

July 11, 2020.

A New Species of *Telipogon* Kunth (Orchidaceae) is Described from the Bota Caucana, Department of Cauca, Colombia.

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Abstract

A new species of *Telipogon* Kunth (Orchidaceae) is described from the Bota Caucana, Department of Cauca, Colombia.

The genus *Telipogon* was established by Carl Sigismund Kunth in 1816. Kunth published the genus in *Nova Genera et Species Plantarum* (in F. W. H. von Humboldt, A. J. A. Bonpland & C. S. Kunth). Historically the genus has been placed in several tribes and subtribes by various authors. Pfitzer (1887) placed *Telipogon* in the Notylieae tribe; Schlechter (1915) united *Trichoceros*, *Telipogon* and *Stellilabium* in a subtribe named *Telipogoninae*. Dressler and Dodson (1960) included the three genera in the *Ornithocephalus* alliance. Schlechter's proposal was the most accepted by morphological taxonomists (e.g. Szlachetko, 1995). However, based on the results of molecular studies Chase et al. (2003, 2015) chose to lump all three genera together with over 50 other taxa in *Oncidiinae*.

At present there are 271 species recognized and 72 species listed for Colombia (WCSP, 2018). A species originally described from Ecuador, *Telipogon stinae* Dodson & Dalström was recently discovered in the same area as the new species here described (Uribe-Velez & Sauleda, 2020).

Both *T. stinae* and this new species were discovered growing epiphytically in the area known as La Bota Caucana. It is a región in the southeast corner of the department of Cauca. The region owes its name to the shape of the región, which resembles a boot.

We here name this new species for the area where it was discovered.

Telipogon bota-caucanensis Uribe-Velez and Sauleda, *sp. nov.*

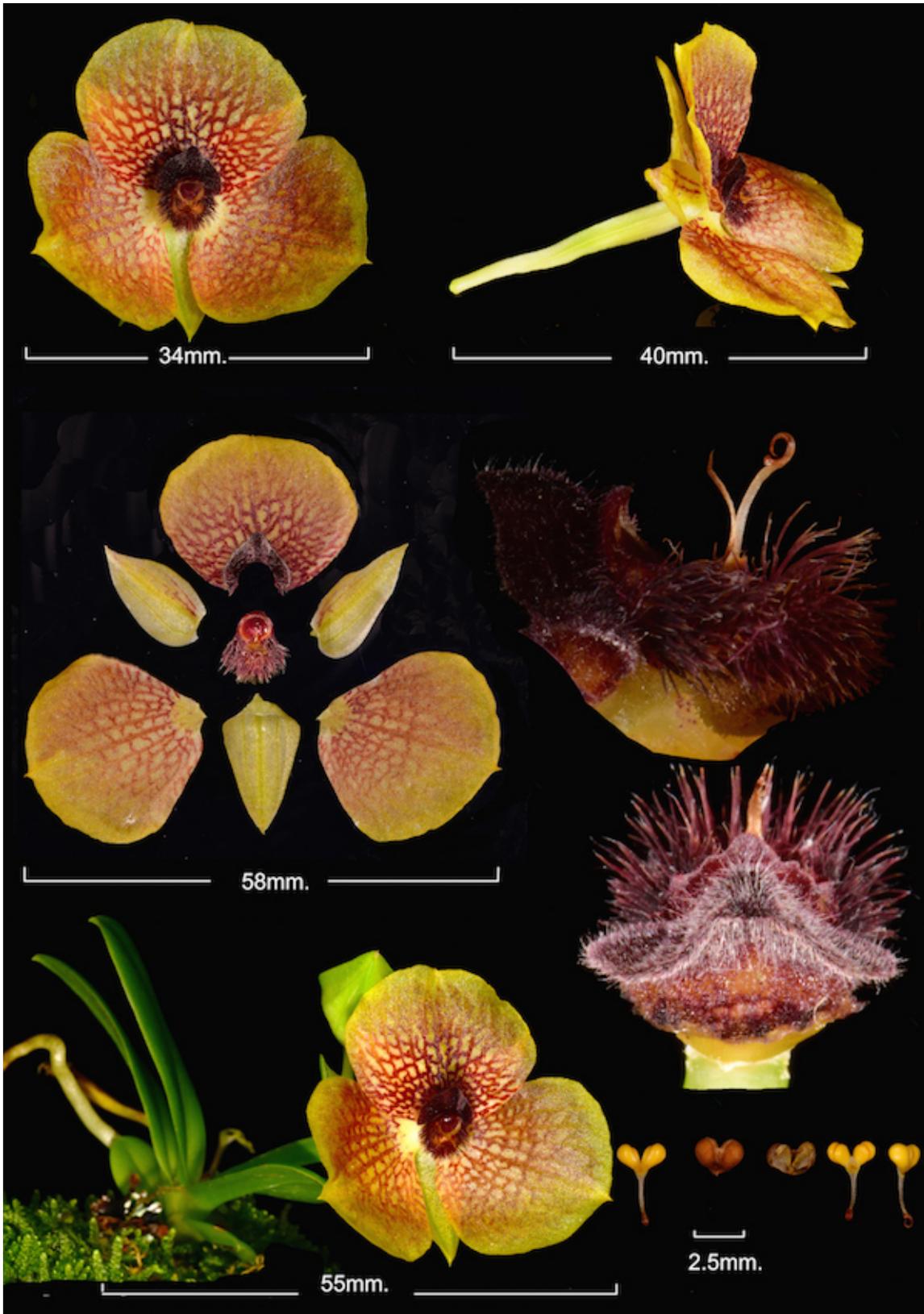
Type: Colombia, Department of Cauca, from La Bota Caucana, near the headwaters of the Caqueta River, 2700 m. From cultivation. Collector: *Julio Cesar Ordoñez, s. n.*, 2019, (Holotype: HPUJ).

Diagnosis

Telipogon bota-caucanensis Uribe-Velez and Sauleda is similar to *Telipogon octavioi* Dodson & R. Escobar. It differs in the morphology of the labellum, the shape of the sepals and petals and in the fact that the flowers of *T. bota-caucanensis* are non-resupinate where the flowers of *T. octavioi* are resupinate. In *T. bota-caucanensis* the labellum is widest above the middle, the apex is mucronate and the petals are widest near the middle with an acuminate apex. In *T. octavioi* the labellum is widest towards the base, the apex is rounded with a blunt apex and the petals are widest near the base terminating in a broadly apiculate apex. The callus on the labellum of *T. bota-caucanensis* is kidney-shaped or broadly cordate where the callus on *T. octavioi* is obovate, longer than wide.

Description

Plants epiphytic to 10 cm tall including the inflorescence. Roots thick, fleshy, white, with green tips, to 3 mm thick. Leaves distichous, coriaceous, oblanceolate, obtuse, minutely acuminate, to six-leaved, to 5 cm long, 2 cm wide. Inflorescence from the axils of the leaves, simple, 1–3 flowered, to 6 cm tall; peduncle flattened to 4 cm long, rachis to 2 cm long, with 3–4 floral bracts, bracts distichous, ovate, acute. Pedicel, slightly arching, triquetrous, to 4 cm long. Flowers to 3.5 cm wide, successively opening; dorsal sepal yellow, ovate-triangular, acute, to 2.5 cm long, 1 cm wide, concave; lateral sepals yellow, narrowly ovate, slightly oblique, acute, concave; petals oblong to broadly pandurate, widest near the middle, obtuse-rounded, with minute apicule, yellow with reddish-brown tessellations fading towards apical margin, to 3 cm wide, 2.5 cm long; labellum entire, sessile, orbicular to elliptic, obtuse-rounded, not acuminate, to 3 cm wide, 2.8 cm long; callus kidney-shaped to cordate, mucronate, dark reddish-purple, densely papillose on ventral surface, to 1.5 cm wide; column short, to 8 mm wide, with prominent reddish-purple rigid hairs on the dorsal surface; clinadrium projected into a narrow filament, apically recurved; stigma apical, suborbicular, concave; anther apical, cordiform, bilocular; pollinarium with four pollinia to 2.5 mm wide, with a Y-shaped caudicle and hooked viscidium.



Telipogon bota-caucanensis Uribe-Velez and Sauleda.



Telipogon bota-caucanensis Uribe-Velez and Sauleda, from La Bota Caucana. Flowers non-resupinate.



Telipogon bota-caucanensis Uribe-Velez and Sauleda in situ.



Telipogon bota-caucanensis Uribe-Velez and Sauleda labellum and column.



Telipogon octavioi Dodson & R. Escobar in situ at Chingaza National Natural Park, northeast of Bogotá, Colombia in the department of Cundinamarca. Flowers resupinate.



Illustration of flower from Colombia of *Telipogon octavioi* Dodson & R. Escobar from the archive of Pedro Ortiz Valdivieso.

Acknowledgements

We are greatly indebted to Dariusz L. Szlachetko of the Department of Plant Taxonomy and Nature Conservation, Gdansk University, Poland, for his generous assistance and advice with this new species. His willingness to cooperate with the identification of Colombian species is very appreciated. His extensive knowledge and clear vision of the Orchidaceae is a tremendous asset to the scientific community.

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