, 6 to 10 flowered inflorescence. It is normal for the flowers of this species to turn black with drying and age. The capsules have a rough, sandpaper like exterior.

Epidendrum anisatum



This species is a small sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte that is found at elevations around 1550 to 2300 meters in Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico and Morelos mostly on oaks in wet montane, oak-pine or fir forests with cane-like stems enveloped completely by imbricating, tubular sheaths and carrying several (10 to 15) linear-lanceolate, acute, articulated to the clasping base leaves and blooms on an apical, short racemose inflorescence enveloped by scarious bracts with several (2 to 8), anise scented flowers. Similar to *E durangense* but differs in having flowers that do not smell of anise and blooms in the winter and spring, has triangular lip apex, and narrower leaves (less than 2cm wide).

Epidendrum arbuscula



Found in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador in cloud forests at elevations of 1700 to 3200 meters as a medium sized, cool to cold growing, reed-stem epiphyte with a branching stem enveloped basally by scarious sheaths carrying distichous, elliptical, acute leaves that are conduplicate towards the base. It blooms in the winter on a terminal, pendulous, to 8" [20 cm] long, racemose inflorescence with several to many simultaneously opening flowers.

Epidendrum atroscriptum

Found in southern Mexico in Vera Cruz, Oaxaca and Chiapas in tropical rain forests at elevations of 200 to 900 meters in elevation as a medium to giant sized, hot growing epiphyte or lithophyte with erect, cane-like stems enveloped completely by tubular leafless and leaf-bearing sheaths carrying in the apical half, 7 to 14, elliptic, acute, basally clasping and articulated to the leaf sheaths that blooms in the late spring and summer on a terminal, arcuate, paniculate, 8 3/4" to 20" (22 to 50 cm) long, 12 to 120 flowered inflorescence arising on a mature cane and carrying successively opening flowers.



Epidendrum centropetalum



Native to Mexico (Chiapas), Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama in wet lower montane evergreen to semi-deciduous forests from elevations of 1200 to 1500 meters. It grows in full to partial sun as a small to medium sized, cool growing orchid with delicate stems with linear-lanceolate, shiny leaves that has a wet, dry growing pattern. It requires high humidity and water throughout the year but less when mature, It will bloom on a terminal, few to many flowered inflorescence in late winter, spring and early summer. It can be easily found in fruit trees near habitation

Epidendrum chlorops

Found in the states of Sinaloa, Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Mexico, Guerrero and Oaxaca on the Pacific slopes at elevations of 350 to 1700 meters as a small to large sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte. It has simple, cane-like, straight stems carrying 6 to 15 spreading leaves. It blooms in the early spring through mid winter on a terminal, erect, 3" [7.5 cm] long, 15 to 30 flowered inflorescence with simultaneously opening, resupinate flowers that yellow with age.

This species can continue to produce new racemes over several years from the nodes of the primary inflorescence.



Epidendrum citrosmum



Found on the Pacific coast of southern Mexico in tropical semideciduous and deciduous forests at elevations around 1300 meters as a small sized, hot growing epiphyte with a simple, terete, slightly flexuous, cane-like stem carrying a few, narrowly elliptic, retuse, coriaceous, conduplicate below into the clasping base leaves that blooms in the winter through spring on a terminal, short, racemose, few to several flowered, subcorymbose inflorescence that bloom simultaneously with 5 to 20, fragrant (lemon tree), resupinate, bright green flowers.

Epidendrum costatum

Oaxaca Mexico, 2103m elevation, near Puerto Escondido Rd. Epiphytic on large oaks growing with *Epidendrum oaxacatum* and blooms on a terminal, racemose, few to several flowered inflorescence with successive opening flowers.



Epidendrum cusii



Found in Mexico and Guerrero in pine-oak forests at elevations of 1800 to 2400 meters as a small to large sized, warm to cold growing epiphyte with slender, reed-like stems carrying 2 to 9, near the apex of the stem, distichous, narrowly linear-lanceolate, acute leaves that blooms in the winter through early summer on a terminal, short, successively to 5 flowered inflorescence which are successive themselves so as to appear branched over time and carry odorless flowers.

Epidendrum difforme



This is a variable sized, cold to warm growing, pendant or erect, epiphytic species from the tropical Americas up to elevations of 3000 meters with numerous, leafy, flexuous stems enveloped completely by persistent sheaths carrying leathery to fleshy, oblong to elliptic-lanceolate, leaves. It may bloom at any time during the year but mostly in the late spring and summer on a short, umbellate 1 to many flowered, racemose inflorescence with fragrant, translucent green or white flowers.

Epidendrum erectifolium

Found in Chiapas in the central plateau at elevations of 1000 to 1600 meters as a miniature to just medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with cane-like, terete, slightly flexuous stems enveloped completely by leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 3 to 8, erect, sub-coriaceous to succulent, narrowly elliptic-lanceolate, unequally bilobed apically, basally clasping and articulate to the leaf-bearing sheaths that blooms in the winter through spring on a terminal, subumbellate, few to several flowered inflorescence that arises on a newly matured pseudobulb carrying 9 to 11, simultaneous, resupinate, fragrant flowers



Epidendrum gasteriferum

Photographed in Oaxaca at 2134m elevation, at the first crest of Puerto Escondido road, on large oaks where it blooms on a terminal, descending to pendant, long, red, few to several flowered, racemose inflorescence with successive opening flowers.



Epidendrum guerrerense

Found in Guerrero in oak forests on trees at elevations around 1800 to 1900 meters as a miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with cane-like, erect, terete stems enveloped completely by old scarious, tubular leaf-sheaths and carrying a few to 10, narrowly elliptic, coriaceous, thin, obtuse, basally conduplicate and clasping leaves that blooms in the fall and early winter on one to a few lax, terminal, racemose, short, arcuate inflorescence carrying 10 to 30, simultaneous, fleshy, resupinate, odorless flowers.



Epidendrum hagsateri



Found in Guerrero and Oaxaca Mexico at elevations around 2300 meters as a cool to cold, pendant to hanging epiphyte that blooms in the late spring and summer

Epidendrum hueycantenangense



Found as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte in Guerrero and Oaxaca at elevations of 1800 to 1950 meters with cane-like, simple, erect, terete stems carrying 3 to 10, narrowly lanceolate, obtuse, basally clasping leaves where it blooms on a terminal, pendant, 3" (7.5 cm) long, few flowered inflorescence that arises from the same cane over several years successively, occurring in the fall and winter.

Epidendrum longicaule



Found only in the state of Jalisco as a miniature sized, warm growing lithophyte on cliff sides or on large rocks near streams at elevations of 800 to 1500 meters with elongate, fusiform stems carrying 3 to 6, linear-lanceolate, acute, thin leaves graduating in size from smallest at the bottom that blooms on a simple, many (15) flowered inflorescence with long-lasting, successively opening flowers occurring in the summer and fall. This species has an elongated inflorescence with each flower arising days after another and can form keikis on old stems so do not cut them. They can be removed and mounted on their own after they have 3 pseudobulbs formed.

Epidendrum longipetalum



This is a Mexican miniature, cool growing epiphytic and sometimes lithophytic species from the NW Gulf coast mountains where it occurs in cloud and oak forests at elevations of 1700 to 2200 meters with short, gradually widening stems enveloped by tubular, scarious sheaths and carrying 2 to 3 apical, elliptic to ovate, basally clasping leaves and flowers throughout the year on a terminal, long-pedunculate, 18" (50 to 75 cm) long, erect to arcuate, racemose inflorescence arising on mature or maturing pseudobulbs in the late winter subtended by many elliptic bracts with one to two successive flowers that open one at a time. The old spikes can rebloom in future seasons so be sure to leave them until you are sure that they are dead.

Epidendrum lowilliamsii



A small (8-35 cm) epiphytic caespitose herb with slender stems in which 4 to 8 linear, acute and mucronate distich leaves are distributed on the apex. Inflorescence racemose terminal with 3-5 yellowish and membranous flowers. Flowering October to December. Endemic to Michoacan and Mexico at elevations of 200 to 2200 meters.

Epidendrum magnificum



Found as a medium to giant sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte in cloud forests of Guerrero at altitudes of 1800 to 2600 meters with ascending terete, reed-like canes, each one arising from an intermediate internode of the preceding cane and carrying distichous, narrowly elliptic to narrowly lanceolate, acute, coriaceous, basally clasping leaves that are clustered towards the apex of the cane that blooms in the winter and spring on a terminal, short, arcuate to pendant, racemose, umbelliform, many (10 to 70) flowered inflorescence with simultaneously opening flowers.

Epidendrum marmoratum

This species is found in Jalisco, Guerrero, and Oaxaca in pine-oak forests on the Pacific slope at elevations of 1500 to 1700 meters as a small sized, cool to warm growing epiphyte with stoutly cylindrical, pseudobulbs, red to purple infused stems with several, leathery, broad leaves and blooms in the spring on a terminal, tall, arching, densely flowered raceme with long-lasting, successively opening flowers that needs slight shade and cooler nights.



Epidendrum microcharis

Found in Chiapas in evergreen cloud forests at elevations of 2300 to 3100 meters as a mini-miniature sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte with slightly distant, fusiform to subspheric, finely rugose, often purple pseudobulbs carrying usually 2, apical, somewhat recurved, deeply purple flushed, coriaceous, elliptic-lanceolate, persistent leaves that may bloom at any time of the year on a terminal, very short, racemose, 2 to 4 flowered inflorescence arising on a newly maturing pseudobulb with triangular, acuminate floral bracts partially obscured by the leaves and carrying resupinate fragrant flowers.



Epidendrum miserum



Found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Morelos and Oaxaca as a mini-miniature, warm to cool growing, mat-forming epiphyte at elevations of 1300 to 2000 meters with slightly compressed ovoid, clustered gray pseudobulbs enveloped basally by a few scarious sheaths and usually carrying three, thin, gray-green, linear-lanceolate, articulate to the base leaves which are deciduous and fall as the apical, short, 2 to 6 flowered inflorescence basally enveloped by scarious bracts and arises usually in mid-winter with slightly scented flowers.

Epidendrum parkinsonianum



A very beautiful, small to medium sized, pendant growing Epidendrum found only in south western Mexico in moist pine-oak forests at elevations of 1800 to 2500 meters as a cold to cool growing epiphyte or occasional lithophyte with a wonderfully odd growth habit, producing a chain of pendant 1"-6" (2,5 to 15 cm) long, thick, fusiform-shaped pseudobulbs enveloped basally in youth by several, imbricate, scarious sheaths and carrying 3-5, dark green 4" (10 cm), acute, basally clasping leaves, emerging from the newest matured growths are 2"-4" (5 to 10 cm) long, arching, racemose inflorescence bearing 5 to 10, very beautiful, 2 1/4" (5.6 cm), simultaneously opening, nocturnally fragrant (soap) flowers, the starry blooms have green to coppery-brown sepals and petals, and a green pointy lip with a prominent red disc. Blooming occurs from the winter until early summer.

Epidendrum pseudohueycatenangense



Found in Oaxaca, at 1372m elevation, at the south end of Puerto Angel road. It is epiphytic on oaks and blooms on a terminal, short, few to several flowered racemose inflorescence that has successive opening flowers. (Hueycatena is a town in Mexico.)

Epidendrum radicans

Found from Mexico to northern South America as a large sized, warm to cold growing terrestrial or lithophyte growing most in open areas between grasses and rocks, especially on roadside banks in pine oak forest and mountain rain forest at elevations of 900 to 2500 meters. It has erect canes with adventitious roots, and ovate to elliptic leaves that are evenly distributed along the branching stem. It blooms the most between fall and spring on a terminal, erect, 10 to 38" [25 to 50 cm] long, umbelliform inflorescence with successive opening, resupinate flowers all clustered in a ball at the apex.



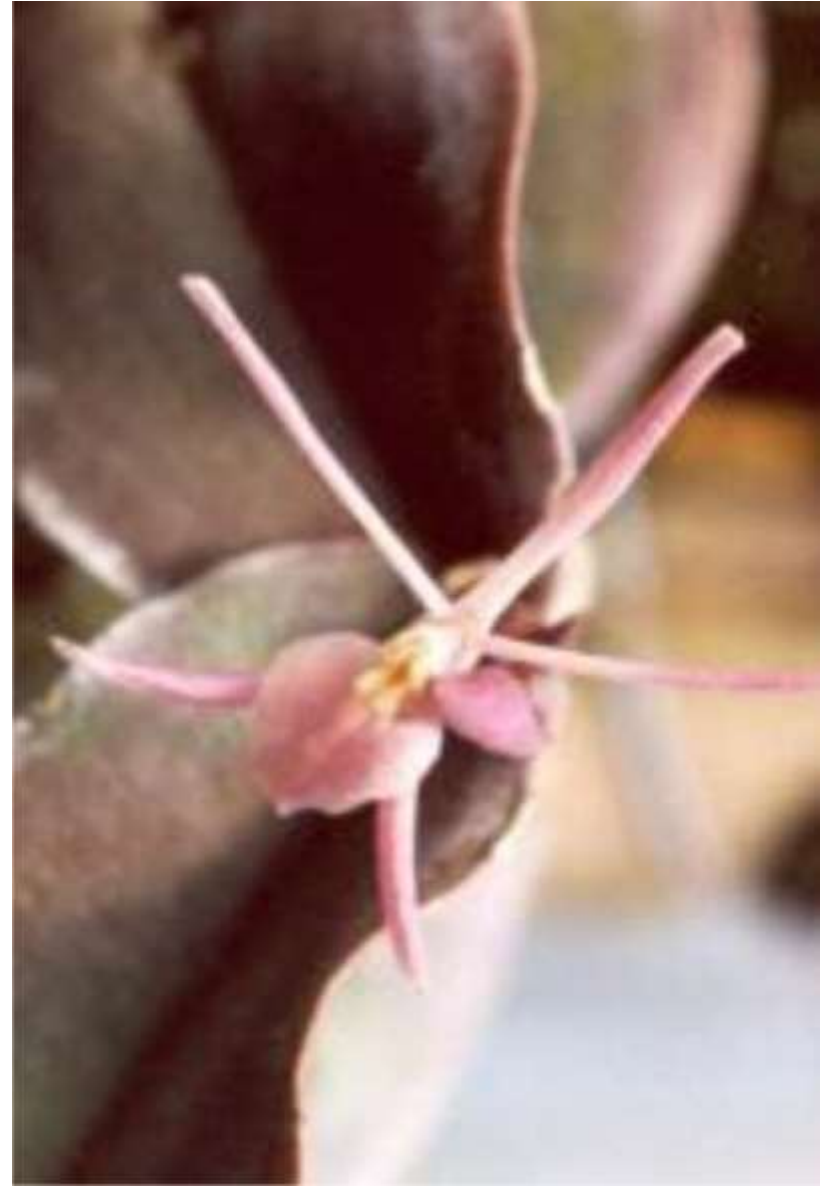
Epidendrum roseoscriptum



Found in Western Oaxaca on oaks in oak forests at elevations of 1200 to 2000 meters as a small to large sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with cane-like, terete, slightly laterally compressed in the apical third, erect stems enveloped completely by tubular, leafless and in the apical third, thin, papery leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 2 to 12, erect, thin, narrowly elliptic-lanceolate, obtuse to rounded, basally clasping and articulate to the leaf-bearing sheaths that blooms in the fall through spring on a terminal, over various years, dense, arching, terete, erect, 1" (2.5 cm) long, inflorescence arising on a newly to old mature cane and carrying several (10 to 25), fleshy flowers, few to several flowered inflorescence that arises on a newly matured pseudobulb carrying 9 to 11, simultaneous, resupinate, fragrant flowers.

Epidendrum rowleyi

Found in Guerrero and Oaxaca on oaks in typical pine-oak forests on slopes above rivers at elevations of 2100 to 2500 meters as a miniature to small sized, cool growing epiphyte with simple, flattened canes carrying 2 to 3, thick and leathery, broadly elliptic to oblong, serrulate marginally, obtuse to acute, slightly cordate towards the base, basally clasping leaves that blooms on a terminal, short, single to few flowered inflorescence with lanceolate, obtuse floral bracts arising on a mature cane.



Epidendrum schlechterianum



Found in Nayarit, Jalisco, Guerrero and Oaxaca on the Pacific slopes on oaks in open oak forests at elevations of 700 to 1100 meters as a mini-miniature sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with an erect stem enveloped completely by imbricating leaf bases carrying succulent, ovate, bilobed, aristate, minutely erose-fimbriate margins, dorsally carinate green becoming suffused with purple with more light leaves that blooms in the fall on a terminal, sessile, 2 flowered inflorescence with simultaneously opening, resupinate flowers

Epidendrum stamfordianum



Found from Mexico to northern South America in seasonally dry forests on large branches at elevations of 20 to 800 meters, as a medium sized, hot to warm growing, epiphytic species with fusiform pseudobulbs. It has 3 to 4, elliptic-oblong leaves and flowers in the winter, spring, summer and fall from a newly formed, mature pseudobulb with a many flowered raceme or panicle of showy, long-lasting, fragrant flowers.

Epidendrum vandifolium



Found in Sinaloa and Durango on the Pacific coast in pine-oak forests at elevations of 1100 to 1920 meters with a cane-like stem carrying several distichous, linear, acute, basally clasping leaves that blooms on a terminal, arcuate to pendant, racemose, few flowered inflorescence with the scented flowers opening simultaneously. Part of the *E anisatum/gladiatum* complex but differs from *E anisatum* in a scent other than anise, wider leaves and cuneate lip (instead of triangular), red to purple flowers with a darker disc and flowers in the summer and fall.

Erycina echinata

A twig epiphyte, it is endemic to the pacific coast of Mexico in the states of Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Guerrero and Oaxaca states. It can be found in deciduous forests at elevations of 30 to 800 meters on thin branches of trees hanging by the roots in hot lowlands with long winter dry spells. It needs a mount or small wood branch. It has fragrant [fresh grass] flowers. This species requires a long mid-winter dry rest. Best tied to a cork or tree fern mount, given cool to hot temperatures and while growing given ample water and light shade. As growth slows in the late fall stop watering, but an occasional misting and an increase in light is recommended.



Funkiella hyemalis



Found in Chihuahua, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, District Federal, Quintana Roo, Oaxaca, Puebla, and Hidalgo on humid slopes and rocks, grassy places, bluffs, pine/fir forests at elevations of 2200 to 3800 meters as a small sized, cool to cold growing terrestrial as slender, glabrous plants with 1 to 3, basal or in the lower part of the stem, linear-lanceolate, acute, petiolate leaves that blooms in the fall and winter on an erect, terminal, 2 to 4 flowered, pubescent inflorescence with sessile flowers that stand at right angles to the stem.

Galeandra greenwoodiana



Found in Nayarit on the Pacific slope and is a small sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with swollen pseudobulb bases. This species has the largest flowers in the genus and will rebloom for years out of the same inflorescence. It has fragrant flowers that smell like a wet dog.

Galeoglossum thysanochilum

Found in Oaxaca in deciduous oak forests at elevations of 1900 to 2300 meters as a cool growing terrestrial. This orchid was discovered in 2008 and described in publication in 2009.



Gongora cassidea



This medium sized, cool to warm growing, epiphytic species is found in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica on trees in humid forests at altitudes up to 1800 meters with ovoid-conical, longitudinally ribbed, light green pseudobulbs with 2, lanceolate to elliptic lanceolate, petiolate, acuminate leaves. It blooms in the fall with waxy, fragrant flowers on a basal, 12" [30 cm] long, pendant, few flowered inflorescence.

Gongora galeata

This is a medium sized epiphytic, rarely lithophytic or terrestrial species found in mountain rain and cloud forests at altitudes of 600 to 1800 meters that grows hot to warm and is suited for wire basket culture with sphagnum and woodchips with ovoid-pyriform, longitudinally sulcate pseudobulbs with 2 apical, plicate, petiolate, elliptic, acuminate, leaves that blooms in the summer and fall with basal 6 to 8" (15 to 20 cm) long, pendant, many flowered, racemose inflorescences arising on a mature pseudobulb and having a short to long-lived, fragrant flower with a fragrance similar to oranges. It is an evergreen species and requires a semi dry rest in the winter.



Gongora galeottiana



Found only on the Pacific coast of Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Guerrero and Oaxaca in humid oak forests or montane deciduous forests at elevations of 1200 to 1700 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with ovoid, compressed, rugose pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by a few scarious sheaths and carrying 2, apical, plicate, gradually acuminate apically, long-attenuate towards the base, elliptic leaves that blooms in the summer on a basal, arching, then pendant 8 to 12" (20 to 30 cm) long, 10 to 25 flowered inflorescence

Gongora truncata

Found in southern Mexico, Belize and Guatemala in moist, moderately dense woodlands at elevations of 180 to 850 meters as a medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with ridged, conical to ovoid pseudobulbs carrying 2 to rarely 3, plicate, rigid leaves and blooms on a basal, pendant, to 36" [to 90 cm] long, several [15] to many [40] flowered inflorescence with sweetly scented flowers that last less than one week



Govenia purpusii



Found in Jalisco, Guerrero and Mexico at elevations of 2500 to 2800 meters as a cold growing terrestrial that blooms in the late spring and early summer.

Govenia tequilana

Known only from the Cerro de Tequila, Jalisco. 1-leaved, slender, up to 40-60 cm high, the underground parts like those of *G. purpusii*; leaves consisting of a petiole 5-9 cm long and blade 12-20 cm long, 2-3.5 cm wide; raceme 25-41 cm long, 6-12-flowered, the peduncle 15-22 cm long; floral bracts ovate, 1.2-2 cm long; pedicellate ovaries 1-1.2 cm long; flowers in July and August are reddish yellow or bronze-yellow or dull green with reddish veins, from a distance appearing brownish; sepals and petals all arching-recurved, markedly flaring, narrow, less than 2 cm long, 4 mm wide or less; lip ovate-lanceolate, 1-1.3 cm long, 5 mm wide, arched, red-brown near base, pale green apically, spotted near the midline, the spots more prominent on the outer surface; anther 1.7 mm wide, with slender beak 0.8-1 mm long; capsule almost linear.



Guarianthe aurantiaca

Formerly known as *Cattleya aurantiaca*, this orchid is often used by hybridizers because of its orange color. It grows as a stout, small to medium sized, epiphytic and occasional lithophytic species from Mexico to Costa Rica at elevations of 300 to 1600 meters. It is tolerant of extreme heat and cold.



Guarianthe bowringiana



Mexico, Belize and Guatemala are the home to this medium to large sized, hot to warm growing lithophyte found at elevations of 210 to 900 meters on rocky cliffs near fast moving streams with a humid atmosphere. It has club-shaped pseudobulbs with 2, rarely 3, leathery, dark green leaves. It blooms in the fall on a terminal, erect or nodding, long-stalked 10" [to 25 cm] long inflorescence arising through 2, basal, compressed spathes carrying up to 15 flowers that are not long lasting.

Guarianthe × guatemalensis

This is a naturally occurring hybrid of the species *G. aurantiaca* and *G. skinneri* and is found in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua as a large sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte in low montane forests high up in large trees in full sun at low altitudes



It has clavate, rugose pseudobulbs enveloped by scarious, evanescent sheaths with 2 apical, elliptic, acute leaves. It blooms in the late winter and early spring on a terminal, 5 1/2" [13.75 cm] long, several to many [5 to 10] flowered inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb.

Guarianthe skinneri



From Chiapas in Mexico to Costa Rica this medium sized, bifoliate epiphyte is found in humid forests on tree trunks and branches or terrestrial-lithophyte on granite cliff banks at altitudes of 200 to 2300 meters. It has fusiform to clavate pseudobulbs with 2, apical, oblong to elliptic, leaves and blooms in the winter through spring and occasionally in the fall on a terminal, to 5 1/2" [13.75 cm]

long, usually erect, few to many [4 to 15] flowered inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb. It has slightly fragrant flowers that often open not all at once. It likes to be mounted on wood and is an intermediate to hot growing species. It likes a dry winter rest and will bloom from brown or green sheaths that were formed the summer before. It is the national flower of Costa Rica.

Habenaria calicis



Found in the state of Mexico as a miniature to medium sized, terrestrial orchid with an elliptic to ovoid, subterranean tuber giving rise to 4 to 6, elliptic-lanceolate, ascending to adpressed, revolute margins, acute leaves that blooms on a terminal, racemose, 7 to 10 flowered inflorescence.

Habenaria clypeata



Found from Northern Mexico to Panama in grassy openings in oak and oak/pine forests at elevations of 1000 to 2700 meters as a small to medium sized, warm to cold growing terrestrial orchid. It blooms in the summer and early fall on an erect, few to 20 flowered, racemose inflorescence.

Habenaria guadalajarana

Found in Chihuahua, Diego, Sinaloa, Nayarit, Aguascalientes, Jalisco, Michoacan, Puebla, Oaxaca, Guerrero, DF, Morelos, Nuevo Leon, Hidalgo, Vera Cruz, and Chiapas on grasslands, grassy hillsides and openings in oak and pine-oak forests at elevations of 1000 to 2700 meters as a miniature to medium sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial with a small tuber giving rise to an erect, glabrous, leafy stem carrying lower elliptic, middle ovate and upper lanceolate, spreading to sometimes adpressed, sometimes conduplicate, acute to acuminate leaves that blooms in the late summer and early fall on an erect, racemose, to 5" to 12.5 cm) long, loosely few to 20 flowered inflorescence with conduplicate basally, lanceolate to ovate, acuminate floral bracts.



Habenaria jaliscana



Found in Chihuahua, Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Mexico, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Vera Cruz and San Juan Potosi on grassy hillsides and openings or on moist banks mostly in oak or oak/pine forests at elevations around 800 to 2200 meters as a small to large sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial orchid with a small basal tuber giving rise to an erect stem enveloped completely by many lanceolate, narrowly acute, spreading, conduplicate leaves that blooms in the summer and early fall on an erect, to 5" (12.5 cm) long, few to 10 flowered inflorescence.

Habenaria novemfida

Found from southern Mexico to Costa Rica in pine oak forests on steep slopes at elevations of 1200 to 1400 meters as a medium sized, warm growing terrestrial. It blooms in late summer on an erect, terminal, racemose, few to many flowered inflorescence with green, lanceolate, acuminate floral bracts.



Habenaria rzedoswkiana



Found in Jalisco, Michoacan and Mexico in sandy or clay soils with grasses in oak or pine forests at elevations of 1500 to 2800 meters as a medium sized, warm to cold growing terrestrial orchid with an erect stem turning black with age, carrying several, short, acute, recurved leaves articulated to the sheaths and blooming in the summer and early fall on a 1 to 5 flowered, racemose inflorescence.

Hagsatera brachycolumna



Found in Guerrero, Oaxaca and Mexico in windy, open, oak forests at elevations of 1400 to 1950 meters as a creeping, medium to large sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with a short rhizome giving rise to narrowly conical-fusiform, slightly compressed, purple-maroon pseudobulbs arising when mature from a node just below the swollen part of the pseudobulb and carrying a single, apical, suberect-arcuate, coriaceous, linear to lanceolate, obtuse, dull green leaf that gives rise to an axillary, racemose, 3/4 to 7/8" (2 to 2.2 cm) long, few to several (to 14) flowered inflorescence that arises on a newly forming pseudobulb with triangular, acute bracts and subcampanulate, nutant flowers that smell of old cheese and are clustered towards the apex and occurring most often in the late winter through spring.

Hintonella mexicana

Found in Jalisco, Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos, Michoacan and Oaxaca on steep hillsides and arroyos in oak-pine forests or dense humid montane deciduous forests at elevations around 1500 to 2200 meters as a miniature sized, cold to cool growing epiphyte with minute, ellipsoid to globose, pseudobulbs with 3 to 4 basal, leaf bearing sheaths and carrying a single, apical, fleshy, semi-terete, sulcate, conduplicate below and basally clasping leaf that blooms in the winter and spring on 1 to 2 basal, arcuate, 3/4" (2 cm) long, racemose inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb with 1 to 6, small, slightly fragrant, long-lasting flowers.



Homalopetalum pachyphyllum



A miniature sized, cold to cool growing epiphyte found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero and Mexico at elevations around 1800 to 2800 meters on trees in oak, oak-pine, or mixed deciduous forests of the Pacific coast with a creeping rhizome giving rise to erect, ovoid pseudobulbs enveloped partially by an inflated sheath and carrying a single, apical, coriaceous, oblong lanceolate, blunt or apiculate leaf that blooms in the fall on a .2" to .4" (5mm to 1cm) long, single flowered inflorescence.

Homalopetalum pumilum



Found in San Luis Potosi, Guerrero and Hidalgo as a mini-miniature sized, cool growing epiphyte at elevations of 1400 to 1500 meters with, clustered, small, ovate pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical, linear-lanceolate leaves and flowers in the summer on a slightly fractiflex, terminal, single flowered (flower size 0.2" (5mm)) inflorescence with 5 to 6, inflated, tubular bracts.

Lonopsis utricularioides

Found from Mexico to South America and the Caribbean Islands even in Florida at elevations ranging from sea level to 1300 meters, where it blooms in the spring and summer. It is a miniature to medium sized, cool to hot growing epiphyte found in humid forests and citrus groves. It is a



small, scrambling plant with ellipsoid, compressed, 1/2" pseudobulbs that bear a single, apical, linear to oblong-elliptic, acute leaf and 2 to 3, 6" linear or lanceolate, carinate, stiff and imbricate leaves that surround and enfold the rhizome and, a basal, erect, up to 3' long, branching panicle, terminating in densely numerous flowers that open in succession over months. The color of the flowers ranges from white to pink, lavender to purple and are quite a sight in full bloom.

Isochilus bracteatus



Found in Sinaloa, Durango, Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Mexico, Morelos, Guerrero and Oaxaca in moist pine-oak forests and barranca forests at elevations of 1250 to 2500 meters as a small to large sized, warm to cold growing humus epiphyte or lithophyte with thick, purple magenta to coffee colored roots, a short rhizome giving rise to cane-like, erect to arcuate-hanging, slightly compressed towards the apex stems carrying many, all facing one direction, distichous, narrowly linear-lanceolate, emarginate-bilobed asymmetrical, round lobed apically, purple spotted leaves that blooms in the spring through fall on a terminal, arching, dense, sessile, 1 to 2" (2.5 to 5 cm) long, subsecund, successively 6 to 11 flowered inflorescence with the top 4 leaves becoming dark purple.

Isochilus major

Found from southeastern Mexico to Panama in coffee plantations and closed forests to wet montane forests at elevations of 900 to 1500 meters as a small to medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte with arching to pendant, slender stems enveloped basally by several tubular sheaths and carrying in the upper half, erect, sessile, narrowly linear, obtuse, basally clasping leaves with smooth leaf sheaths. It blooms in the fall on a terminal, sessile, secund, densely several to many flowered [10 to 20] inflorescence with foliaceous floral bracts.



Isochilus unilateralis

Found in Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosi, Hidalgo and Queretaro in oak and pine forests or cloud forests at elevations of 1000 to 1400 meters as a miniature to small sized, warm growing epiphyte with erect, thin, slightly compresses stems enveloped by leaf bearing sheaths and carrying articulate to the leaf bearing sheaths, distichous, rigidly ascending, subadpressed, narrowly linear-lanceolate, retuse leaves that blooms in the spring through fall on a terminal, racemose, lax, sessile, secund, arched, 0.8 to 1.6" (2 to 4 cm) long, 5 to 7 flowered inflorescence carrying large (for the genus), campanulate, half open unscented flowers.



Kefersteinia tinschertiana



Found in Guerrero, Oaxaca and Chiapas on bases of shade trees in wet montane forests and along streams in drier areas at elevations around 900 to 1400 meters as a small sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with rudimentary pseudobulbs enveloped by the leaf bearing sheaths and carrying 5 to 6, linear to linear-oblong to oblanceolate, acute-acuminate, basally conduplicate, arcuate, soft, flexible, sulcate above, carinate below leaves that blooms in the spring, summer and fall on a filliform, (2.3 to 4.5 cm) long, single flowered inflorescence with cucullate, inflated, papery, ovate-subquadrate, obtuse to rounded floral bracts, a pendant, 1" (2.5 cm) long, single flowered inflorescence occurring in the fall.

Laelia albida

A western Mexican, medium sized, cold to warm growing miniature epiphyte or lithophyte found in oak or oak pine forests at elevations of 1000 to 2000 meters, with clustered, conical-ovoid pseudobulbs that wrinkle with age, partially enveloped basally by a few scarious, triangular sheaths, carrying 2 to 3, apical, linear-ensiform, coriaceous, somewhat fleshy, dark green, conduplicate below into the clasping base leaves that blooms in the fall and winter on a apical, erect to arching, slender, 5 to 24" (12 to 60 cm) long, few to several (2 to 9) flowered raceme with closely adpressed sheathing bracts all along, and arising on a mature pseudobulb with 3 to 10, scented flowers. This species requires a winter dormancy with cool nights and bright light.



Laelia anceps



This popular orchid has about 45 variants.

It is a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphytic species from Mexico and Honduras and is found from 500-1500 meters, often in full sunlight. It blooms in autumn to spring with 2 to 6 scented, long-lasting flowers in a terminal cluster. The plant needs a dry winter rest.

Laelia aurea

Found in on the Pacific coast of Mexico in the states of Durango, Sinaloa and Nayarit, as a small to medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte that blooms in the fall with scented flowers on an inflorescence that has from 3 to 6 flowers.

It was formerly known as a variety of *L. rubescens*, but it was given species status in 1990.



Laelia autumnalis



Found in the central to southern mountains of Mexico at elevations of 1500 to 2600 meters as a small to medium sized, cold to warm growing epiphyte or lithophyte, found on scrubby oaks and mossy rocks with 2 to 3, leathery, lanceolate leaves per ovoid, subconical, to pyriform, tapering, curved, ridged and furrowed pseudobulb that blooms in the fall and winter in cultivation on an erect, stout, red colored, 2 to 3' (60 to 90 cm) long, apical, covered with scale-like floral bracts, several to many flowered inflorescence with fragrant, waxy, long-lasting, color variable flowers. It requires bright light, a winter dormancy and night coolness

Laelia × crawshayana



This bifoliate natural hybrid is from Jalisco, East of Puerto Vallarta at elevations of 1000 to 1600 meters on oaks. It is similar to *Laelia autumnalis* but blooms in late January through April. has longer and narrower leaves, a more compact inflorescence, slightly larger flowers with the sepals uniformly colored rose pink instead of lilac color that is normal for *L. autumnalis*. It has been shown to be a cross between *L. albida* × *L. anceps*,

Laelia eyermaniana



This natural hybrid between *Laelia speciosa* and *Laelia albida* is a small sized, cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte.. It blooms only in summer and early fall on a apical, 12" to 3.5' [30 to 100 cm] long, raceme arising on a mature pseudobulb with 3 to 12 showy, fragrant flowers. Plants are smaller than *Laelia autumnalis* and it comes only from the Mexican west coast from Oaxaca to Nayarit.

Laelia furfuracea



Found in Oaxaca as a cold to cool growing, mini-miniature to medium sized epiphyte occurring at elevations of 2100 to 3000 meters on the rough bark of scrubby oaks, with a conic-ovoid, 3 noded, slightly ribbed pseudobulb carrying a solitary (rarely 2), apical, erect, lanceolate, acute, fleshy leaf, that blooms in the fall to mid winter on a slender, short to 12" (15 to 30 cm), arching raceme with 3 to 5 long-lived, fragrant, color variable flowers. This species needs a cork or tree fern mount, high humidity year round but it needs a winter rest with bright light after the growth has matured.

Laelia gouldiana

From the mountains of Hidalgo as a small to medium sized, cool to hot growing epiphyte with fusiform, somewhat compressed pseudobulbs enveloped basally by 4 to 6 scarious sheaths and carrying 2 to 3, erect, lanceolate, bright green leaves. It is extinct in the wild and is perhaps the best of the Mexican Laelias, It blooms in the fall and winter on an apical, erect, inflorescence emerge in the fall growing to 30" (75 cm) and carrying up to 10 well-rounded magenta/red 3" blooms that are awesome. Lip is violet/red with a red-veined white center and a yellow keel, mildly fragrant.



Laelia kennedyi



Found in Jalisco and blooms in the early summer on a 18" (45 cm) long, successively single flowered inflorescence. It is similar to *L. autumnalis* but blooms way before it, almost the same season as *L. eyermanniana*. This species has not been formally described.

Laelia rubescens

Found throughout Central American, this medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte and occasional lithophyte can be found from sea level to 1700 meters on exposed tree trunks where they withstand full sun for hours, yet get plenty of air movement. The fragrant flowers are clustered at the apex of the inflorescence and may close at night. Mount on tree fern slabs and give bright light, ample water while growing and a dry winter rest after flowering



Laelia speciosa



This is a Mexican orchid of the central plateau and adjoining highlands warm to cold growing, small sized epiphyte with 1 to 2 leaves that is found in xerophytic conditions in open oak forests at elevations of 1400 to 2400 meters with subglobose to ovoid, rugose pseudobulbs with 1 to 2 lanceolate-elliptic, acute, coriaceous-fleshy, green suffused with purple, basally clasping leaves that blooms in the spring and summer with an apical, 5 to 6" (12 to 15 cm) long inflorescence which arises from a newly developing pseudobulb and carries 1 to occasionally 4, fragrant flowers. It is a very drought resistant plant and as such should be given a drier environment and a definite dry winter rest.

Laelia speciosa – rare white

Not quite an albino, this is
a rare form of *Laelia
speciosa*



Laelia superbiens



Found in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua in open or damp forests on trees or the rocks below them in mountains of the Sierra Madre at 800 to 2000 meters where it is a large sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte which forms dense, 6 foot wide colonies. It has an arching, many flowered, 4' [120 cm] long, inflorescence arising from a mature pseudobulb with fragrant, showy, large, long-lasting flowers which bloom in the late fall and early winter.

Leochilus ampliflorus

This is a Mexican miniature epiphytic species found on twigs high in the canopy of natural forests or on guava trees in plantations. It blooms on a pendant, several flowered inflorescence in the summer. Sometimes cited as a synonym of *Leochilus crocodiliceps* but some orchidists feel that they are definitely separate.



Leochilus carinatus



A miniature epiphyte found in Mexico on small branches and twigs in scrubby bushes as well as coffee plantations and old citrus groves with ovate to suborbicular, compressed pseudobulbs carrying 2, elliptic-lanceolate leaves. It blooms in the late winter through early summer with fragrant flowers on an erect, arching, 6" (15 cm) long, many flowered inflorescence that can form keikis after flowering from the nodes. This species is best mounted on tree fern or cork with hot to cool temperatures, good air circulation and on a lightly shaded location.

Leochilus crocodiliceps



This is a miniature sized, cool to warm growing epiphytic species found on twigs high in the canopy of natural forests or on guava trees in plantations of Jalisco and Colima with light green, ovate, slightly laterally compressed, ridged and sulcate with age pseudobulbs enveloped basally by a few leafless and leafed sheaths and carrying 1 to 2, apical, elliptic-lanceolate leaves that blooms in the spring on a pendant, several flowered inflorescence arising from the base of a mature pseudobulb carrying 1 to 6 small, slightly fragrant flowers. The anther cap at the apex of the column has the appearance of a crocodile hence the name.

Leochilus leiboldii



A dwarf, pendant, fan-leaved, cool growing epiphyte that is found in Oaxaca and Vera Cruz on twigs in full sun near small streams. It has clustered, ovate to elliptic, slightly compressed, ancipitous pseudobulbs completely enveloped basally by 2 to 3 distichous, imbricating, leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying a single, apical, linear, acuminate, coriaceous, glabrous, articulated leaf and blooms on a basal through the leaf axial, pendant to arching, to 5" (to 12.5 cm) long, few to several (6 to 12) flowered inflorescence arising on a year old pseudobulb and occurring in the late spring and summer and carrying slightly nocturnally scented flowers. This species should be kept on their original twig if at all possible.

Lepanthes aprica

Found in Oaxaca at elevations around 1700 to 2600 meters in cloud forests as a mini-miniature sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte with arcuate-pendant ramicauls enveloped by 5 to 10, muricate lepanthiform sheaths and carrying a single, apical, erect, elliptic to elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, flat, coriaceous, tridentate apically, clear green, the base is broadly cuneate into the petiolate base leaf that blooms in the spring, summer and fall on a single, .4" to 1.2" (1 to 3 cm) long, on the back of the leaf, successively single, 4 to 12 flowered inflorescence with a tubular, glabrous, obtuse-round, coffee colored, scarious bract and distichous, somewhat imbricate, obliquely infundibular, obtuse, glabrous floral bracts



Lepanthes calopetala



Found in Vera Cruz and Oaxaca at elevations around 2000 to 2550 meters in deep woods as a mini-miniature sized, cool growing epiphyte with erect ramicauls enveloped by 3 to 6, ciliate lepanthiform sheaths and carrying a single, apical, erect, lanceolate, attenuate, flat, coriaceous, slightly fleshy, tridentate apically, dark green, often purple beneath, the base is cuneate and contracted into the sulcate petiolate base leaf that blooms in the summer and fall on a single, .1" to .3" (2 to 7.5 mm) long, on the back of the leaf, successively 1 to 15 flowered inflorescence with a tubular-infundibular, glabrous, obtuse, yellowish, transparent scarious bract and distichous, somewhat imbricate, cucullate-infundibular, broadly ovate, obtuse-mucronate, glabrous floral bracts.

Lepanthes erythroantha

Found in Oaxaca in wet montane forests or cloud forests at elevations of 2000 to 2500 meters as a mini-miniature sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte with erect, slender ramicauls enveloped by 3 lepanthiform sheaths and carrying a single, apical, erect to repent, narrowly elliptic, acute, gradually narrowing below into the base leaf that blooms on a terminal, (1 to 2 cm) long, successively single, few flowered inflorescence holding the flowers most often on the front of the leaf.



Lepanthes mariae



Found only in northern Oaxaca in cloud forests at elevations of 2300 to 2350 meters as a mini-miniature sized, cool growing epiphyte with erect to ascending, slender ramicauls enveloped basally by 4 to 5 lepanthiform sheaths and carrying a single, apical, ovate to elliptical, fleshy-coriaceous, tridenticulate, gradually narrowing below into the short petiolate base leaf and blooming in the spring on 1 to 3 per ramicaul with only one blooming at a time, always shorter than the leaf, to .6" (1.5 cm) long, successively single flowered with up to 4 flowers, distichous, slightly flexuous, racemose inflorescence holding the flowers close against the back of the leaf.

Lepanthes maxima

Found in Chiapas in perennial rainforest and pine forests at elevations of 1350 to 1600 meters as a miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with erect to ascending, slender ramicauls completely enveloped by 5 to 6 lepanthiform sheaths and carrying a single, apical, elliptic to ovate, obtuse to rounded, fleshy coriaceous, tridenticulate, gradually narrows below into the cuneate and shortly petiolate base leaf that blooms in the winter and summer on to 3 per ramicaul, but only one flowering at a time, lateral, longer than the leaf, to 1" to 1 3/4" long, filiform, terete, subdistichous, sinuous, lax, successively single flowered inflorescence arising from the apex of the ramicaul with up to 5 flowers.



Liparis nervosa



Found in Asia, Africa, the Philippines, Mexico, Central America, Caribbean Islands, and northern South America at elevations of 500 to 1800 meters as a wet region, small sized, cool to hot growing terrestrial or lithophyte of the forest understory. At higher elevations, in cloud forests, it can be found on exposed roadbanks. It has a cylindric, tapering, pseudobulb that is encased by 4 to 5 non-foliaceous, green, basal sheaths that fall away and bares the bulb before the new growth arises. with lanceolate to oblong-elliptic, leaves that clasp at the base. It will bloom in the summer and fall on an erect, terminal, 10 to 15" [25 to 38 cm] long, racemose inflorescence that has many flowers, with new pseudobulb growth. This orchid is probably the most widespread orchid in the world being pan-tropical.

Liparis vexillifera



Found from Mexico to Panama in wet cloud forests at 1200 to 2650 meters as a miniature to small sized, warm to cold growing terrestrial with a short swollen stem carrying single, linear-lanceolate, folded, acute leaf. It blooms in the summer and fall on an erect, 2.4" [6 cm] long, few flowered inflorescence.

Lycaste aromatica



A medium to large, cool to warm growing epiphyte on mossy branches, lithophyte on damp limestone cliffs or occasional terrestrial in tropical semi-deciduous along streams from Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador. It has ovate, compressed pseudobulbs and deciduous, lanceolate leaves. It blooms in late spring-summer with the onset of new growth and there may be up to 10 erect, short 6" [15 cm], brown sheathed, single flowered spikes that smells of cinnamon per pseudobulb.

Lycaste cochleata

A medium sized, cold to warm growing epiphyte or lithophyte from Mexico and Central America in mangrove swamps, and montane rainforests at elevations of sea level to 1000 meters with ovoid to pyriform, compressed, sulcate pseudobulbs with 2 to 3 apical spines after leaf fall and subtended by scarious bracts with 2 to 3 plicate, deciduous, apical, oblong-elliptic, acute to acuminate leaves blooming on a 6" [15 cm] long inflorescence, with inflated papery bracts, arising on a mature pseudobulb as the new growth appears with small, scented flowers held well below the leaves, all occurring in the summer and fall.



Lycaste crinita

Very similar to *L. aromatica*, pseudobulbs and leaves more robust, the disc of the lip more pubescent, and the scapes are longer. Found on the Pacific slope in Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, and Oaxaca at elevations of 300 to 1700 meters as a small to medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte in tall trees with compressed, ovate, spined after leaf-fall pseudobulbs carrying 3, apical, elliptic, acuminate leaves. This fragrant flowered species blooms in the summer on an erect, several at a time, 8" (20 cm) long, single flowered inflorescence with several scarious sheathing bracts giving rise to waxy, fragrant flowers held well above the pseudobulbs and may arise with or without the appearance of new leaves.



Lycaste cruenta



This medium sized, cold to cool growing species occurs in Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica and El Salvador as an epiphyte or lithophyte at elevations of 1800 to 2200 meters with large, ovoid-oblong, spined pseudobulbs enveloped by several imbricating sheaths and carrying several, deciduous, elliptic-lanceolate leaves. It blooms in the spring on a lateral, 7" [17.5 cm] long, single flowered that has waxy, long-lasting, scented flowers.

Lycaste deppei

Found in the eastern and southern states of Mexico, and in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua on trees and rocks in humid montane forests at elevations of 1100 to 1700 meters. It is a small to medium sized, cold to warm growing epiphyte or a lithophyte with ovoid, compressed pseudobulbs with several apical, elliptic-lanceolate, plicate, deciduous, acuminate leaves that when fallen leave a few sharp spines. They have very fragrant flowers in the spring on a erect, 6" [15 cm] long, single flowered inflorescence.



Lycaste lasioglossa



This large sized, cool to warm growing terrestrial orchid is endemic to Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and possibly Costa Rica in cloud forests at elevations around 1400 to 1800 meters with ovoid, sulcate compressed pseudobulbs carrying 2 apical, elliptic-lanceolate, plicate, basally, shortly petiolate, acute or acuminate apically leaves. It blooms in the winter and spring on an erect, usually a few at once, slender, 10" [25 cm] long, single flowered inflorescence that have scarious, inflated, sheathing bracts and unscented, waxy, color variable flowers and has spineless pseudobulbs.

Lycaste x lucianiana

Found in Guatemala and Mexico at elevations of 800 to 1400 meters as a medium to just large sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte. It is a natural hybrid between *L lasioglossa* and *L skinneri* and blooms in the early spring on an 8, erect, 5.6" [14 cm] long, single flowered inflorescence. It has flowers while there are leaves on the pseudobulbs and has no spines at leaf-fall.



Lycaste virginalis

This is a warm to cold growing, large sized, epiphytic or lithophytic orchid from wet montane forests and pine-oak-liquidambar forests at altitudes of 1200 to 1800 meters that has ovoid, compressed pseudobulbs with several, apical, deciduous, acuminate leaves. It flowers in the winter and early spring. The inflorescence is erect, with a 6 to 12" [15 to 30 cm] long, single flowered inflorescence with the peduncle being concealed by inflated sheathing bracts. The flower is long-lasting, fragrant, and highly variable in size and color. This orchid is the national flower of Guatemala where it is known by the common name 'Monja Blanca' or white nun orchid, it is also found in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador.



Macroclinium lexarzanum

This is one of 44 species of Macroclinium. Most of them have been discovered within the past 50 years in Central America and northern South America. This one is found in Mexico. No additional information is available.



Malaxis hagsateri



Found in Guerrero in evergreen cloud forests at elevations of 2000 to 2500 meters as a medium sized, cold growing terrestrial with a conic-ovoid pseudobulb enveloped by 2 to 3 sheaths and carrying 2, apical, opposite, broadly ovate, undulate margins, acute to acuminate, gradually narrowing below into the elongate, petiolate base leaves that blooms in the later spring and early summer on a terminal, erect, to 6" (15 cm) long, racemose, many flowered inflorescence carrying non-resupinate flowers

Malaxis javesiae

Found in Puebla, Guerrero, Oaxaca and Chiapas in tropical deciduous forests and seasonally dry oak forests at elevations of 1500 to 2200 meters as a miniature to just medium sized, warm to cold growing terrestrial in humus or lithophyte on limestone and volcanic rock with a pyriform-globose pseudobulb enveloped by scarious, sheaths and carrying 1 to 2, subopposite to spaced, blade erect to slightly arched, ovate, acute obtuse, cordate below into the petiolate base leaves that blooms in the later spring through summer on a terminal, erect to somewhat flexous, thin, short, dense, corymbose, to 50 flowered inflorescence with the flowers held in a flat corymb with resupinate flowers.



Malaxis lepidota



Found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Mexico, Morales, Oaxaca, Vera Cruz and Chiapas in pine oak forests at elevations of 1500 to 1900 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial with a stem carrying a basal sheath and 2, ovate, obtuse leaves at about the middle and blooms on a terminal, 2 to 8" (5 to 20 cm) long, loosely few to 25 flowered, racemose inflorescence with narrowly triangular, acute floral bracts and flowers that are large for the genus.

Malaxis novogaliciana



Found in Chihuahua, Durango, Sinaloa, Nayarit, Aguascalientes, Jalisco and Zacatecas in open forests at elevations of 2000 to 2700 meters as a miniature to small sized, cold growing, deciduous terrestrial in grass clumps with a subterranean subglobose pseudobulb carrying a single, blade erect elliptic to ovate, subacute to obtuse, widely cuneate and rounded below into the elongate petiolate base leaf that blooms in the summer on a terminal, erect, stout, short to 2" (5 cm) long, scapose, dense, subumbelliform, 15 to 35 flowered inflorescence with short, triangular, acute-acuminate floral bracts and carrying non-resupinate flowers.

Malaxis unifolia



A species of orchid found in eastern Canada, central and eastern United States, Mexico, Central America and the Greater Antilles (Cuba, Jamaica, Dominican Republic).

Masdevallia floribunda

This is a cool to hot growing, miniature to small sized, tufted, epiphytic species from Belize, Mexico to Costa Rica and the Caribbean that is found at elevations of 400 to 1500 meters in damp forests. It has erect, slender ramicauls enveloped basally by 2 to 3 close, thin tubular sheaths carrying a single, apical, oblong-lanceolate, petiolate leaf. It blooms from June through September with a 3 to 5" [7.5 to 13 cm] long, slender, decumbent to erect inflorescence arising from low on the ramicaul holding the single flower [often followed by a second] just above leaf height.



Maxillariella houtteana



Found in Mexico, Guatemala and Nicaragua at elevations around 1700 to 2300 meters in humid oak forests, montane rainforests, as a solitary leafed, pendant growing, miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte with oblong to oblong-elliptic, compressed, 2 to 3 furrowed, yellow-green pseudobulb with a single leaf that blooms on a short to 1/2" [1.5 cm], sheathed inflorescence with waxy, long-lasting, color variable flowers. It blooms almost year round but most often in winter through spring.

Maxillariella tenuifolia

Found in Mexico, Guatemala and Nicaragua at elevations of 1700 to 2300 meters in humid oak forests and montane rainforests, as a solitary leaved, pendant growing, miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte with oblong to oblong-elliptic, compressed, 2 to 3 furrowed, yellow-green, pseudobulb with a single, apical erect, arched, linear-oblong, leaf that blooms on a short to 1/2" [1.5 cm], sheathed inflorescence with waxy, long-lasting, color variable flowers. It blooms almost year round but most often in winter through spring.



Maxillariella tuerckheimii



Found in the states of Oaxaca, Vera Cruz and Chiapas in Mexico and in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica in wet forests on tree trunks and larger branches at elevations of 1200 to 1500 meters as a small to large sized, warm growing epiphyte with a rhizome completely enveloped by scarious, imbricating sheaths and giving rise to laterally compressed, longitudinally ridged, pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by several, imbricating, sheaths, with a single, apical, linear-ligulate, leaf. It blooms with fragrant flowers in the winter on a 2" [5 cm] long, single, flowered inflorescence arising on the newest mature pseudobulb.

Maxillariella variabilis

Found in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Ecuador as a small sized, hot to cool growing terrestrial, lithophytic or epiphytic, solitary leafed species. It is found on or below trees in open or dense humid forests at elevations of 500 to 2500 meters with simple or branched rhizomes carrying subclustered, ovoid to ellipsoid pseudobulbs subtended by several sheaths and carrying a single, grass-green, acute to obtuse leaf. It blooms throughout the year with several scarious sheaths that carry the slender, to 2" [to 5 cm] long, single flowered inflorescence with variable colored, long-lasting flowers.



Meiracyllium gemma



This dwarf, creeping, pseudobulbless, epiphyte is from southwestern Mexico and Guatemala with curved, ascending stems carrying a single, apical, sessile, obovate or oblong, rounded or obtuse, fleshy coriaceous leaf. It blooms in the fall through spring on a to 1 2/5" [3 cm] long, terminal, few [1 to 3] flowered inflorescence that is shorter than the leaves and has short triangular-ovate, acute floral bracts carrying fragrant [cinnamon] flowers. It is a cool to warm growing plant found on mossy trees in mixed forests at 700 to 1500 meters in altitude.

Meiracyllium trinasutum

A dwarf, creeping, epiphyte or lithophyte without pseudobulbs, from southern Mexico Guatemala and El Salvador with a terete rhizome enveloped by scarious sheaths with a stem carrying a single, apical, sessile, orbicular to broadly elliptic, obtuse or rounded, fleshy coriaceous leaf that blooms in the spring and early summer on a shorter than the leaf, terminal, several [1 to 6] flowered inflorescence that has short, triangular floral bract. It is a cool to hot growing plant that is found in canyons on trees and rocks up to 1300 meters in altitude.



Mexipedium xerophyticum



Discovered around 1990 in southern Mexico on limestone outcroppings with xerophytic vegetation surrounded by rainforests and warm oak forests at an elevation of 350 meters as a small sized, hot to warm growing lithophyte on eastern facing slopes that has moderate water in mid-spring, and heavy water through the summer. It needs a 3 month dry period from mid winter until spring. This species has conspicuous, erect, scarious sheathed, rhizome with 1.2 to 8" (3 to 20 cm, between each growth consisting of a short stem completely enveloped by a few to several, imbricate, distichous, linear, carinate, basally conduplicate and clasping leaves blooms on a pubescent, 2 1/2 to 5 1/2" long inflorescence arising from the leaf axils and carries one or 2 short-lived, small flowers occurring in the fall. The populations in the wild are so small that this orchid is endangered.

Mormodes badia



This epiphytic herb is endemic to the central Pacific coast in Nayarit and Jalisco on decaying wood of oaks and other trees at elevations of 300 to 1700 meters with ovoid to ovoid-fusiform pseudobulbs enveloped basally by several white, leaf-bearing sheaths and a has deciduous, plicate, oblanceolate to narrowly elliptic, acuminate leaves that blooms in the late fall and winter on a many (10 to 25) flowered, racemose, 18" (40cm) long, ascending inflorescence that arises from the mid-section of a mature leafless pseudobulb and has showy, simultaneously opening, fragrant flowers. As the leaves begin to die back in the early fall it is time to withhold water and fertilizer and within a month or so the bloom spike is initiated and the flowers arrive. Then, by late winter to early spring the new growth will arise denoting the time for watering and fertilizing anew.

Mormodes chrysantha



This is a small sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte that has fragrant flowers and needs a dry winter rest to bring on good blooming.

Mormodes cozticxochitl



Found from Guerrero and Oaxaca in warm pine-oak forests at elevations around 900 meters as a medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with several noded, ovoid to cylindrical-fusiform pseudobulbs enveloped by papery leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying several, plicate, articulate, deciduous, absent at flowering leaves that blooms in the late winter and early spring on a lateral, erect to ascending, to 14" (to 35 cm) long, 10 to 12 flowered inflorescence arising on a mature leafless pseudobulb carrying simultaneously opening, non-resupinate flowers.

Mormodes lineata

Found in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras at elevations of 500 to 1000 meters as a medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with oblong-conic, slightly compressed pseudobulbs enveloped basally by clasping sheaths that give rise to plicate, elliptic-oblong leaves that are deciduous and not present at blooming which occurs in the fall and winter on a basal, [22 cm] long, several [15] flowered, racemose inflorescence with fragrant flowers. Flowers on the same inflorescence can be polymorphic or in other words have different shapes.



Mormodes luxata



Found only on the Pacific slopes of Sinaloa, Durango, Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima and Michoacan on large oaks in pine-oak forests at elevations of 1400 to 2100 meters which flowers as the new growth arises and the plant is still in full leaf and has a lateral; 8 to 18" (25 to 40 cm) long, 20 to 40 flowered, racemose inflorescence.

Mormodes maculata



This medium to large sized, warm to hot growing species is endemic to Jalisco, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Vera Cruz and Puebla. It is found as an epiphyte and occasional terrestrial in mountain rain forest on rotten wood at altitudes of 600 to 2200 meters with cylindrical-fusiform pseudobulbs enveloped completely by imbricate, scarious leaf sheaths that carry plicate, deciduous, oblanceolate to narrowly elliptic, acuminate leaves that blooms on a racemose, arcuate, to 20" (50 cm) long, one-sided inflorescence that arises from the base of an immature growth, with up to 30, showy, facing upwards, foul smelling flowers occurring in the fall and early winter.

Mormodes oestlundianum



Found in Guerrero. No other information is available.

Mormodes pardalinata



Found only in Jalisco on oaks on hillsides in pine-oak forests at elevations around 1500 meters as a large sized, warm growing epiphytic species with oblong-conical, rugose pseudobulbs enveloped completely by leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying plicate, elliptic-lanceolate leaves that blooms in the summer on an erect to pendant, 10" (25 cm) long, to 30 flowered inflorescence that arises from the base of a newly matured pseudobulb and carries fragrant flowers with a chocolate aroma.

Mormodes sanguineoclaustra

Found in Guerrero in montane rainforests at elevations around 1400 to 2000 meters as a medium sized, warm to cold growing epiphyte with ovoid fusiform pseudobulbs carrying plicate, distichous, imbricate sheaths, green-glaucous leaves that blooms in the late spring and early summer on a basal, racemose, arcuate-pendulous, to 10" (to 25 cm) long, few to several flowered inflorescence arising on a newly arising pseudobulb with ovate bracts.



Mormodes tezontle



Found on the Pacific coast in Jalisco, Michoacan and Guerrero in tropical deciduous forests and warm oak forests on rotting wood at elevations of 1,000 to 1,400 meters as a medium sized, warm growing epiphyte with ovoid to ovoid-fusiform pseudobulbs enveloped by white-silver leaf-bearing sheaths with a short spine at the apex and carries several, basally clasping, plicate, deciduous, narrowly elliptic to oblanceolate, acuminate leaves and blooms while leafless on a lateral, erect, racemose, many flowered inflorescence arising on a mature leafless pseudobulb with showy, fragrant flowers that bloom in late winter and spring.

Mormodes tuxtzensis



This is a cool growing, rare epiphytic species isolated to the coastal plain of the Gulf of Mexico found on rotting tree trunks in high jungle with secondary growth at an altitude of 500 to 1200 meters with ovoid-fusiform pseudobulbs completely enveloped by imbricating leaf-bearing sheaths carrying basally clasping, plicate, deciduous, oblanceolate to narrowly elliptic, acute to acuminate leaves that blooms on a racemose, 2 1/4" (5.5 cm) long, erect-arcuate, several to many (6 to 17) flowered, lax inflorescence that arises from the base of an immature pseudobulb with showy, fragrant flowers that appear in the spring through fall.

Mormodes uncia

Found only in Oaxaca on rotten logs in deep humus accumulations in moderately dry cloud forest at elevations of 1700 to 2100 meters as a medium to small sized, cool to warm growing epiphyte with ovoid to ovoid-fusiform pseudobulbs enveloped basally by imbricate leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying distichous, plicate, narrowly elliptic, acute, basally clasping and articulate to the leaf sheaths below that blooms in the spring on a basal, one-sided, racemose, 6" (15 cm) long, few to several flowered, arcuate, pendulous inflorescence arising on the most recent matured pseudobulb as a new growth arises with subacute, ovate floral bracts and monomorphic, protrandric, wide open, resupinate flowers



Mormolyca ringens



From Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica as a small to medium sized, warm to hot growing epiphyte found on trees in dense humid forests from sea level to 1400 meters, with clustered pseudobulbs enveloped basally by distichous sheaths and carrying a single, apical, coriaceous, linear-ligulate leaf. It blooms on an erect, single flowered, 10" [24 cm] long inflorescence that has brown, scarious bracts and is longer or equal to the length of the leaves. It can bloom all spring and summer if well grown. Best planted in a wooden basket and given moderate shade and watered well during growth and a lessening after maturity.

Myoxanthus octomerioides



Found in Guerrero and Oaxaca at elevations around 1700 meters as a small to medium sized, warm growing epiphyte with stout, erect ramicauls enveloped by 4 to 6, hispidulous sheaths and carrying a single, apical, erect, thickly coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, subacute, cuneate below, conduplicate, subpetiolate base leaf that blooms in the fall on a fascicle of .05 to 0.1" (1 to 2 mm) long, successively single flowered inflorescence arising from the apex of the ramicaul and has sparsely pubescent floral bracts.

Myrmecophila exaltata

Found in southern Mexico and northern Guatemala on the Caribbean side in lower montane forests and scrub as a large to giant sized, hot growing epiphyte with thickly cylindrical, strongly ribbed, short pseudobulbs carrying 3 apical, rigid leaves. It blooms in the spring on a terminal, 7 foot [2.25 meters] long, paniculate inflorescence with many [to 80] dark purple flowers.



Myrmecophila galeottiana



This large sized, hot growing epiphytic plant is found on the Pacific side near sea level in Jalisco, Guerrero, Michoacan, Morelos and Colima at elevations of 25 to 400 meters on trees in river valleys and lowland tropical deciduous or sub deciduous forests with an elongate, terete pseudobulb that gradually taper towards the narrow apex carrying 2 to 4 thick, leathery, concave beneath, elliptic, obtuse and apiculate apically and gradually narrows below into the clasping base leaves that blooms on a terminal, erect, paniculate, 3' 4" to 6' 8" (1 to 2 meters) long, many flowered inflorescence opening in succession in the fall. This species is often found in conjunction with ants and may benefit from their presence.

Myrmecophila tibicinis



A giant sized, warm to hot growing epiphyte and sometimes lithophyte with several leaves that is found from Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Colombia in seasonally dry deciduous forests on trunks and larger branches often in full sun at elevations of 300 to 600 meters. It has huge, 18" [45 cm], hollow, pseudobulbs. There are 2 to 5 apical, elliptic-ovate leaves. These plants bloom in March or April and can be grown with year round

watering although it is better to give less through the winter. These plants must be mounted on a large wood mount as they do not like to be disturbed, and it does not take long for it to cover a branch. They have up to 15' [450 cm] long, erect, paniculate spikes with the successively opening, fragrant flowers in a cluster at the apex so thought must be put into space so the spikes don't get broken

Nitidobulbon nasutum

A wet montane forest, small to medium sized, hot growing, caespitose, fan shaped growth with small pseudobulbs that is found as an epiphyte or a terrestrial in the state of Chiapas in Mexico to northern South America at altitudes of 220 to 1800 meters with ovate,, sulcate pseudobulbs subtended by a fan of imbricating, subequal, leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 1 or 2 apical, lorate, coriaceous leaves. It blooms in the summer from a mature pseudobulb on an erect, basal, 2" [5 cm] long, single flowered inflorescence concealed by 4 to 5 loose, imbricate, elongate bracts holding the flower at mid leaf level.



Notylia barkeri

An epiphytic, miniature plant found on trees and shrubs in dense, humid forests as well as swamps and coffee ranches, at altitudes below 1600 meters from Southern Mexico south through Central America with clustered, ellipsoid, compressed pseudobulbs that are basally enveloped by non-foliaceous, scarious sheaths and carrying a single, apical, coriaceous, leaf. It blooms in the spring on an axillary, pendulous, racemose 12" [30 cm] long, laxly many flowered inflorescence with scarious bracts, with slightly fragrant flowers. It does well mounted on wood or tree fern. It requires warm to cool conditions, partial shade and should have even year-round humid conditions.



Oestlundia cyanocolumna



Endemic to Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosi, Guanajuato, Queretaro, Hidalgo, Puebla, Vera Cruz and Oaxaca as a mini-miniature sized, warm to cold growing, miniature sized epiphyte that occurs in oak forests at elevations of 1500 to 2000 meters with clustered, conical-ovoid pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, apical, distichous, arcuate, linear, acute, conduplicate leaves. It blooms in the spring and early summer with a terminal, arcuate-pendulous, racemose to branching (2 to 3), 1 1/2" to 12" (4 to 30 cm) long, slightly fractiflex, slowly successively 1 to 15 flowered inflorescence. It grows mounted on cork or tree fern or potted in chopped tree fern chunks with semi-shade, good air movement and watering while growing and a less water and fertilizer when resting.

Oestlundia ligulata

Found in Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Mexico, Morelos, Guerrero and Oaxaca at elevations of 1300 to 2100 meters as a miniature to small sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with ovoid to ovoid-spherical, clustered pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, apical, linear, acute to obtuse leaves and blooms in the late winter through early summer on a simple to few branched, 2 to 12 flowered, 6" (15 cm) long inflorescence with nodding, showy flowers. This species appreciates mounting on a rough barked branch with cool, very dry winters. Very similar to *O luteorosea* which has 5 rows of papillae or warty ridges while *O ligulata* has a wider warty median vein.



Oncidium altissimum

Found at altitudes of sea-level to 200 meters as a medium sized, hot growing epiphyte with clustered to ovoid to suborbicular, laterally compressed, rugose with age pseudobulbs enveloped basally by several imbricating leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 2 apical, oblong-ligulate, acute, conduplicate leaves. It is an easy plant to grow either potted or mounted with bright light and regular waterings. It blooms in the spring on a basal, arcuate, branched, 6' [180 cm] long inflorescence that has many, glossy flowers. It is one of the earliest orchids cultivated at Kew Royal Botanical Gardens and was brought in by Captain Bligh who at a latter date survived the Mutiny on the HMS Bounty in the Pacific.



Oncidium brachyandrum



Found in Sinaloa, Durango, Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos and Oaxaca. An epiphytic species with deciduous leaves in dry oak-pine forests at altitudes of 1600 to 2500 meters with ovoid to subglobose, slightly compressed, green, spotted with purple pseudobulbs basally covered with 4 subcoriaceous leaf-bearing sheaths with 2 to 3 apical, deciduous, narrowly elliptic acute leaves that blooms on a basal, racemose, erect to arcuate, 4 to 14" (11 to 34 cm) long, few (2 to 5) flowered inflorescence with triangular floral bracts arising on a mature pseudobulb with small showy flowers that appear in the spring.

Oncidium geertianum

A small sized, cool to cold growing epiphytic species found at elevations of 1600 to 2300 meters with a short rhizome giving rise to ovate, slightly laterally compressed, ancipitous pseudobulbs carrying 2, apical, lanceolate, acute leaves that blooms on an ascending to erect, spreading, decurved, 6 to 8 flowered, racemose inflorescence



Oncidium ghiesbreghtianum

A small sized, cold to warm growing epiphytic or lithophytic species that is found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico and Oaxaca in mountainous oak forests at elevations around 1400 to 2300 meters and grows well with Odontoglossum and has ovoid, conical or pyriform, grooved pseudobulbs with 2 apical, linear or linear-lanceolate, acute leaves that blooms on a laxly few (3 to 6) flowered, simple, erect to arcuate, 5 1/2" (14 cm) long, inflorescence arising in the spring through fall that is subtended by several sheathing bracts and arises on a newly forming pseudobulb.



Oncidium graminifolium

A small sized, warm to cool growing, terrestrial species from dry pine forests in south western Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras at elevations of 1100 to 2500 meters with an ovoid to elliptic, compressed, sulcate, pale green pseudobulb with 4 to 6 basal, subcoriaceous sheaths with the uppermost being leaf-bearing and 2 to 3 apical, narrowly linear-elliptic, deciduous leaves. It blooms in the summer on a racemose, sometimes branched, 12 to 30 " [30 to 75 cm] long, erect to arcuate inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb with triangular, scarious bracts that has 7 to 15, successively opening, showy flowers which open 2 to 5 at a time.



Oncidium hintonii



Found on the Pacific coast in Durango, Nayarit, Sinaloa, Jalisco and Michoacan in pine oak forests at elevations of 750 to 1800 meters as a medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte with ovate to elliptic, laterally compressed, ancipitous, 3 to 5 longitudinally grooved and ridged pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by 4 to 6, imbricate, leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying, 2 to 3, apical, narrowly elliptic to lanceolate, acute, erect to arching, slightly leathery, keeled dorsally, shortly conduplicate below into the base leaves that blooms in the spring on an axillary from the base, 16 to 47" (40 to 120 cm) long, many (15 to 72) flowered, paniculate inflorescence carrying successive to simultaneous opening, fragrant, showy flowers

Oncidium iricolor



Found in Oaxaca at elevations around 1300 to 1600 meters as a miniature sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with ovate, laterally compressed, ancipitous pseudobulbs carrying 2, apical, oblong-lanceolate, obtuse leaves that blooms in the fall on an erect, loose, 16 to 24" (40 to 60 cm) long, many flowered, paniculate inflorescence with 6 to 8 branches, each carrying 2 to 4 scentless flowers

Oncidium incurvum

Found in Mexico and Nicaragua in evergreen cloud forest and upper mountain rain forests at altitudes of 1300 to 2150 meters as a small to medium sized, cool growing epiphyte with an ovoid to ellipsoid, ribbed, compressed pseudobulb enveloped basally by several leaf-bearing sheaths and 1 to 3, acute to obtuse leaves. It blooms in the summer and fall on an erect to gracefully arching 3 to 5' [90 to 150 cm] long inflorescence from a mature pseudobulb and having many, weakly fragrant flower. This is a medium size epiphyte with clusters of compressed, ridged pseudobulbs. The long pointed leaves are carried at the top of the pseudobulb. Best grown under warm to cool conditions, with year round watering, but reduced in winter.



Oncidium karwinskii



Found on the Pacific coast on cool moist shaded slopes in montane forests at elevations around 1200 to 1700 meters as a small to medium sized, cool growing epiphyte with broadly ovate, laterally compressed, ancipitous, longitudinally grooved with age pseudobulbs enveloped basally by several, pairs of distichous, leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 2, apical, elliptic-lanceolate, subacute, gradually narrowing below into the conduplicate, short, narrow, petiolate base leaves that blooms in the fall through spring on an axillary, 39" (100 cm) long, paniculate, many flowered inflorescence with widely spaced branches.

Oncidium laeve

Found as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte of mountain rain forests and evergreen cloud forests at elevations of 1700 to 2400 meters with ovoid, strongly compressed pseudobulbs subtended by several pairs of leaf-bearing sheaths with 2 apical, oblong-lanceolate, obtuse to acute leaves that blooms on a 3 1/2' (110 cm) long, erect, robust, branched, many flowered inflorescence with several tubular bracts and scarious floral bracts and carrying showy, fragrant flowers that bloom in the summer and fall.



Oncidium leleui



Found in Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Oaxaca and Guerrero in deciduous forests with a dry season at elevations around 250 to 950 meters as a large to giant sized, hot growing epiphyte with elliptical to ovate, strongly laterally compressed, ancipitous, longitudinally grooved, clear yellow partially enveloped basally by several imbricate, leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 1 to 2, apical, acute, linear to strap-shaped, greenish-yellow, conduplicate below into a long, narrow petiole-like base leaves and blooms in the spring on an axillary, arching, 20 to 70" (47.5 to 175 cm) long, many flowered inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb and carrying widely spread flowers that are located from end to end of the inflorescence.

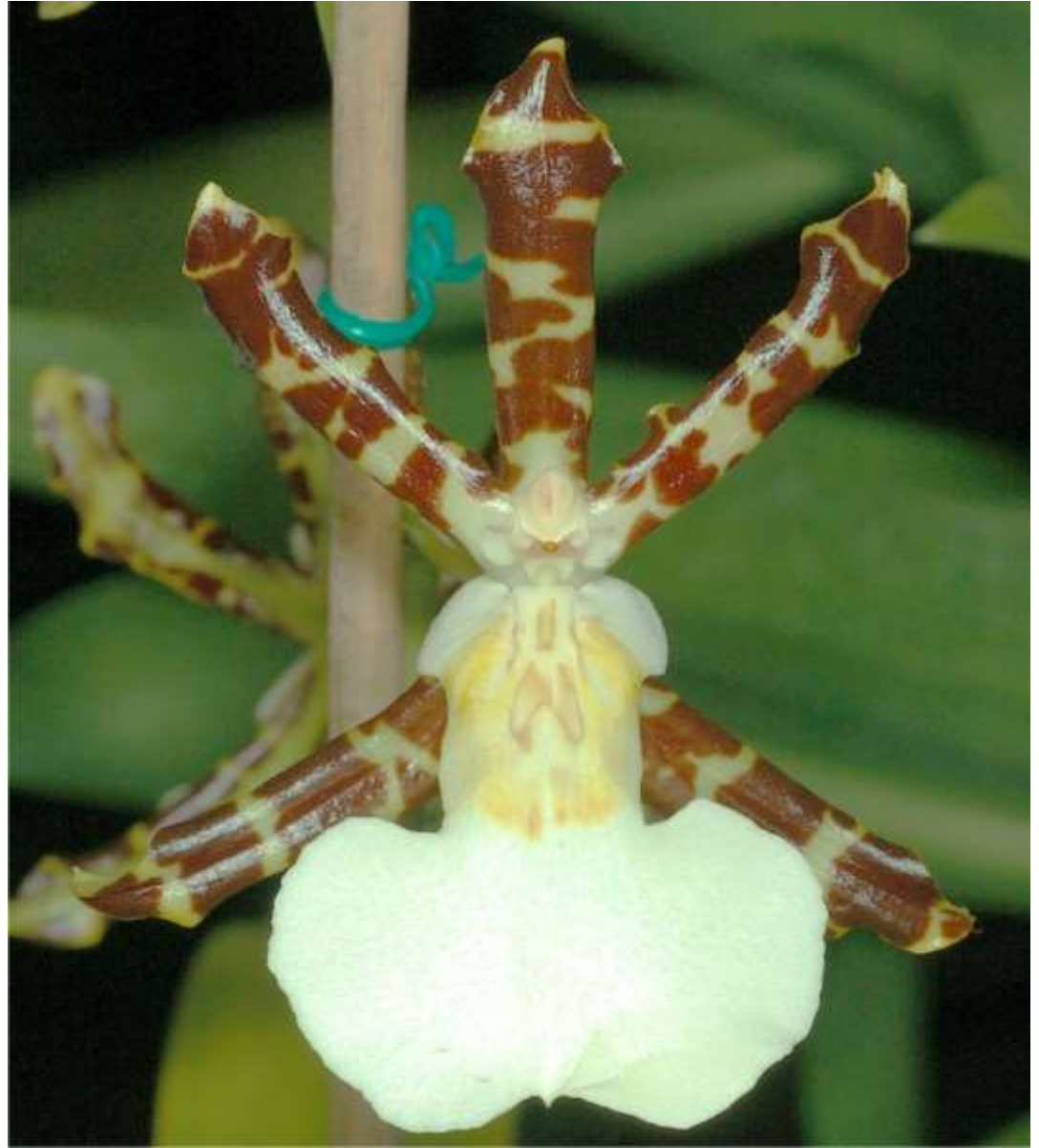
Oncidium leucochilum



This species is a large sized, cool to hot growing epiphyte found on trees in dry or humid forests up to an elevation of 2000 meters from Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras. It has ovoid to ovoid ellipsoid, compressed, 2 to 3 ribbed on each side pseudobulbs subtended by several scarious sheaths and carrying 2, apical, ligulate, coriaceous, conduplicate at the base, obtuse leaves. It blooms sometime in the spring through fall only once with an axillary, 1 to 12' [30 to 360 cm] long, many flowered panicle arising on a mature pseudobulb from the axils of the sheath with 7 to 10, well spaced branches with 2 to 5, variable sized, waxy, long lasting, fragrant flowers on each branch.

Oncidium oviedomotae

Found in Jalisco
and Michoacan.
No other
information is
available.



Oncidium reflexum



Found in Durango and Sinaloa in pine/oak forests at elevations of 1600 to 2100 meters near Corralitos, on oaks as a small sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with apple-green, ovate, laterally compressed, ancipitous pseudobulbs partially enveloped by 3 to 5, distichous, imbricating sheaths with the uppermost 3 being leaf-bearing and carrying 2 or 3, apical, arching, linear to strap-shaped, acute, keeled ventrally, slightly leathery, conduplicate below into the base leaves that blooms in the late fall and winter on an axillary, erect to arching, paniculate, to 4 simple branches, 30" (75 cm) long, several flowered inflorescence arising on a newly matured pseudobulb with slightly fragrant flowers.

Oncidium reichenheimii



This small to medium sized, warm to cool growing, epiphytic species can be found in Jalisco and Michoacan at an elevation of 1200 to 2300 meters with broadly ovate, laterally compressed, longitudinally rugose with age pseudobulb carrying 2 or 3, elliptic-lanceolate, rounded to acute, conduplicate below into the petiole-like base that blooms on a basal, 3 1/2' (105 cm) long, racemose, many flowered inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb and carrying showy, widely spread star-shaped flowers all occurring in the winter and spring.

Oncidium sphacelatum



This is a giant sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte and occasional lithophyte with compressed, oblong pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, linear-ligulate, suberect, rigid, acute leaves found in tropical and mountain rain forests in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Venezuela. It is found below 1000 meters and blooms in the spring with a basal, 6' [180 cm] long, lateral to pendulous, short branched, purple mottled panicle arising from the leaf bearing sheaths of a mature pseudobulb that has many showy, weakly fragrant flowers.

Oncidium stelligerum

Found in Guerrero, Jalisco and Michoacan at elevations of 1400 to 1900 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with a ovoid-ellipsoid, compressed pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by several, distichous, imbricating, leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 2 apical, elliptic-oblong, subacute, coriaceous, slightly conduplicate towards the base leaves that blooms in the winter on an axillary, erect to arching, 34" to 80" (80 to 200 cm) long, several branched panicle with large, showy, stellate flowers.



Oncidium tigrinum



Found in Jalisco and Michoacan on Pacific facing slopes at elevations of 1600 to 2300 meters as a medium sized, cool to warm growing epiphyte on oaks with subglobose, compressed, obtuse pseudobulbs enveloped basally by leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying 2 to 3 apical, linear-oblong or lanceolate, coriaceous, acute leaves and blooms on a stout, usually erect, loosely branched, to 3' (90 cm) long, multi-flowered panicle with long-lasting flowers that occur in the fall and winter.

Oncidium unguiculatum

Found in Guerrero, Mexico and Morelos at elevations of 1800 to 2600 meters as a warm to cold growing epiphyte with ovate, laterally compressed, ancipitous pseudobulbs partially enveloped below by 1 to 2 opposite pairs of leafless bracts and carrying 3 apical, lanceolate, acute, gradually narrowing below into the conduplicate base leaves that blooms on an erect, straight, peduncle as long as the rachis, paniculate, 4 to 6 branched, each ascending, many flowered inflorescence with each branch carrying 4 to 7, scentless, successive flowers.



Oncidium wentworthianum

Found in Mexico, El Salvador, and Guatemala at elevations of 650 to 1500 meters as a medium sized, cool to hot growing epiphyte with ovoid-ellipsoid, compressed, dark green mottled brown pseudobulbs enveloped basally by fibrous-scarious sheaths and carrying 2 apical, linear-ligulate to lanceolate, subcoriaceous, acute leaves. It blooms in the spring, summer and fall on a flexuose, branched, 7' [210 cm] long, few to many [3 to 15] flowered inflorescence with large, showy, fragrant flowers in clusters at apex of branches.



Platythelys quercetica



Found as a miniature sized, hot to cool growing, terrestrial, rhizomatous plant in Florida, Louisiana, Mexico, Central America, many Caribbean islands Venezuela and Peru in cloud forest in deep shade at elevations of 400 to 1650 meters with erect, green stems enveloped by with 3 to 5 spirally arranged, elliptic-ovate to lanceolate, basally clasping leaves with a distinct petiole. It blooms at any time of the year on an erect, terminal, to 4" [to 10 cm] long, racemose, many, successively flowered inflorescence subtended by an attenuate bract.

Pleurothallis crocodiliceps



Found as a small sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte at elevations of 400 to 3000 meters from Southern Mexico, to Peru and Venezuela with slender, erect ramicauls that are sharply ancapitous and 2 to 3 basal, tubular. It has a single, apical, rigid, sessile leaf that gives rise to a fascicle of solitary, successive flowers, arising through a reclining spathe, that is only 1/12th" [3 mm] long.

Polystachya foliosa

Found in Mexico, Central America, many Caribbean islands, and northern South America as a miniature to small sized, hot to warm growing, caespitose epiphyte on small trees in the canopy, or terrestrial, in wet, semideciduous montane rain forests, at elevations of sea level to 2000 meters. It has a tapered pseudobulb subtended by foliaceous, imbricating sheaths with 3, narrowly oblong to oblanceolate, acute leaves. It blooms in the fall and winter on a erect, 2" [5 cm] long, terminal, simple to few branched, densely flowered, paniculate inflorescence arising on a mature, ovoid pseudobulb, concealed by 3 to 4 linear-lanceolate leaves as long as the leaf with several, non-resupinate flowers.



Ponthieva racemosa



Found in the South-eastern states of USA as well as Mexico, Central America to northern South America, and the Caribbean islands at elevations of 200 to 4000 meters as a small to medium sized, hot to cool growing terrestrial with a basal rosette of broad, variable, elliptic to lanceolate to obovate, acute, petiolate, glabrous leaves. It blooms in winter and early spring on an erect, pubescent, 10" [to 25 cm] long, few to many flowered, racemose inflorescence with prominent bracts.

Prosthechea baculus

This medium sized, hot to cool growing, cockleshell epiphytic species is found in the states of Vera Cruz, Oaxaca and Chiapas in Mexico, also in Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica and south to Colombia and Brazil in lower montane forests at altitudes of 400 to 1700 meters with fusiform, slightly compressed pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, lanceolate to ligulate-elliptic, obtuse leaves. It blooms in the spring, summer and fall with an apical, short 2 1/2" [6.25 cm], erect, 2 to 3 flowered inflorescence with a prominent basal sheath arising on a newly matured, fusiform, cylindrical, bifoliate pseudobulb, with strongly fragrant [honey], inverted flowers.



Prosthechea brassavolae



Found in Mexico to Nicaragua and Costa Rica at altitudes of 900 to 2500 meters in wet pine oak and evergreen forest on larger branches and tree trunks as a medium sized, warm to cold growing epiphyte and occasional lithophyte with elongate, ovoid, bifoliate pseudobulbs with papery, basal bracts and an elliptic-oblong, obtuse leaf that becomes loosely conduplicate below into the base. It blooms in the summer and fall on an apical, erect, to 1 1/2' [45 cm] long, few to many [6 to 9] flowered, racemose inflorescence arising on a newly matured pseudobulb with faintly fragrant flowers.

Prosthechea citrina

Endemic to central and Southern Mexico, this small sized, pendant, epiphytic, warm to cool growing orchid with gray green foliage and pseudobulbs is found growing in light shade in oak and pine forests at elevations of 1300 to 2600 meters with clustered, pendant, ovoid, conical or fusiform pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 4, elliptic, obtuse or acute leaves. It blooms in the spring or early summer on an apical, pendant racemose inflorescence that is the 8" [20 cm] long with 1 or 2 fragrant waxy flowers smelling of citrus. This plant is best mounted on tree fern or cork in a pendant position where it should receive waterings while in growth and a long rest in the winter.



Prosthechea chacaoensis

Found in Central America, this medium sized, hot to warm growing, cockleshell epiphyte or lithophyte grows in open oak and deciduous forests from sea level to 1200 meters with gray green, subcylindric to ovoid pseudobulbs subtended by bracts with 2 to 3, subcoriaceous, narrowly elliptic leaves that blooms in the midwinter till early summer on an apical, 2 to 8 flowered, to 4" [to 10 cm] long, racemose inflorescence subtended by a basal sheath, that is shorter than the leaves and arises on a newly mature pseudobulb with fleshy, fragrant, nonresupinate flowers.



Prosthechea cochleata



This 'cockleshell orchid' has smooth, ovoid to oblong-elliptic, compressed pseudobulbs and can bloom for 6 months starting in the spring with an apical, erect, short to 15" [to 37.5 cm], few to many flowered, racemose inflorescence with a basal sheath that has successive opening, non-fragrant flowers. This medium sized epiphyte can be found throughout Central America and the Caribbean island in dense tropical evergreen, deciduous and oak forests at altitudes up to 1900 meters. It likes cool to warm conditions and even water and fertilizer throughout the year.

Prosthechea semiaperta



This small sized, hot to cool growing epiphytic or lithophytic species is endemic to Guerrero and Oaxaca in pine oak forest at elevations of 500 to 2500 meters with ellipsoid to fusiform, slightly compressed, bifoliate pseudobulbs carrying 1 to 3 apical, lanceolate, acute, conduplicate below into the base leaves that blooms in the spring on a apical, racemose, 6" (15 cm) long, several flowered inflorescence that is longer than the leaves and arises on a mature pseudobulb as a new growth emerges. There are up to 10 small, partially open, successively opening, resupinate flowers and is similar to *Encyclia livida* save the partially open flowers, a lip that is as wide between the lateral lobes (when spread) as across the midlobe. The lateral lobes clasp the column and the bifoliate pseudobulbs.

Prosthechea guttata



This species is found in Mexico in pine and oak or mixed forests at altitudes of 1400 to 2400 meters as a medium sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte found with loosely clustered, conical-ovoid to fusiform-ovoid pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, elliptic to oblong-ligulate, obtuse or acute leaves. It blooms in the spring to summer on an apical, 2 1/4" to 8" [6 to 20 cm] long, few to many [3 to 20] flowered, erect, racemose inflorescence with non-resupinate, successive opening, fragrant flowers.

Prosthechea livida

A smaller sized, hot to cool growing, mat forming epiphytic species found on cacti, trees and rocks in sunny locations within humid, seasonally dry forests from Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador at elevations from sea level to 1600 meters with ellipsoid, lightly complanate, bifoliate pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by scarious sheaths and carrying 1 or 2 apical, oblong-elliptic, attenuate to conduplicate into the petiolate base, acute to minutely bilobed apically, thin leaves. It flowers throughout the year but mostly in the late fall and winter, on an apical, 1.5 to 4 1/2" [4 to 11 cm] long, few [3 to 7] flowered inflorescence, arising on a mature pseudobulb as a new growth arises, that is shorter than the leaves and has flowers that do not open very well.



Prosthechea mariae



A warm to cool growing, medium sized, pendant epiphyte with 2 to 3, waxy gray, oblong or elliptic-oblong, acute foliage and ovoid, clustered, pseudobulbs. It is found at altitudes of 1000 to 1200 meters in dry oak forests in NW Mexico only. It is best mounted on wood or tree fern, and blooms in spring and summer with fragrant flowers on an apical, 2 to 11" [5 to 27 cm] long, suberect to arching, few [1 to 5] flowered inflorescence and is a semi-deciduous plant that requires a dry winter rest, moderate light.

Prosthechea radiata

Found in the states of San Luis Potosi, Queretaro, Hidalgo, Puebla, Veracruz, Oaxaca, Tabasco and Chiapas in Mexico, also in Guatemala, Honduras and Belize to Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela in varied type forests which include tropical evergreen, mixed pine and oak at an altitude of 150-2000 meters as a small to medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte with ellipsoid to elliptic-ovoid, slightly compressed, grooved pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by a few scarious sheaths carrying 2 to 4 lanceolate-elliptic, obtuse or broadly acute leaves. It is a very fragrant species that blooms in the fall, winter and spring on an apical, short to 4" [10 cm], few to many [4 to 12] flowered inflorescence with non-resupinate, heavy textured, cockleshell flowers and is easy to grow.



Prosthechea squalida

Found as a warm to cold growing, small to medium sized epiphyte or occasional lithophyte on rocks on hillsides and ravines found at elevations of 500 to 2300 meters in the states of Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Moreles, Oaxaca and Vera Cruz in various forest types with ellipsoid-fusiform pseudobulbs that are spaced 3/4 to 1" apart and carrying 1 to 4, apical, narrowly ligular-elliptic leaves that blooms in the winter through summer on a terminal, 4 to 6" [10 to 15 cm] long, racemose inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb and carrying five to twelve, inconspicuously fragrant flowers.



Prosthechea varicosa



Endemic to Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Morelos, Oaxaca, Vera Cruz, Puebla, and Hidalgo, this small sized, epiphytic, terrestrial or lithophytic species occurs at 1500 to 2800 meters in elevations in wet forests of oak and pine-oak with ovoid-fusiform to ovoid-elliptic, pseudobulbs that extend apically to a thin neck and carrying 2 to 3, apical, elliptic-oblong, to elliptic-lanceolate, acute or subacute leaves an inflorescence that is apical, erect or arching from 1 1/2 to 20" (75 to 80 cm) long, simple and has from 4 to 25 fragrant, long lasting, glossy textured flowers that blooms mostly in the winter or summer.

Prosthechea vitellina



Found in Mexico, Nicaragua and Honduras, in oak, pine/oak, and scrub around lava flows and cloud forests at altitudes of 1400 to 2600 meters as a medium sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte that blooms in the spring through fall on a apical, 12" to 18" cm [30 to 45cm] long, simple to few branched inflorescence that has a basal sheath and arises on a mature, conical-ovoid, slightly compressed pseudobulb with two, apical, subcoriaceous, narrowly elliptic, obtuse leaves carrying 4 to 12, long-lived, orange to deep scarlet, showy, resupinate, wide open flowers. It requires a dry winter rest ending with the onset of new growth in the early spring.

Ponthieva mexicana

Found in Michoacan, Mexico, Guerrero, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Queretaro and Chiapas in humus in crevasses in pine-oak forests or evergreen cloud forests at elevations of 1700 to 2700 meters as a small to medium sized, cool to cold growing terrestrial or lithophyte with an erect somewhat robust stem carrying a basal rosette of 2 to 5, spotted to absent at blooming, oblong, elliptic or widely oblanceolate, smaller towards the apex becoming subcauline, acute to obtuse, upside green with a very fine slightly darker reticulation, downside grey green, carinate, margins slightly rippled, narrowing below into the channeled, short petiolate base leaves that blooms in the fall



Prosthechea brachiata



Found in Guerrero and Oaxaca in moist pine-oak forests or relatively dry barranca forests or montane rainforests at elevations of 1700 to 2200 meters in very wet pine-oak forests as a small sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with loosely clustered, ovoid, strongly flattened pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical, coriaceous-subfleshy, elliptic to narrowly elliptic to oblong-elliptic, acute, strongly conduplicate basally leaf that flowers with an erect, 6" to 10" (15 to 25 cm) long, several to many (13 to 24) flowered, racemose inflorescence occurring in the fall through mostly spring and carrying strongly fragrant flowers.

Prosthechea chondylobulbon



Found in Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Oaxaca, Vera Cruz, Puebla and Chiapas in moist but seasonally dry pine-oak forests at elevation of 1000 to 2600 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing, cockleshell epiphyte on trees and lithophyte on cliff faces and large boulders that occurs in oak forest and scrub forest on lava fields with widely spaced, slightly compressed, fusiform, deeply longitudinally sulcate pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by a few imbricate, scarious sheaths and carrying 3 to 5 apical, linear to narrowly linear-lanceolate, acute or subobtuse, basally clasping leaves that blooms in the summer and fall on a short to 5 1/4" (13 cm), apical, 2 to 8 flowered, racemose inflorescence arising on a newly arising pseudobulb with fragrant flowers. This species is very similar to *Ana. radiatum* and differs only in less leaves (2 to 3) and has a distinct isthmus at the base of the lip before widening out to a transverse blade. *Ana. chacaoensis* differs in having less elongate pseudobulbs, less leaves (2) and smaller flowers with a shorter, less pointed lip.

Prosthechea concolor

Found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Mexico, Morelos, Guerrero, Oaxaca and Puebla as a miniature to large sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte in oak and oak-pine forests at elevations of 1500 to 2100 meters with clustered, ovoid, slightly compressed pseudobulbs carrying 1 to 2 apical, very coriaceous, ensiform, lanceolate to narrowly elliptic, acute to sub acuminate, conduplicate basally leaves that blooms in the winter through early summer on an apical, occasionally branched, 5 to 18" (12 to 45 cm) long, few to many (3 to 30) flowered inflorescence and carrying anise scented flowers. This species needs a very dry winter rest and likes bright light and hot to warm temperatures.



Prosthechea cretacea

Found in Michoacan, Mexico, Morelos, Guerrero, and Oaxaca as a medium sized, cold, pendent growing epiphyte in oak and oak-pine forests at elevations of 2200 to 2600 meters with clustered, ovoid to elliptic, laterally compressed, glaucous in youth, becoming blackish with age, pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, oblong-lanceolate, to sub elliptic, retuse, glaucous, coriaceous, basally clasping leaves. It blooms in the fall through early spring on a terminal, pendent, racemose, rarely paniculate, to 35 flowered inflorescence with triangular, acuminate floral bracts and carrying resupinate, waxy, slightly fragrant flowers.



Prosthechea ghiesbreghtiana



Found in Guerrero and Oaxaca on the Pacific coast as a miniature to small sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte in wet pine-oak forests at 2000 to 2700 meters in elevation with ovoid to ellipsoid, clustered pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, lanceolate to elliptic-ligulate, acute or obtuse leaves that blooms in the winter and spring with an apical, 1 1/2 to 5" (4 to 12 cm), few (1 to 5) flowered inflorescence with resupinate, fragrant flowers. Best grown mounted on tree fern, cold to warm temperatures, moderately bright light and watering while growing but less water and fertilizer in the winter.

Prosthechea greenwoodiana

Found in Oaxaca in montane forests at elevations around 2000 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with reverse pear-shaped, to elliptic pseudobulbs carrying 2 apical, narrowly elliptic-lanceolate, acute, basally clasping leaves that blooms at most any time of the year on a terminal, 10" (25 cm) long, 6 to 8 successively flowered, racemose inflorescence. This species is very similar to *P semiaptera* but differs in the shape of the pseudobulb, and the lateral lobes of the lip are narrower and curved differently in respect to the column.



Prosthechea guttata



This species blooms in spring to summer with an apical, 2 1/4" to 8" (6 to 20 cm) long, few to many (3 to 20) flowered, erect, racemose inflorescence with non-resupinate, successive opening, fragrant flowers. It is a medium sized epiphyte found in pine and oak or mixed forests at altitudes of 1400 to 2400 meters with loosely clustered, conical-ovoid to fusiform-ovoid pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, elliptic to oblong-ligulate, obtuse or acute leaves.

Prosthechea magnispatha



Endemic to Mexico as a medium sized, warm to hot growing epiphyte of wet montane oak and mixed forests at elevations of 800 to 1800 meters where it blooms in the fall and winter on an apical, simple, 4 3/4" to 12 " (12 to 30 cm) long, 4 to 7 flowered inflorescence. It is similar to *E. boothiana* except that the plant is larger and the flowers are at least twice as large in all parts, has blunter perianth segments, differently shaped petals and the midlobe of the lip is not emarginate.

Prosthechea obpiribulbon

Found from Oaxaca to Jalisco, as an epiphytic on oaks, near hillsides above streams, A small sized, warm to cool growing, rambling orchid occurring at elevations of 1300 to 2700 meters with inverted pear-shaped, slightly flattened pseudobulbs and 2 apical leaves that blooms on an apical, erect, $1 \frac{3}{5}$ to $5 \frac{1}{5}$ " (4 to 13 cm) long, racemose inflorescence that is shorter or equal to the leaves and occurs in the late summer and early spring.



Prosthechea pastoris



A small to medium sized, epiphytic species from the west coast found at 30 to 900 meters in pine oak forest, occasionally on rocks, with ellipsoid to fusiform, widely spaced pseudobulbs carrying 2 to 3, apical, narrowly elliptic-oblong to elliptic-ligulate, acute leaves that blooms in the spring through late summer with an apical, few (2 to 5) flowered, 4 3/4" (to 12 cm) long, racemose inflorescence that is as long or a bit longer than the leaves and all arising from an mature pseudobulb and has resupinate flowers.

Prosthechea pringlei

Found in Michoacan, Mexico, Morelos, Guerrero and Oaxaca as a miniature to small sized, warm to cool growing epiphytic species found at elevations of 1800 to 2500 meters in wet pine-oak forests with clustered, ovoid-pyriform pseudobulbs carrying 1 or 2 apical, erect to arcuate, widely linear, ensiform or narrowly elliptic-ensiform, acute to subobtuse, minutely apiculate, coriaceous, dark green, basally conduplicate leaves that blooms on an apical, erect, 3 to 6" (7 to 16 cm) long, 1 to 4 flowered, racemose inflorescence with descending, resupinate, non-fragrant flowers that bloom in the spring.



Prosthechea pterocarpa



A medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte and sometimes lithophyte, that is endemic to the wooded slopes of western Mexico in oak trees at elevations of 550 to 2200 meters with widely spaced, stalked, ovoid, somewhat flattened pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by 2, scarious sheaths and carrying 2 to 3, apical, narrowly linear, acute, conduplicate below and basally clasping leaves that blooms variably throughout the year on an apical, 6" (16 cm) long, erect, racemose inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb as a new one develops, with basal, scarious, triangular sheaths, that is the length of the leaves or less carrying 4 to 12, small, simultaneously opening flowers.

Prosthechea squalida



Found as a hot to cool growing, small to medium sized epiphyte or sometimes on rocks on hillsides and ravines at elevations of 500 to 2300 meters in Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos, Oaxaca and Vera Cruz in various forest types with ellipsoid-fusiform pseudobulbs that are spaced 3/4 to 1" apart and carrying 1 to 4, apical, narrowly ligular-elliptic leaves that blooms in the winter through summer with a terminal, 4 to 6" (10 to 15 cm) long, racemose inflorescence arising on a mature pseudobulb and carrying five to twelve, slightly fragrant flowers.

Prosthechea trulla

Found in oak or pine-oak forests, occasionally on rocks at elevations of 300 to 1500 meters as a small to medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte and occasional lithophyte with loosely clustered, pyriform to ellipsoid, laterally compressed pseudobulb carrying 2, apical, acute, narrowly elliptic leaves that blooms at most any time of the year on a racemose, 4 to 10 flowered inflorescence



Rhyncholaelia glauca

A medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte that is from the states of Veracruz, Oaxaca and Chiapas in Mexico, also Guatemala and Honduras, in open mountainous forests at elevations of 700 to 1600 meters with short, oblong-fusiform, slightly compressed pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical, erect, oblong-elliptic, coriaceous, glaucous, obtuse apically leaf that blooms in the spring on an erect, 4" [10 cm]long, single flowered inflorescence arising on a newly forming pseudobulb with a fragrant long lasting flower subtended by a large tubular sheath.



Rhynchostele aptera



A small to medium sized, cold to cool growing epiphyte, endemic to Sinaloa, Durango, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos, and Oaxaca in oak-pine forests at elevations of 2000 to 2800 meters, that is a beautiful member of the genus with a particularly large flower, and wrinkled, ovate, laterally compressed, 3" pseudobulbs enveloped basally by long, triangular, papery, leafless sheaths and are topped with a pair of light green, 10", acute, lanceolate, conduplicate below into the base leaves with pronounced veins. The basal, 5 to 8 " (12.5 to 20 cm) long, 2 to 5 flowered inflorescence emerges at any time of the year with new growths carrying up to 5, well spaced, showy blooms, the 4" (10 cm) cup shaped flowers are crystalline white with bold chocolate brown basal spotting and pointed sepals and petals. The arrowhead lip is white with the same brown spotting and a large bright yellow callus.

Rhynchostele bictoniensis



Found in Hidalgo, Vera Cruz, Puebla, Oaxaca and Chiapas as a large sized species. This large, cold to cool growing epiphytic or terrestrial species is found on trees in humid forests, on rock on cliffs and terrestrially, at 2000 to 3200 meters in altitude with elliptic, laterally compressed pseudobulbs subtended by 2 to 3, conduplicate, foliaceous bracts and carrying apically a single, elliptic-lanceolate, conduplicate leaf and it blooms on a erect, basal, to 1' (30cm) long, simple or few branched inflorescence arising on a newly formed pseudobulb with narrowly elliptic-lanceolate bracts in the winter and spring. It requires medium shade, even watering and humidity while in growth, and a cold, drier winter.

Rhynchostele cervantesii

This miniature to small sized species is endemic to Durango, Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Morelos and Oaxaca and grows as a cold to cool growing epiphyte in mixed pine/oak forests and on cliffs and rocky slopes at elevations of 1400-3200 meters. A cute dwarf species, the entire plant is under 6", and has clustered, grey green, ovoid, slightly flattened, four-angled, ancipitous pseudobulbs, that are brown or spotted with brown, carrying a single, apical, oblong, acute, leaf with a conduplicate petiole and blooms with 2 to 6, fragrant flowers on a nodding or pendant, to 8" (15 to 20 cm) long inflorescence with linear, acuminate, brownish bracts occurring in the winter through the spring. It is an evergreen species and requires a semi-dry winter rest, and a cool, humid, brightly illuminated area.



Rhynchostele cordata

Found in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Venezuela as a small to medium sized, cold to warm growing species. It is found epiphytically and sometimes terrestrially in the paramo [mist forest] that forms at 1900-3000 meters with ellipsoid-ovoid, flattened pseudobulbs subtended by several scarious, 2 to 4, conduplicate below and leaf-bearing above sheaths and carrying a single, apical, elliptic-lanceolate, apiculate, leaf that is conduplicate basally. It blooms in the spring on a basal, erect, 1 1/2' [30 to 60 cm]long, racemose, laxly few to several [4 to 12] flowered inflorescence arising from a mature pseudobulb. Pots or tree fern mounts suit this species fine as well as cool to warm temperatures, high humidity, and semi-shade.



Rhynchostele ehrenbergii



Found in Mexico as a miniature to small sized, cold to cold growing epiphyte that is similar to *L. rossii* but much smaller with ovate to roundish, laterally compressed pseudobulbs enveloped basally by a pair of leafless sheaths and carrying an apical, single, elliptic to elliptic-lanceolate, leathery, acute, conduplicate below into the elongate, petiole-like base leaf and blooms on a basal, short to 6" (6 to 15 cm), few (1 to 3) flowered inflorescence arising with a new growth occurring in the spring.

Rhynchostele galeottiana

Found in Oaxaca and Guerrero in cool to cold cloud forests of pine and oak at altitudes up to 3000 meters as a miniature sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte with dark green, brown spotted, ovate to roundish pseudobulbs enveloped in part basally by 1 to 2 leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying a single, apical, ovate to elliptic, acute leaf that flowers on a basal, arcuate to pendant, 2 3/4 to 4" (7 to 10 cm) long, racemose or paniculate, few flowered (1 to 4) inflorescence arising on a newly matured pseudobulb with a few fragrant, showy flowers occurring in the summer.



Rhynchostele x humeana

A naturally occurring hybrid between *Rhynchostele cordata* and *Rhynchostele rossii* found in Mexico. It is found in cloud forests at elevations of 2000-3000 meters.

Pots or tree fern mounts suit this species fine as well as cool to warm temperatures, high humidity, and semi-shade.



Rhynchostele maculata



Found in the states of Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico, Oaxaca, and Vera Cruz in Mexico and also in Guatemala at elevations of 1750 to 3000 meters in humid, montane, pine-oak forests on trees and rocks as a small to medium sized, cold to warm growing epiphyte with smooth, oblong, laterally compressed pseudobulbs subtended by 1 to 2 basal, foliaceous sheaths carrying a single [rarely 2], apical, lanceolate, apiculate, basally cuneate leaf. It blooms from the fall through the spring on a basal, erect, rarely branched, 2' [60 cm] long, several [3 to 6] flowered inflorescence arising through the leaf axil as a new growth matures.

Rhynchostele madrensis



Found in Guerrero and Oaxaca at elevations around 2000 to 2700 meters in mixed cloud forests as a small to medium sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte with oblong, clear-green, laterally compressed pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by 1 to 2, leaf-bearing sheaths and carrying two, apical, arching, linear-lanceolate, acute leaves that blooms in the late summer and fall on a basal, through the leaf sheath, 2 to 7 flowered inflorescence carrying fragrant, widely spread, flowers in an apical cluster.

Rhynchostele majalis

Found in Guatemala and Mexico in cloud forests at elevations of 2750 to 3000 meters as a medium sized, cold to cool growing epiphyte with rectangular-ellipsoid, laterally compressed pseudobulbs subtended by 2 to 3 leaf bearing sheaths and carrying a single, apical, elliptic to ligulate, obtuse to subacute leaf with a basal, conduplicate pseudopetiole. It blooms in the spring on a short, few [2 to 4] flowered inflorescence arising on a newly emerging growth that is shorter than the leaves.



Rhynchostele rossii



This is a cold to cool growing, miniature epiphytic species from the humid Nicaraguan, Honduran, Salvadorean, Guatemalan and Mexican cloud forests where it is found at elevations of 2000-3000 meters, with ovoid to subspherical pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by 2 conduplicate, acute sheaths and carrying a single, apical, elliptic to elliptic-lanceolate, acute, basally clasping leaf. It blooms in winter to spring on a newly matured growth with a arcuate to pendant, to 8" [6 to 20 cm] long, laxly few [up to 4] flowered inflorescence with lanceolate, acuminate bracts and is an evergreen miniature plant that requires even watering, medium shade and fertilizer throughout the year and cool temperatures through the summer.

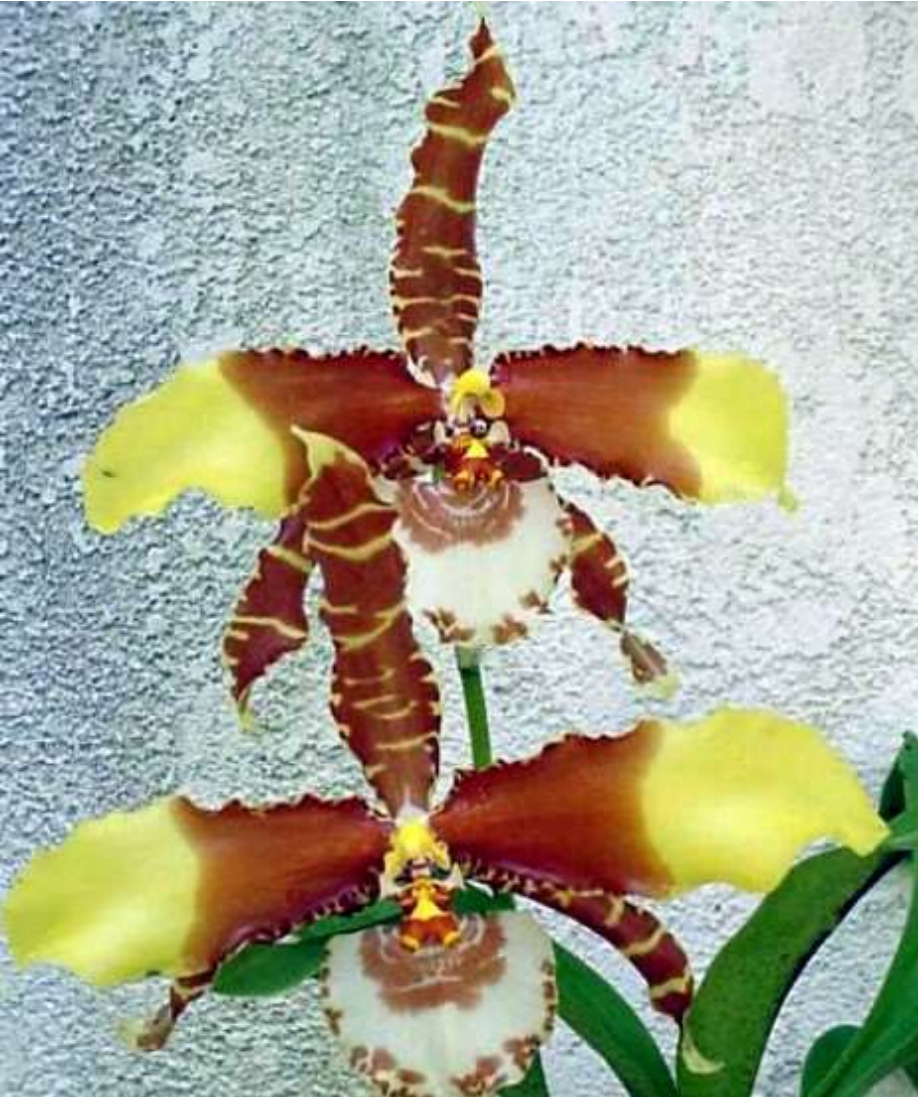
Rhynchostele stellata

This species is found from Mexico to Venezuela as a small sized, cold to cool growing, miniature epiphyte and is found on trees in cloud forests at elevations of 1700 to 3000 meters with ovoid-ellipsoid to cylindrical, slightly laterally compressed pseudobulbs completely enveloped basally by several sheaths. It has narrowly elliptic to oblanceolate or linear-ligulate, subobtuse to acuminate, narrowed and conduplicate towards the base leaves. It blooms in the spring with one or two flowers per erect, axillary, 3 to 6" [8 to 15 cm] long, racemose



inflorescence with inconspicuously fragrant flowers arising on mature pseudobulbs. This species has fine roots that are best potted into a fine bark medium where if given good shade and ample water will create a specimen plant rapidly as new pseudobulbs will be created each growth season.

Rossioglossum grande



Found in Guatemala, Belize and Mexico as a medium to large sized, epiphytic, warm to cold growing orchid at elevations of 1400 to 2700 meters in moist deciduous, rainforests with a distinct wet, shady [from leaves] spring and summer and much drier and brighter [fallen leaves] fall and winter. It has clustered, ovoid or orbicular, laterally compressed, ancipitous, glaucous, pseudobulbs carrying 1 to 3 apical, elliptic or lanceolate, coriaceous, glaucous, acute, petiolate leaves. It blooms in the late fall and winter on an axillary, lateral to erect, 12" [30 cm] long, racemose, several [2 to 8] flowered inflorescence with lanceolate, apressed, scarious bracts and waxy long lasting flowers.

Rossioglossum insleayi

A medium sized, cool to cold growing epiphyte occurring at higher elevations in oak/pine forests on Pacific facing slopes with ovoid, laterally compressed, ancipitous, longitudinally furrowed with age, grey green pseudobulbs partially enveloped basally by several, distichous, imbricating, triangular, acute, evanescent sheaths and carrying 2 to 3 apical, oblong-elliptic, arching to spreading, glaucous, grey green, acute and narrowed below into the conduplicate petiole-like base leaves that flowers on an erect, axillary, to 12" to 16" (30 to 40 cm) long, several (5 to 10) flowered inflorescence arising on a newly matured pseudobulb through the basal sheaths with faintly fragrant flowers occurring in the fall and winter.



Rhynchostele londesboroughiana



This medium to large sized, cool to warm growing, lithophytic or terrestrial species is from Guerrero at 1000 to 1200 meters in elevation, growing on cliffs in full sun with ovoid, bilaterally compressed, olive green pseudobulbs enveloped basally by 2 pairs of foliaceous sheaths and carrying 2 to 3 apical, linear-lanceolate, acute leaves that are deciduous after flowering. It flowers in the fall and has a basal, erect, to 6' (180 cm) long, racemose or few branched, many (15 to 30) flowered towards the apex. Its inflorescence is subtended by several sheaths and the long-lasting flowers are arranged alternately on the rachis. Formerly called *Mesoglossum londesboroughianum*

Rossioglossum splendens



Found in Nayarit and Jalisco on humid slopes and barrancas in oak, oak/pine or pine/fir forests on the pacific slope at elevations of 1300 to 2000 meters as a small sized, warm to cool growing orchid with round, laterally compressed pseudobulbs enveloped basally by a few leafless and leaf bearing sheaths and carrying 2, apical, linear, acute, gradually narrows and becomes conduplicate towards the base leaf that bloom in the fall on an axillary, 8" (20 cm) long, racemose, 6 to 8 flowered inflorescence arising through the axil of a leaf sheath of a newly developed pseudobulb.

Rossioglossum williamsianum

A medium to large sized, warm to cold growing epiphyte found on trees in dense forests at elevations up to 1000 meters with oblong-ellipsoid, laterally compressed, ancipitous pseudobulbs enveloped basally by 2 or more, large sheaths and carrying 1 to 2 apical, arching, elliptic, coriaceous, subacute or obtuse, shortly grooved petiolate leaves. It blooms in the spring and summer on an axillary, erect, to 12" [30 cm] long, several [to 8] flowered inflorescence arising on a recently matured pseudobulb along the axil of a basal sheath with spathaceous, subacuminate bracts. It is a rare find in Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras..



Sacoila lanceolata



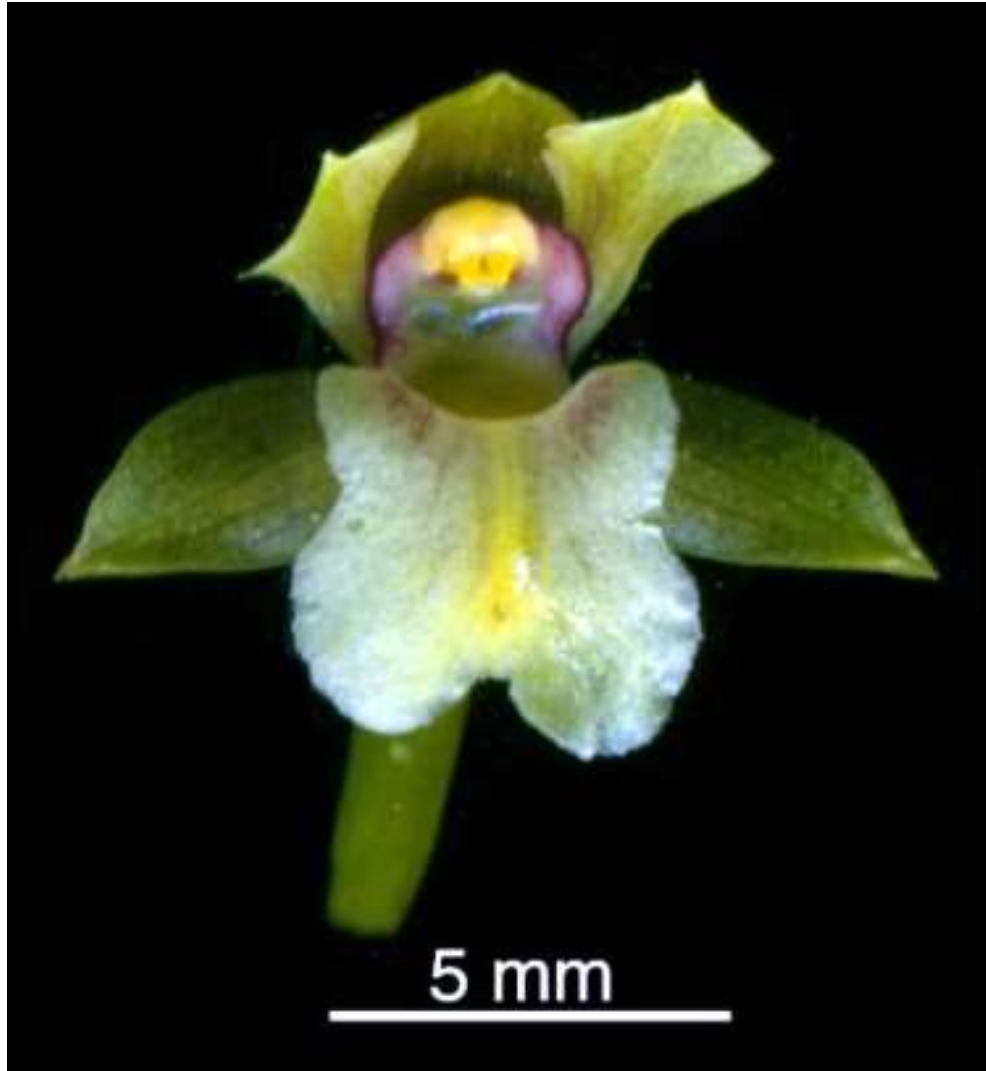
A small to large sized, erect, hot to cool growing terrestrial herb found in Florida, Mexico, Central America and many Carribean islands at elevations of 100 to 1700 meters with thick, tuberous, hairy and fleshy roots. It has a spiral rosette of 3 or more, dark green, abaxilly carinate leaves. It blooms in the spring through fall on a terminal, stout, erect, 12" to 36" [30 cm to 90 cm] long, scape terminating in a glandular-pubescent, densely many flowered racemose inflorescence with the flowers clustered towards the apex. Often found by roadsides in open grassy places or in open areas of tropical deciduous forests.

Sarcoglottis pauciflora

Found in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras at elevations around 1300 to 2100 meters on hillsides, grassy openings in montane oak/pine forests as a medium sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial with a stout, short stem, with several, basal, petiolate, elliptic to ovate-elliptic, acute leaves. It blooms in the fall on a loosely few flowered, to 6" [15 cm] long racemose inflorescence with scarious, elliptic-lanceolate, long pointed floral bracts and flowers that smell strongly of lemon. It has no leaves at flowering.



Scaphyglottis confusa



Found in Chiapas state of Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua in pine-oak-liquambar forests and lower montane forests at elevations around 700 to 2300 meters as a medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte with superposed, cylindrical, sulcate pseudbulbs carrying 2, erect-patent, linear, obtuse, unequally bilobed apically, glabrous leaves. It blooms in the spring on a fasciculate, successively single, few flowered inflorescence.

Sobralia decora

A medium sized, reedstem orchid that grows on steep, damp hillsides or shaded ravines and along streams in lower rainforests at elevations of 50 to 1700 meters either as a terrestrial or occasional epiphyte from Mexico to Honduras with black-warty or scurfy leaf sheaths and lanceolate to lanceolate-oblong, long-acuminate, plicate, basally clasping leaves that blooms on a terminal, short, inflorescence with several, fragrant flowers opening in succession It blooms in the fall and winter for less than one day for each flower. Best grown in wooden slat boxes with hot to warm temperatures.



Sobralia galeottiana



Found in Sinaloa, Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Mexico, Guerrero and Oaxaca on embankments in tropical deciduous and sub deciduous forest at elevations of 800 to 1500 meters as a medium to large sized, warm to cool growing terrestrial or lithophyte with reed-like stems that are adventitious at the inflorescence carrying distichous, plicate, lanceolate-narrowly elliptic, long acuminate, abaxially pubescent leaves that blooms in the mid summer through mid fall on a terminal fascicle, of successively single flowered inflorescence with ephemeral flowers

Specklinia grobyi



A miniature, cool to hot growing, caespitose, epiphytic species found from Mexico, to northern South America in cool lower cloud forest, piedmont forests and gallery forests at elevations of 60 to 3200 meters, with a single, apical, sub-orbicular-oval to elliptic, attenuate to a channeled petiolate base, tridenticulate leaf. It blooms on an apical, racemose, 1" to 6" [2 to 8 cm] long, longer than the leaf, fractiflex inflorescence with a triangular bract and a few flowers opening in succession that can be variable in its flower colors and blooming times. Needs to be mounted on tree fern and given warm to cool temperatures with good shade, high humidity and ample air movement.

Specklinia lanceola



Found in Jamaica, Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Colombia at elevations of 800 to 1500 meters as a miniature sized, warm growing epiphyte with an erect ramicaul carrying a single, apical, erect, coriaceous, linear-lanceolate, acute to obscurely tridenticulate, gradually narrowing below into the elongate, petiolate base leaf. It blooms in the fall and winter on a single, filiform, 1 to 1.12" [2.5 to 2.8 cm] long, 1 to 3 flowered inflorescence.

Specklinia picta



This caespitose, miniature sized, epiphytic species is found in the Caribbean, Central and northern South America in wet montane and piedmont forests at elevations of 70-2100 meters with short, minute, ramicauls encased by 3 shortly imbricate, open subtubular papery

sheaths with a single, apical, narrowly oblanceolate, long attenuate, channeled to the petiolate base, apex tridenticulate, coriaceous, dark green leaf. It blooms in spring through late summer on a lateral, 4" [10 cm] long, from the apex of the ramicaul filiform, slightly fractiflex, racemose, several [8 to 11] flowered inflorescence with minute, ovate-triangular, pale brown floral bracts that is much longer than the leaves.

Specklinia tribulooides



Found in Mexico, Central America and a few Caribbean Islands, as an epiphytic species found at altitudes of 300 to 1300 meters in dense, wet, evergreen or deciduous forests growing on oaks in open fields as a miniature, cool to hot growing densely caespitose, unifoliate epiphyte. It blooms in the late summer and fall on an apical, short 1/4", few [to 4], successively flowered, racemose, inflorescence that holds the

flowers close to the base of the subcoriaceous elliptic-oblongate, apiculate, gradually narrowing below into the petiolate base leaf and subtended by a very short ramicaul enveloped basally by 2 to 3 tubular sheaths. The flower can have a cockleshell burr-like appendage at its base, this being the forming seed pod. After the flower has disappeared the seed pod matures and turns dark blue-green. Give this species cool to warm temperatures, year round water and moderate to heavy shade. It can be mounted or potted in a well draining medium.

Stanhopea dodsoniana

Found on the Southwestern coast of Vera Cruz, Oaxaca and Chiapas in wet tropical rainforests and lower montane rainforests at elevations of 150 to 950 meters as a medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte elliptic, longitudinally sulcate, dark green pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical erect, elliptic, plicate, gradually narrowing into the elongate channeled petiolate base leaf that blooms in the summer on a basal, pendant, 12" (30 cm) long, 4 flowered inflorescence enveloped completely by several, inflated, imbricate, acuminate bracts and floral bracts covering all of the ovaries and carrying large, showy, fragrant flowers.



Stanhopea graveolens



A cool growing epiphyte or lithophyte from Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras in forests up to 2700 meters with ovoid-conical to rhomboidal, sulcate, slightly compressed pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical, elliptic-lanceolate to broadly obovate-elliptic, abruptly acute, petiolate, sulcate leaves. It needs a wire basket culture as the few large, showy, fragrant, waxy flowers, which are incredibly complex, descend from the bottom of the plant in the spring and early summer. on a short, pendulous, 1 to 6 flowered inflorescence with papery, spathe like bracts.

Stanhopea hernandezii



Found in Morelos, Mexico, Michoacan and Guerrero at elevations of 1700 to 2250 meters usually on sloping rocks as a medium to large sized, warm to cool growing occasional epiphyte, terrestrial or lithophyte that has obliquely ovoid-conical pseudobulbs enveloped basally by scarious sheaths and carrying a single, apical, oblong to elliptic-lanceolate, acuminate, shortly petiolate, plicate leaf that has large fragrant, waxy flowers on a pendulous, stout, 2 to 3 flowered inflorescence with several papery, spotted sheathing bracts occurring in the spring and summer.

Stanhopea intermedia

Found on the Pacific slope in Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Guerrero and Oaxaca on trees and rocks in ravines and rather humid oak-pine forests at elevations around 900 to 1700 meters as a medium sized, warm growing epiphyte with slightly flattened, almost smooth pseudobulbs carrying yellowish-green leaves with a short petiole and blooms in the summer and early fall on a pendant, 2 to 3 flowered, short inflorescence with 4 imbricating bracts and conduplicate floral bracts all carrying very fragrant, large flowers



Stanhopea maculosa



Found near the Southwest coast and slopes of the Sierras of Nayarit, Colima, Sonora, Michoacan and Guerrero at elevations of 1000 to 1500 meters as a medium sized, warm growing epiphyte needs a distinct winter dry season to bloom, with a few, crowded, ovoid or narrower, smooth pseudobulbs carrying erect, elliptic, acuminate, gradually narrowing below into the stout, petiolate base leaves with blooming occurring in the late spring and summer on a pendant, to 10" (to 25 cm) long, 2 to 10 flowered inflorescence with inflated, scarious, clasping, broadly ovate bracts and similar floral bracts all carrying fragrant flowers that have a sweet scent of apricots.

Stanhopea martiana

Found in Nayarit, Jalisco, Guerrero and Oaxaca as a medium sized, cool to hot growing lithophyte on rocks in shaded semi-deciduous forests occurring around 1200 to 2100 meters in elevation with a few, clustered, ovoid, deeply rugose pseudobulbs enveloped partially below by scarious bracts that become fibrous with age and carrying a single, apical, elliptic, plicate, acuminate, erect, gradually narrows below in to the stout petiole and blooms in the late spring and summer on a pendant, often 2 flowered, to 8" + (20 cm) long inflorescence with ovate clasping bracts and narrower floral bracts and has waxy, large, fragrant flowers.



Stanhopea oculata



Found from Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Colombia, Venezuela and southern Brazil as a medium sized, hot to cold growing epiphyte on trees in humid forests or as a terrestrial on cliffs in rocky soil at 1000 to 3000 meters in altitude with obliquely ovoid, pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical, elliptic or broadly lanceolate, acute or acuminate, plicate, gradually narrows below into the elongate, petiolate base leaf, it also requires a wire basket as the showy, vanilla scented, waxy flowers descend in the summer from the bottom on a pendulous, 10" [to 25 cm] long, 5 to 9 flowered inflorescence from a mature pseudobulb with several distichous, inflated sheaths. They like semi deep shade, sphagnum moss with some wood chips and charcoal added.

Stanhopea saccata



Found in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama as a medium sized, hot growing epiphytic species found on trees in open humid oak-pine forest at elevations of 300 to 1500 meters with oval, strongly ribbed and furrowed with age, pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical, erect, plicate, coarse, leathery, lanceolate, acute, gradually narrowing below into the channeled, petiolate base leaf. It blooms in the summer on a pendant, one to few flowered, 10" [25 cm] long inflorescence subtended by large, triangular, acute, chartaceous bracts with flowers that smell of orange or cinnamon.

Stanhopea pseudoradiosa

Found in Guerrero, Colima and Oaxaca on the western slopes at elevations of 750 to 1300 meters as a medium sized, cool to warm growing epiphyte and differs from *S. radiosa* by having a less deeply saccate hypochile with a very narrow opening, the horns are elongate triangular and not oblanceolate and it has a free tooth-like callus on the base of the epichile.



Stanhopea radiosa



This species is found in the north Pacific coast of Nayarit, Jalisco and Oaxaca on rocks or trees in oak and pine-oak forests at elevations of 200 to 1500 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with ovoid, crowded, apically truncated, rugose pseudobulbs partially enveloped below by scarious sheaths becoming fibrous with age and carrying a single, apical, plicate, erect, elliptic, acute, gradually narrows below into the sulcate, slender petiolate leaf that blooms in the late spring and summer on a pendant basal, 1 to 3 flowered, to 10" (to 25 cm) long, inflorescence enveloped by scarious sheathing bracts and having ovate, inflated sheathing floral bracts all carrying fleshy, waxy, fragrant, cinnamon scented flowers.

Stanhopea tigrina



A cool to warm growing, medium sized, epiphytic species found at elevations of 600 to 1700 meters with ovoid, slightly compressed, dark green pseudobulbs carrying a single, apical, plicate, elliptic, petiolate, dark green leaf that blooms on a pendulous, 2 to 8 flowered, 6" (15 cm) long inflorescence that is subtended by large, chartaceous bracts, and carries large, fragrant flowers occurring in the summer and fall.

Stelis argentata



Found at elevations of 120 to 2200 meters as a miniature sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte in Mexico, south to Brazil, in tropical rainforests with clustered, lightly complanate ramicauls enveloped by a large, subinflated tubular, scarious sheath and a single, apical, oblong, tapered to the base into the cuneate petiole, slightly tridentate at the apex, coriaceous leaf. It blooms in the summer and fall on an erect, 4" [10 cm] long, racemose, several to many flowered inflorescence with minute floral bracts.

Stelis emarginata

This small sized, cool to cold growing epiphytic species can be found in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua on oaks in wet or dry forests at elevations of 1800 up to 3500 meters with erect or ascending, clustered, terete pseudobulbs subtended by scarious, tubular sheaths and carrying a single, apical, suberect to erect, elliptic-oblongate, fleshy, obtuse and minutely retuse apically, gradually narrows below into the elongate conduplicate, petiolate base leaf. It blooms mostly in the summer on a terminal, arcuate, simple, longer than the leaf, 3 to 14" [7 to 35 cm] long, laxly many [100] flowered inflorescence that has scarious, tubular spathaceous bracts and simultaneously opening flowers.

Mount this species on tree fern or in small pots with tree fern fiber and give a cool moist environment with moderate indirect light and never allow to dry completely.



Stelis immersa



This miniature to small sized, warm to cool growing growing epiphyte is found in the states of Oaxaca, Veracruz and Chiapas in Mexico, also in Guatemala, Honduras, Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador in montane rainforests and elfin forests at altitudes of 800 to 1800 meters with stout stems enveloped basally by 2 brown, scarious sheaths carrying a single, apical, coriaceous, oblong-oblanceolate, obtuse and retuse apically, gradually narrow below into the conduplicate, petiolate base, lustrous bright green leaves. It can bloom several times a year but most often in the summer on an apical, fractiflex, wiry, 6 1/2" to 16" [16 cm to 40 cm] long, racemose inflorescence with several nodding, non-fragrant flowers held longer than the leaves and arising from the midrib at mid leaf.

Stelis longispicata

Found in humid montane forests, on steep volcanic slopes and alluvial flats. Along the Rio Cordoban in sandy and rocky soil as a miniature to small sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte that blooms in the fall



Stelis megachlamys



Found in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Costa Rica and Panama as a medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte in mixed oak-pine cloud forests at elevations of 700 to 2400 meters with erect ramicauls enveloped basally by 2 to 3, somewhat inflated sheaths and carrying a single, apical, elliptic to oval or lanceolate, obtuse, narrowing below into the conduplicate petiolate base, coriaceous leaf. It blooms in the winter on a racemose, erect, to 14" [to 35 cm] long, loosely several to many [to 20] flowered inflorescence arising from a large, inflated basal spathe with simultaneously opening flowers.

Stelis pachyglossa

A Central American, medium sized, caespitose, hot to cool growing epiphytic, rarely terrestrial species found from Mexico, Guatemala and Costa Rica in lower montane rain forests at elevations of 500 to 1700 meters with stems that are enveloped with tubular bracts carrying a single, shortly petiolate, elliptic, acute leaves. It blooms in late winter and early spring on an apical, subflexuous, 10" [25 cm] long, racemose, longer than the leaves, few to several flowered inflorescence that has successive opening flowers.



Stelis quadrifida

This small to just medium sized, hot to cool growing epiphytic or occasional lithophytic species is found in Jamaica, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela at altitudes up to 1800 meters in wet, exposed locations often in scrub forest with erect, terete, ramicauls carrying a single, apical, coriaceous, linear to oblong-elliptic or oblanceolate, retuse and obtuse apically leaf. It blooms mostly in the summer on an apical, erect, simple, to 15" [38 cm] long, simultaneously opening, many flowered, inflorescence subtended by a compressed sheath with the sweetly scented flowers held all to one side of the inflorescence which extends well above the leaves. Grow in a pot or mounted with semi-shade and give cool to hot temperatures with year round moisture and good air movement.



Stelis retusa



Epiphytic on oaks in Oaxaca. It blooms on an apical, racemose, short, few flowered inflorescence that is held close to the base of the leaf and has the flowers that open in succession.

Stelis resupinata



Endemic to Michoacan, as a warm to cool growing epiphyte and rarely lithophyte in moist pine-oak forests and evergreen cloud forests from 1500 to 2700 meters in elevation with filliform, flexuous ramicauls enveloped basally by 1 or 2, tubular sheaths and carrying a single, apical, elliptic, obtuse, petiolate, spotted with reddish brown leaf that blooms on an apical, erect, 1 1/2 to 3" (4 to 8 cm) long, elongate, fractiflex, elongating, raceme with a few successive opening flowers held above or at the leaves, that appear in the spring through the winter.

Stelis rufobrunnea

Found in western Mexico at elevations of 1800 to 2600 meters as a mini-miniature sized, cool growing epiphyte with slender, erect ramicauls enveloped mostly by a 2 to 3 tubular sheaths and carrying a single, apical, coriaceous, narrowly obovate, subacute to obtuse, narrowly cuneate below into the indistinct petiolate base leaf that blooms in the later summer fall and winter on an erect, distichous, 1 to 2" (2.5 to 5 cm) long, nearly simultaneously many flowered, racemose inflorescence arising laterally from the ramicaul and has infundibular floral bracts.



Stelis segoviensis



Found in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Ecuador at elevations of 350 to 2300 meters as a miniature sized, hot to cool growing epiphyte on tree trunks in dense forests and open woodlands with caespitose, slender ramicauls enveloped basally by 2 to 3 scarious, apressed sheaths and carrying a single, apical, erect, oblong-ligulate, obtuse and retuse apically, gradually narrowing below into the conduplicate base leaf. It blooms in the winter and spring on a solitary, laxly few to many flowered, to 7" [17.5 cm] long, filiform inflorescence with tubular, acuminate floral bracts.

Stelis villosa



Found in Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero, Mexico and Morelos as a miniature to small, warm to cool growing epiphyte around elevations of 1800 to 2600 meters with slender, terete ramicauls that become triangular in cross-section above and are enveloped basally by a few scarious sheaths and carrying a single, apical, elliptic, obtuse and emarginate apically, keeled near the base abaxially sessile at the base leaf and blooms on an apical, fractiflex, 6" (15 cm) long, few flowered inflorescence arising through a small spathe that is longer than the leaf and has successive opening flowers occurring at any time of the year but especially during winter.

Stenotyla lendyana

An epiphytic species found on tree trunks in humid montane cloud forests from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua at elevations of 900 to 1700 meters as a small sized, cool to warm growing orchid with no pseudobulbs and a fan-shaped group of basally overlapping, strap-shaped leaves that are keeled dorsally and conduplicate below into the leaf base. It blooms in the late spring and summer on a 6" [15 cm] long, erect stalk arising from the leaf axils or the base of the leaf fan carrying a solitary flower held at mid-leaf.



Trichocentrum andreanum



Found from Vera Cruz to Chiapas at elevations of sea level to 1200 meters as a small sized, mule ear, hot to warm growing epiphyte with small cylindrical pseudobulbs carrying a single, coriaceous, light green, speckled with red dots, ovate, acute leaf and blooms in the summer through early fall on a basal, 12" to under 36" (30 cm to less than 90 cm) long, several to many flowered inflorescence that carries variable colored flowers. This plant is often confused with *Oncidium carthagenense* and *O. cosymbephorum*.

Trichocentrum cavendishianum



This is a medium sized, mule ear Oncidium that is found from Mexico to Honduras at altitudes up to 2800 meters as a cool to warm growing epiphyte with very small pseudobulbs that are enveloped by several scarious, distichous sheaths and carrying a single, apical, erect, broadly lanceolate or elliptic, fleshy coriaceous, acute or subobtuse, gradually narrows below into the conduplicate base leaf. It blooms in the winter and early spring with an erect, 3' [90 cm] long, branched, many flowered panicle arising on a newly matured pseudobulb with showy, waxy, fragrant flowers.

Trichocentrum cebolleta

This medium sized, hot to cool growing, caespitose, epiphytic species with terete, sulcate, erect or suberect, fleshy leaves and very small, tubular pseudobulbs that are subtended by large white sheaths and is found in the American tropics in seasonally dry or moist forests and is the most widespread Oncidium. It is found at elevations of 150 to 1700 meters in xerophytic conditions where it blooms in the late winter and spring with a basal, arcuate, 2 1/2' (75 cm) long, simple or short branched, multi-flowered raceme arising on a newly matured pseudobulb. This pendulous to lateral growing orchid needs to be mounted on tree fern or wood and likes high light and humidity and water while growing and less to none when mature. This plant was used by the Pre-Columbian Indians in central America as a type of hallucinogen.



Trichocentrum flavovirens



Found as a mule-eared epiphyte or lithophyte in the humid, tropical, deciduous forests of western coastal Mexico in Jalisco and Colima at elevations of 900 to 1250 meters with small, strongly compressed pseudobulbs subtended by several basal sheaths with the uppermost being leaf bearing, and a single, apical, elliptic, acute, fleshy coriaceous leaf that blooms on a basal, paniculate, 16 to 30" (40 to 75 cm) long, erect-arcuate, to 50 flowered inflorescence with triangular, papery bracts arising on a newly emerging pseudobulb that has several showy flowers that appear in the late summer and winter.

Trichocentrum luridum

Found as a large sized, hot to warm growing epiphyte in Vera Cruz and San Luis Potosi with small pseudobulbs carrying a single, erect, narrowly elliptic, ventrally keeled leaf that blooms in the late summer and fall on an erect, to 4' (120 cm) long, erratically branched, racemose, many flowered inflorescence with successive opening flowers arising from a basal leaf sheath. The flowers are about 1" in diameter, and according to Weyman Bussey this species is a variant of *Onc. luridum* or *Onc. carthagenense* or a separate species. When looking at all three species, one can see differences in habit and inflorescence like in this one that has a very erect spike and only becomes slightly arcuate as the large flowers open and bloom.



Trichocentrum margalefii

This small sized, warm to cool growing, epiphytic, mule-eared species is found in pine-oak and mountain rain forest at elevations of 1900 to 2100 meters on the southern Pacific coast with subcylindric, fairly small pseudobulbs subtended by several triangular, purple at the apex sheaths with a single, apical, oblong elliptic, coriaceous, succulent, acute leaf that blooms on a basal, 12 to 16" (30 to 40 cm) long, several (6 to 15) flowered, racemose inflorescence with a few scarious bracts and an ovate to triangular floral bract arising on a mature pseudobulb and having showy flowers in the late fall and winter.



Trichocentrum oestlundianum



Found in Jalisco, Michoacan and Nayarit near the Pacific coast in mangrove swamps, wooded roadsides and barren lava flows as a small sized, hot to warm growing, mule-eared epiphyte or occasional lithophyte at elevations of sea level to 1300 meters with small ovoid pseudobulbs partially enveloped below by triangular, leafless sheaths carrying a single, apical, oblong-lanceolate, purplish leaf that is keeled below that blooms in the late spring and summer on an axillary, erect, 18" long, racemose, successively opening inflorescence arising from the base of a newly matured pseudobulb with only a few, waxy, long lived flowers open at a time. This racemose inflorescence can expand over time and new flowers can appear over the blooming period on the old spike.

Trichocentrum stramineum



A mule-eared, small sized, hot to cool growing epiphytic species that is endemic to central Vera Cruz in tropical semi-deciduous and warm oak forests often along streams and in ravines at an altitude of 600 to 1000 meters with a subcylindric, small pseudobulb enveloped by several scarious sheaths and carrying a single, apical, fleshy, elliptic, acute, often with red dotted leaf that blooms in the summer on a erect to arcuate, to about 8" (20 cm) long, panicle or raceme arising on a mature growth that has triangular, acute bracts with several to many (30 to 50) flowers.

Trichopilia galeottiana

Found in premontane rainforests on larger branches at elevations of 1000 to 1200 meters as a small sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with subcylindric, ancipitous pseudobulbs enveloped basally by grayish bracts and carrying a single, apical, elliptic-lanceolate, carinate abaxially, acute, conduplicate below into the base leaf that blooms in the spring and summer on 3 to 4, lateral, 1" (2.5 cm) long, single flowered inflorescence with 3, papery, obtuse bracts



Trichopilia tortilis



A medium sized, hot to warm growing epiphytic species found in damp tropical forests at elevations up to 1500 meters with oblong to cylindric, laterally compressed pseudobulbs concealed by one or more brown spotted basal bracts carrying a single, subcoriaceous, elliptic-lanceolate, abaxially carinate leaf with a conduplicate petiole at the base. It flowers in the spring and summer on a basal, pendulous, 2 to 4" [5 to 10 cm] long, slender, 1 to 3 flowered inflorescence, arising on a newly matured pseudobulb, that has tubular, scarious bracts and large, showy, fragrant, waxy flowers. It can be found from Mexico to Costa Rica.

Triphora trianthophora



Found in southeastern Canada & eastern United states to Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Panama at elevations up to 1600 meters as a miniature to small sized, cool to warm growing terrestrial orchid with an erect stem carrying 2 to 8, broadly ovate to cordate, dark green with a purple cast leaves. It blooms in the mid summer through late fall on an erect, axillary, nodding flowered inflorescence with typically just 3 pink and white flowers. Commonly called the “Three Bird Orchid.”

Vanilla cribbiana



Found in Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras at elevations around 700 to 800 meters. This is a large sized, warm growing epiphyte on a long vine with many, alternate, leaves. It blooms in the spring on an axillary, 1.2 to 1.6" [3 to 4 cm] long, single to 8 flowered inflorescence with broadly ovate, acute, fleshy, strongly concave floral bracts.

Vanilla inodora

Found in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama in wet forests and rocky woodlands at elevations of 50 to 900 meters as a giant sized, hot to warm growing vine-like epiphyte that blooms in the winter, spring and summer on a successively several flowered inflorescence.



Vanilla insignis



Found from Mexico to Honduras as an epiphyte in open river-valley forest around 2500 feet. as a large sized, warm growing viney epiphyte with a scandent, elongate, flexuous stem carrying many, alternate, coriaceous, oblong-elliptic, abruptly acuminate apically, basally rounded and abruptly contracted into a short petiolate base leaves. It blooms in the spring on an axillary, 1.2 to 1.6" [3 to 4 cm] long, successively single to 8 flowered inflorescence with broadly ovate, acute, fleshy, strongly concave floral bracts.

Vanilla odorata



Found in Southern Mexico, Central America and many of the Caribbean islands, this orchid has a vanilla bean that will remain fragrant for several years, although it is not popular commercially.

It has been shown that this, along with *V. planifolia*, are the parents of *V. x tahitensis*.

Vanilla planifolia



Commonly found on the East Coast of Mexico, this orchid will climb 100 feet up a tree.

It can also be found in Florida.

This orchid has been transplanted to tropical locations around the world and is one of three sources of commercial vanilla with vanilla beans that are 6 to 9 inches long.

It likes a lot of light but not direct sun, and a good regular watering.

Vanilla pompona

Found primarily on the West Coast of Mexico, this orchid is one of three sources for commercial vanilla.

Like *V. planifolia*, it likes a lot of light but not direct sun, and a good regular watering. And can also climb 100 feet up a tree.

It produces vanilla beans that can be from 4 to 7 inches long



Vanilla x tahitensis



Produces vanilla beans that can be from 6 to 9 inches long, and whose commercial value is primarily in its aroma. It is a hybrid of *Vanilla planifolia* and *Vanilla odorata* both of which grow in the same area and bloom at the same time.



+



V. planifolia

V. odorata

=



V. x tahitensis



Preservation of Mexican Orchids is the goal of the Vallarta Conservatory of Orchids and Native Plants. Help preserve these beauties of nature for future generations. Your donation to the Vallarta Botanical Gardens will be used to support the continuing operation of the Conservatory.

www.vbgardens.org/conservatory