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Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko (Orchidaceae), an Addition to the Flora of Colombia.

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Abstract

A new species of *Gongora* Ruiz & Pav. (*Gongora antioquiensis* Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko, Orchidaceae) is reported for Colombia, from the Department of Antioquia.

Introduction

The genus *Gongora* Ruiz & Pav. consists of 69 accepted species of which 27 are found in Colombia (WCSP, 2018). Classifying the species of *Gongora* can be difficult due to the range of color variation found in many of the species. However, the basic characteristics of the labellum remain constant within each species.

In the department of Antioquia, two different species of *Gongora* were discovered growing sympatrically, both of which were undescribed. The first species was described as *Gongora gloriana* Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko in honor of Gloria Noreña from the Sociedad Colombiana de Orquideología. Gloria Noreña was the cultivator and made the plant available to us for study. We here describe the second species, also cultivated by Gloria Noreña as a new species.

Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda and Szlachetko, *sp. nov.*

Type: Colombia, Department of Antioquia. Epiphytic in tall trees near the Espiritu Santo ravine in the village of Uvital in the municipality of Nariño at 800 m. Collector: Francisco Lopez Bernal, *s. n.*, March, 2020. Holotype: HPUJ.

Description

Plant epiphytic, to 68 cm tall with short rhizomes; pseudobulbs clustered, ovate, deeply ridged, to 6 cm tall, 3 cm wide, bifoliate; leaves petiolate, broadly lanceolate, subacute, to 50 cm long, 12 cm wide, petiole to 10 cm long; inflorescence pendent, to 50 cm long, to 25 flowered, floral bracts triangular, appressed, acute, to 2 mm long, 2 mm wide; dorsal sepal reddish-brown with yellow apex, narrowly lanceolate, acute, to 2.5 cm long, 0.8 cm wide, edges slightly revolute; lateral sepals reddish-brown with yellow apex and lateral margins near apex, broadly ovate, truncate,

acute, reflexed, with revolute edges, to 4 cm long, 2 cm wide; petals reddish-brown, linear, ending in two long acute bristles, to 1.8 cm long, 0.3 cm wide; labellum dark reddish-brown, to 2 cm long, 1 cm wide; hypochile horn is acute and also has an additional short projection above the point, hypochile wings are acute and falcate, mesochile tips extended and apiculate, hump distinct; epichile apiculate, recurved, apex yellow; column greenish-white with reddish-brown spots, obtuse wings at the tip, to 2 cm long, 0.3 cm wide; anther cap white to 2 mm wide.

Diagnosis

Gongora erecta is similar in color to *Gongora antioquiensis* Uribe-Velez, Saulea & Szlachetko. *Gongora erecta* has lower hypochile horns of similar length, but hypochile is more or less ellipsoid-cylindrical, which is conical in *G. antioquiensis*. The sinus between these horns and main body of hypochile is acute and deep in *G. erecta*, whereas the sinus is shallow, antral in *G. antioquiensis*. Hypochile wings of *G. erecta* are placed just above its base, whereas in *G. antioquiensis* they are situated near the mid length of hypochile. Upper hypochile horn of *G. erecta* is acute whereas in *G. antioquiensis* it is obtuse.

Gongora antioquiensis is similar in flower color to *Gongora claviodora* Dressler also, but *G. claviodora* has prominently shorter lower horns of hypochile reaching more or less half of the epichile length, but subequal in length to epichile in *G. antioquiensis*, and with an acute and falcate upper horn of hypochile in *G. claviodora*, however blunt, knob-like in *G. antioquiensis*.

In *Gongora latibasis* (C. Schweinf. & P. H. Allen) Jenny one can find flower color variants similar to *G. antioquiensis*, but the lip form of *G. latibasis* is somewhat different. The hypochile is oblong conical, relatively long-claveate, upper hypochile horn is acute, and the hypochile wings are smaller and cylindrical in *Gongora latibasis*. Also the base of epichile is prominently knob-like on the upper surface of *Gongora latibasis*.

Gongora antioquiensis is similar to its sympatric species *Gongora gloriana* Uribe-Velez, Saulea & Szlachetko and to *Gongora fulva* Lindl. *Gongora antioquiensis* differs with *G. gloriana* by having distinctly different color patterns and although the labella are similar, there are also distinct differences. The lower hypochile horn on *G. gloriana* is obtuse where *G. antioquiensis* has an acute horn and also has an additional short projection above the point. The hypochile wings of *G. gloriana* are triangular obtuse whereas the hypochile wings of *G. antioquiensis* are acute and falcate.

Gongora fulva is also similar, but has a completely different color pattern and although the labellum is similar, the distinct differences are in the hypochile wings and lower hypochile horn. The hypochile wings of *G. antioquiensis* are acute and falcate, where the hypochile wings of *G. fulva* are cylindrical obtuse. These cylindrical obtuse hypochile wings also differentiate *G. fulva* from *G. gloriana*, which has triangular obtuse hypochile wings.

Gongora meneziana V.P. Castro & G. Gerlach is another species that appears similar basically due to the color of the flowers. However, the location of the hypochile wings in the middle of the hypochile and the notch in the underside of the epichile of *G. meneziana* easily distinguishes the two species.



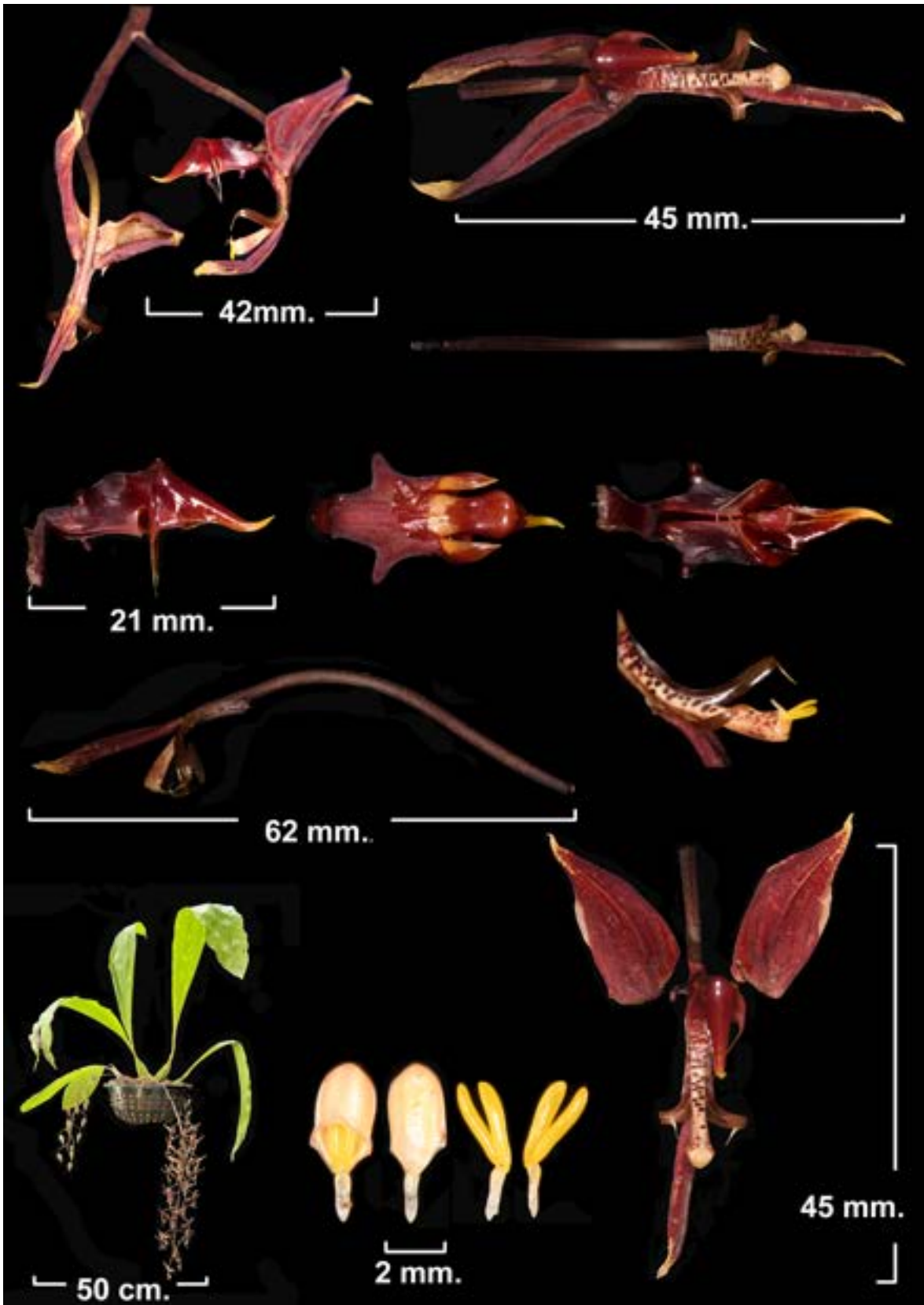
Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Saulea & Szlachetko.



Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko.



Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko.



Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko.



Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda and Szlachetko. Variation in labellum.



Gongora gloriana Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko.



Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda and Szlachetko.



Gongora fulva Lindl.



Gongora meneziana V.P. Castro & G. Gerlach.



Gongora gloriana Uribe-Velez,
Sauleda & Szlachetko.



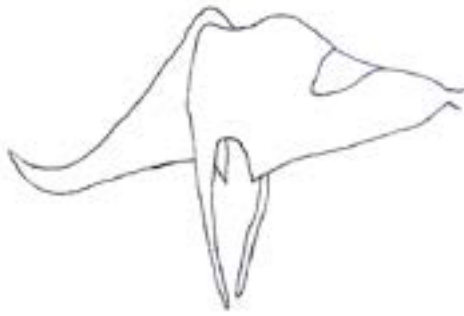
Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez,
Sauleda & Szlachetko.



Gongora fulva Lindl.



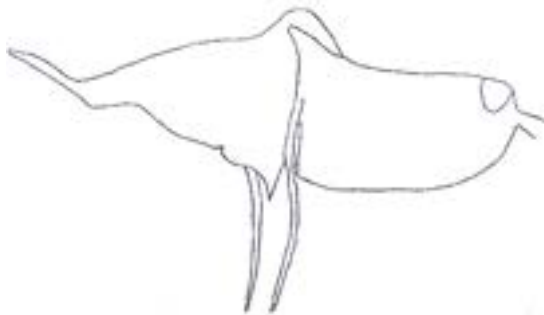
Gongora gloriana Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko.



Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko.



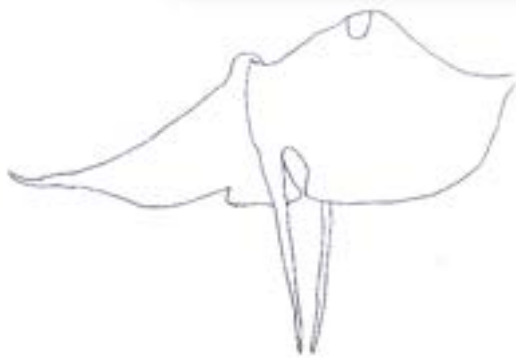
Gongora latibasis (C. Schweinf. & P. H. Allen)
Jenny drawing from (Toulemonde, 2001).



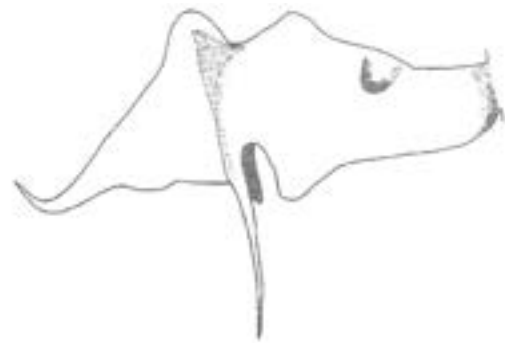
Gongora erecta Whitten & D. E. Benn.



Gongora claviodora Dressler.



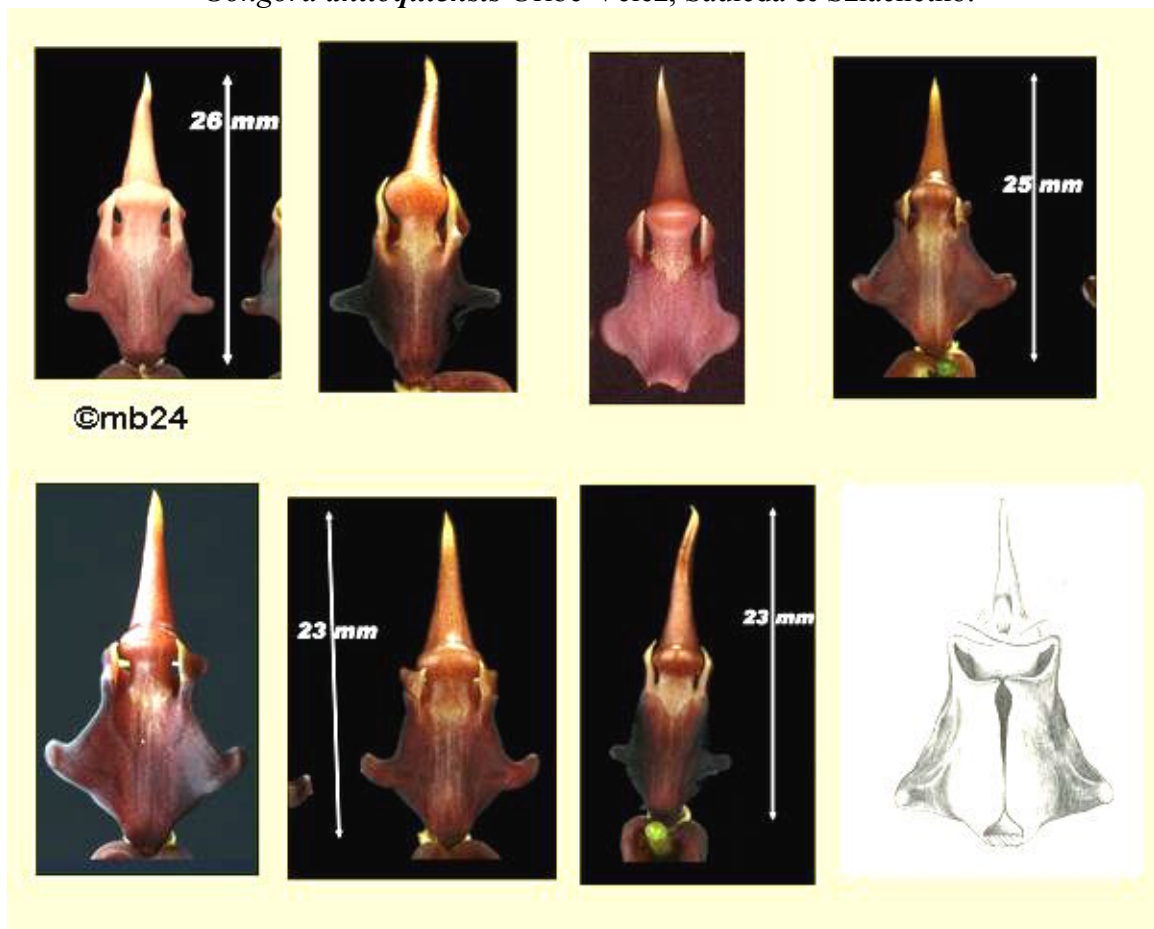
Gongora meneziana V.P. Castro & G. Gerlach.



Gongora fulva Lindl. drawing from (Toulemonde, 2001).



Gongora antioquiensis Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko.



Variation in labellum of *Gongora latibasis* (C. Schweinf. & P. H. Allen) Jenny. From: Forum Cattlaelia: Forum Orchidées : Tout un monde à découvrir :: Orchidées en fleurs :: Galerie de vos Orchidées en fleurs et Orchidées in situ :: Stanhopea, Gongora et autres Stanhopeinae: *Gongora latibasis*.



Gongora latibasis (C. Schweinf. & P. H. Allen)
Jenny. From American Orchid Society STIF,
October 25, 2015.



Gongora claviodora Dressler.
Photograph by Pak Sheikh.



Gongora meneziana V. P. Castro &
G. Gerlach. Photos by Gunter Gerlach
and His Stanhopinae Website.



Gongora histrionica Rchb. f.

Literature Cited

Toulemonde, T. L. 2001. Guia Ilustrada para la Clasificacion del Genero Gongora Riuz and Pavon. Segunda edicion, Octubre de 2001.