

A NEW ECUADORIAN DUTCHMAN'S-PIPE,  
*ARISTOLOCHIA PICHINCHENSIS*

Howard Wm. Pfeifer\*

Dr. Calaway H. Dodson recently photographed and collected a unique new dutchman's-pipe. Like its related species, it grows in disturbed sites, climbing over young trees and shrubs and has comparatively large flowers. The new species, related to *Aristolochia grandiflora*, is unique in its flower's faucal architecture and relatively large syrxinx.

*Aristolochia pichinchensis* H. W. Pfeifer, sp. nov. (Plate 8:A).

Foliis triangulato-cordatis, subacuminatis, caule volubili, pedunculis solitariis, bractea perfoliata, limbo calycis peltato-cordato, fauce U-forma, apice in appendicem longum linearem subspiralem acuminatum producto, luteo purpureoque livido variegato maculato et punctato.

Sparsely puberulent lianas. Leaves triangular-cordate, apex subacuminate, basally very deeply sagittate-cordate, to 17 cm broad, 20 cm long, sparsely puberulent above, somewhat more so beneath. Pseudostipules absent. Flowers solitary in leaf axils, peltate-bracteolate, more or less twice-geniculate (once at the tube flexure and again at the annulus), the tube cream with pink veins, the limb yellow with purple blotches. Utricle lacrimiform, gibbous, 8.5 cm long, syrxinx cylindric, ruffled-undulate at its orifice into utricule, 2 cm long, directed obliquely into the utricule, the tube bent near its distal end, J-shaped, its axial length about 12 cm to the raised rim-like annulus. Limb abruptly spreading from the U-shaped opening (limb-tube juncture: the annulus outline), broadly peltate-cordate, the notch in the cordate margin nearly reaching the back of the annulus, with 3 prominent veins extending from the front of the annulus rim downward into a pendent, very long acuminate, ultimately tape-like appendage on the median lower border of the limb; limb 12 cm broad, 11.5 cm long, additionally extended by the 16 cm long appendage. Gynostemium 6-lobed, long-coroniform, 10 mm high, 4 mm broad, the anthers 6, 6 mm long, opposite the 3 mm long stigmatic lobes. Fruits basally dehiscent, 8 cm long, ca. 3.5 cm broad.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: LOS RÍOS: Río Palenque Science Center, km 56 Quevedo-Santo Domingo, elev. 150-220 m. Vine in small tree in second growth area adjacent to deep forest. Pollinating flies captured. Tube cream with pink veins. Limb yellow with maroon marking. 30 Nov. 1972, *Dodson 5215* (HOLOTYPE: CONN); Kodachrome of mature flower filed with the holotype. ISOTYPES: US, SEL, RPSC.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED: At type locality, 7 Oct. 1976, *Dodson & Gentry 6537* (SEL), with mature fruit.

A relative of the Caribbean-Central American *Aristolochia grandiflora* Sw., *A. pichinchensis* has smaller flowers and a buckling of the annulus-throat margin in front, resulting in the unique U-shaped opening into the tube. Vegetatively the two plants are similar, as well as resembling a few other species. It should be noted that the orifice-shape would not be clearly evident in pressed material, but its indurate-crisp nature when fresh causes the center of the pressed flower to be split and broken variously. This may afford a clue in dried material.

Probably the dimensions of the flower described above will vary in the field; related species are known to vary in ultimate size of the calyx.

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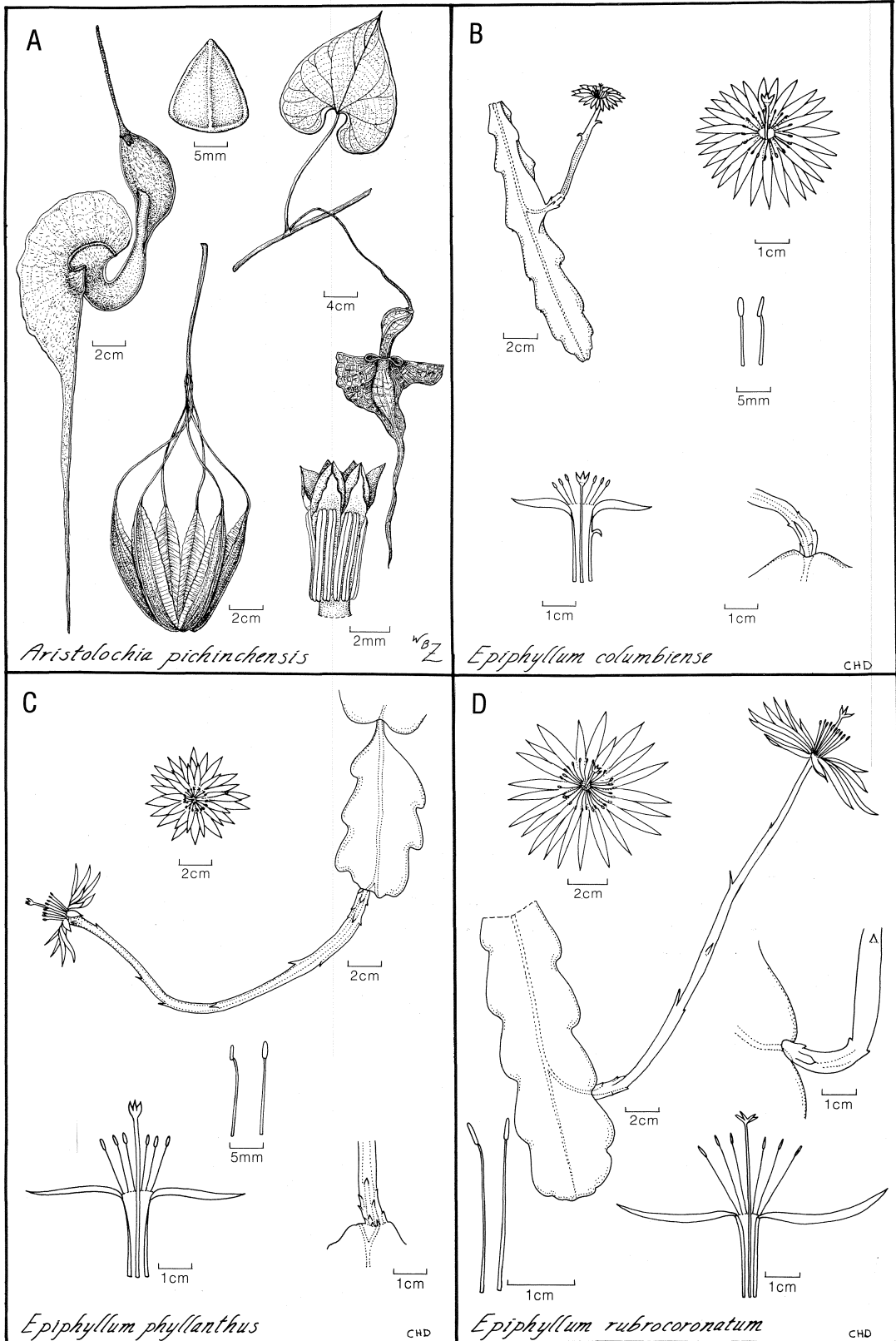


Plate 8