

A NEW *TRISETELLA* FROM PERU (ORCHIDACEAE)

W. Koeniger*

Trisetella regia Koeniger, sp. nov.

Planta pro genere grandis, epiphytica, dense caespitosa; caules secundarii abbreviata, unifoliati; folia subteretia, canaliculata, apiculata, usque ad 6 cm longa et 2.5 mm diametro; pedunculus teres, gracilis, dense verrucosus, ascendens, usque ad 14 cm longus, floribus grandibus successivis; sepalum dorsale triangulare, aliquantum concavum, cerinum, in caudam 4 cm longam luteam terminans; sepala lateralia synsepalum cymbiforme formantia; synsepalum 4 cm longum, rubiginosum, utrinque trinervatum, apice acutum; caudae synsepali divergentes, 2 cm longae, luteae; petala columnae aequilonga, ovata, concava, lutea, longitudinaliter rubiginose unistriata, apicem versus serrulata, apiculata; labellum oblongum, convexum, arcuatum, rubiginosum, longitudinaliter bicarinatum, basi bilobatum.

Plant large for the genus, epiphytic, densely caespitose; secondary stems abbreviated, unifoliate; leaves almost terete, channelled, apiculate, up to 6 cm long and 2.5 mm in diameter; peduncle terete, slender, densely verrucose, ascending, up to 14 cm long, with large successive flowers; dorsal sepal triangular, somewhat concave, reddish brown with dull yellow, terminating in a yellow tail, 4 cm long; lateral sepals forming a boat-shaped synsepal; synsepal 4 cm long, rusty red, three-nerved on both halves, acute at the apex; tails of the synsepal diverging, 2 cm long, yellow; petals as long as the column, ovate, concave, yellow with a longitudinal rusty red line, finely serrate towards the apex, apiculate; lip oblong, convex, curved, rusty red, with two longitudinal keels, bilobed at the base.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *regius*, "royal," in reference to the huge size of the peduncle and flower for the genus.

TYPE: PERU: AMAZONAS: between Chachapoyas and Leimebamba, alt. 2500 m, August 1978, W. Koeniger, H. Koeniger & B. Wuerstle K-7 (HOLOTYPE: SEL), C. Luer illustr. 5252.

DISTRIBUTION: Northcentral Peru.

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The above newly described species of *Trisetella* is the largest known to date in the genus. When I saw specimens cultivated by Herr Koeniger at his home in München last May 1980, I was astounded by the size. The long, narrow, semiterete leaves were far surpassed by the tall, warty peduncles, and the erect, filiform dorsal sepals added still greater dimensions to the height. From the surface of the culture medium to the tip of the dorsal sepal of the largest plant the distance was 27 cm. No doubt even larger specimens occur.

Trisetella regia may be distinguished from the recently described *T. scobina* Luer from Ecuador by the longer, narrower leaves, the longer peduncle, the longer sepals, the petals with an entire, shortly acuminate apex (instead of subacute, serrulate), and the bicarinate lip (without the additional central pair of calli).
..... Ed.