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A Second New Species of *Catasetum* Rich. ex Kunth (Orchidaceae) From Norte de Santander, Colombia.

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Abstract

A second new species of *Catasetum* Rich. ex Kunth (Orchidaceae) from Norte de Santander, Colombia is described.

The World Check List of Selected Plant Families lists 181 taxa of *Catasetum* and 29 for Colombia. The latest updated list of *Catasetum* species for Colombia lists 38 taxa (Bonilla et al 2016). As explorations are made in Colombia new species of *Catasetum* are being discovered. Three new species of *Catasetum* have recently been discovered, *Catasetum yariguui* Uribe-Velez and Sauleda and *Catasetum cucutaense* Uribe-Velez and Sauleda and this is the third species.

***Catasetum bolivarii*, Uribe-Velez & Sauleda, sp. nov.**

TYPE: Colombia. Cucuta, Norte de Santander, near La Esperanza, (Holotype, HPUJ).
Collector unknown, from cultivation.

Description: Plants epiphytic; rhizomatous, secondary stems modified into pseudobulbs, to 14 cm long, 3 cm thick, stout, aggregate, multi-annulate, multifoliate, fusiform, erect, with an acuminate apex, covered by scarious imbricated-leaf sheaths; leaves 3-4 on each pseudobulb, to 28 cm long, 2.8 cm wide, membranous, oblong-lanceolate, acute, entire margins, with several thin ribs; inflorescence from base of pseudobulb, to 47 cm tall. Male flowers: Raceme multiflowered, to 8 flowers, erect; floral bracts 1.8 cm, long 4 mm wide, linear, acute, tightly sheathing the pedicels; pedicel 3 cm long, 4 mm thick, cylindrical, gently curved; staminate flowers non-resupinate, to 5 cm wide, 5.5 cm tall, green with reddish-brown spotting; dorsal sepal to 2.8 cm, long 1.9 cm wide, slightly concave, elliptic, acute, partially covering the petals; lateral sepals to 2.9 cm long, 1.7 cm wide, concave, oblong-elliptic, acute, margins reflexed on the dorsal sepal; petals to 2.6 cm long, 1.4 cm wide, concave, oblong-elliptic, acute; labellum to 2.1 cm wide, 2.4 cm tall, fleshy, orbicular, saccate, side borders erect, terminating in one acute fleshy point, white, basally light green with reddish-brown spots, with two obtuse appendages spreading from either side of labellum; column light green, to 3 cm long, 1.2 cm wide, fleshy, operculate, elliptic, apiculate towards the apex; rostellum 5 mm wide, recurved; antennae 2 cm long, spreading; anther cap 9 mm long, 5 mm wide, rectangular with a beak; pollinia 2, 4 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, yellow.

Diagnosis: *Catasetum bolivarii* Uribe-Velez & Sauleda is similar to *Catasetum yariguui* Uribe-Velez & Sauleda. They differ in the color of the flowers, the number of flowers and the shape of the labellum. The

flowers of *C. bolivarii* are deep green with reddish-brown spots while the flowers of *C. yariguii* are green with a bluish cast when opening and eventually turning greenish-yellow. *Catasetum yariguii* usually lacks spots but on occasion plants with flowers with minute spots are found. *Catasetum bolivarii* usually has 6-8 flowers where *C. yariguii* can carry up to 20 flowers. The labellum of *C. bolivarii* has two appendages spreading from inside the labellum, which are absent in *C. yariguii*. In addition, the apex of the labellum of *C. yariguii* has one central point and two smaller lateral points. The labellum of *C. bolivarii* has only a single more pronounced point.

Etymology: This species is named to honor Simón José Antonio de la Santísima Trinidad Bolívar Palacios Ponte y Blanco, known as Simón Bolívar and as El Libertador. He was a military and political leader who liberated what are currently Venezuela, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Panama from Spanish rule. After his victory over the Spanish, Bolivar founded a union of independent nations called the Gran Colombia of which he was president from 1819 to 1830.



***Catasetum bolivarii*, Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.**



Catasetum bolivarii, Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.



Catasetum bolivarii, Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.



Catasetum cucutaense Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.



Catasetum yariguii, Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.

Literature Cited

Bonilla, M. M., Aguirre, A. C., Yepes, D., Gallego, E., Otero, T. 2016. *Catasetum* (Orchidaceae: Catasetinae) En Colombia: Lista Actualizada, Universidad Militar Nueva Granada, Vol. 12, No. 1.