

# PUBLICACIONES

del

MUSEO DE HISTORIA NATURAL "JAVIER PRADO"

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UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL MAYOR DE SAN MARCOS

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Botánica  
Serie B

Lima, Febrero de 1969

Nº 24

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## NOMENCLATURAL NOTES ON SOME PERUVIAN ORCHIDS

By

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### INTRODUCTION

The following paper contains a nomenclatural revision of the Peruvian representatives of two fascinating genera of tropical American orchids namely, *Schomburgkia* Lindl. and *Brassavola* R. Br. In neither case is the number of Peruvian species large; but their nomenclature appears to have become somewhat confused over the years (3, 4). The present contribution is based upon material gathered for the purpose of preparing monographs of the two genera concerned.

In the third part of his recent treatment of the orchid flora of Peru (18), Dr. Charles Schweinfurth included only two species of *Schomburgkia* *S. moyobambae* Schltr. and *S. Weberbaueriana* Krzl. — which he, following the proposed re-classification of Dr. Louis O. Williams (19), listed under the genus *Laelia* Lindl. In my revision of the Peruvian species which follows, I have proposed the following alterations: (a) substitution of the name *S. marginata* Lindl. (1838) for *S. Weberbaueriana* Krzl. (1906); (b) the reduction of *S. moyobambae* Schltr. to the status of a variety under *S.*

*marginata* Lindl.; (c) the addition of *S. crispa* Lindl., based upon two recent collections from Peru (5).

In the case of *Brassavola*, I have listed the same two species dealt with by Dr. Schweinfurth; but I have proposed the substitution of the name *B. cebolleta* Rchb. f. (1855) for *B. ovaliformis* C. Schw. (1949); and I have added a few more names to the synonymy of both species.

## I. SCHOMBURGKIA Lindl.

### KEY TO THE SPECIES

1. Sepals and petals uniformly coloured ..... **S. crispa.**
- 1a. Sepals and petals with dark-coloured central area but paler margins.
  2. Lip distinctly 3-lobed ..... **S. marginata.**
  - 2a. Lip obscurely 3-lobed or entire ..... **S. marginata.**  
var. **moyobambae.**

### LIST OF SPECIES

*SCHOMBURGKIA CRISPA* Lindl. Sert. Orch. 10 (1838).

*Epidendrum fimbriatum* Vell. Fl. Flum. 9: 4 (1827); non *Epidendrum fimbriatum* H. B. K.

*Cattleya crispa* Beer Prakt. Stud. 209 (1854); non *Cattleya crispa* Lindl.

*Bletia crispina* Rchb. f. in Walp. Ann. 6: 419 (1861); non *Bletia crispa* Rchb. f.

*Laelia gloriosa* L. O. Wms. in Darwiniana 5: 76 (1941); non *Schomburgkia gloriosa* Rchb. f.; nec *Laelia crispa* Rchb. f.

*Schomburgkia fimbriata* Hoeh. in Arq. Bot. Est. S. Paulo 2: 142  
(1952).

*Schomburgkia amazonica* Hoeh. ex H. G. Jones in Fedd. Rep.  
76: 197 (1967).

Range: Peru, Guianas, Colombia, Brazil.

This species is the generic type of *Schomburgkia*: the colour of the flowers varies from pale cream to bright yellow. The late Dr. F. C. Hoehne considered the pale-coloured Brazilian form to be a separate species; but he apparently died before he could publish a formal description. Unfortunately, the name which he used has crept into horticultural literature, and must, therefore, be treated as a nude synonymous epithet of *S. crispa*. The two Peruvian collections on which this record is based (5) included both normal and cleistogamic flowers. The Colombian var. *Wallisii* (8) has dark, brownish yellow flowers.

*SCHOMBURGIA MARGINATA* Lindl. Sert. Orch. 13 (1938).

*Cattleya marginata* Beer Prakt. Stud. 212 (1854).

*Bletia marginata* Rchb. f. in Walp. Ann. 6: 419 (1861).

*Schomburgkia Weberbaueriana* Krzl. in Bot. Jahrb. 37: 527  
(1906).

*Laelia marginata* L. O. Wms. in Darwiniana 5: 76 (1941).

*Laelia Weberbaueriana* C. Schw. in Bot. Mus. Leaflet. 11: 180  
(1944).

Range: Peru, Guianas, Venezuela.

This was the second species described by Lindley at the time the genus was established in 1838. The flowers appear to be extremely polychromatic; but the sepals and petals usually have a dark-coloured central area (brown, red or purple) with much paler (green or yellow) margins.

*SCHOMBURGKIA MARGINATA* Lindl. var. *MOYOBAMBAE*  
(Schltr.) H. G. Jones in Lloydia 31: 269 (1968).

- Schomburgkia gloriosa* Rchb. f. in Hamb. Grtn. 16: 178 (1860).  
*Bletia gloriosa* Rchb. f. in Walp Ann. 6: 419 (1861).  
*Schomburgkia moyobambae* Schltr. in Fedd. Rep. 9: 97 (1921).  
*Laelia moyobambae* C. Schw. in Bot. Mus. Leafl. 11: 180 (1944).  
*Schomburgkia undulata* Lindl. var. *moyobambae* H. G. Jones  
in Orch. Rev. 71: 51 (1963).

Range: Peru, Trinidad.

I have recently discussed the rather complex history of this variety at some length in another article (6). It is distinguished from the type mainly by the smaller flowers and somewhat differently shaped lip.

## II. BRASSAVOLA R. Br.

### KEY TO THE SPECIES

1. Lip sessile, narrowing abruptly to the base ..... **B. cebolleta**  
1a. Lip cuneiform, base attenuated to a narrow tube ..... **B. nodosa**

### LIST OF SPECIES

*BRASSAVOLA CEBOLLETA* Rchb. f. in Bonplandia 3: 221  
(1855).

*Brassavola chocoensis* Krzl. in Bot. Jahrb. 36: 80 (1905).

*Brassavola ovaliformis* C. Schw. in Bot. Mus. Leafl. 14: 60  
(1949).

Range: Peru, Brazil, Argentina.

I was at first inclined to regard *B. ovaliformis* as distinct, (4) but during the course of preparing my revision of *Brassavola* section *Sessililabia*, I could find no consistently satisfactory means of separating this concept from *B. cebolleta* and *B. chocoensis*. *B. cebolleta* appears to represent the southernmost limit of extension for the genus, as it is the only *Brassavola* to be recorded for Argentina.

*BRASSAVOLA NODOSA* (L.) Lindl. Gen. Sp. 114 (1831):  
*Epidendrum nodosum* L. Sp. Pl. 1: 953 (1753).  
*Cymbidium nodosum* Sw. in Nov. Act. Ups. 6: 33 (1799).  
*Bletia nodosa* Rchb. f. in Walp Ann. 6: 437 (1861).  
*Brassavola stricta* C. Kad. in Gard. Chron. 23: 505 (1888).  
*Brassavola scaposa* Schltr. in Orchis 13: 57 (1919).  
 Range: Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Middle America, West Indies.

The most geographically widespread and best known of all the *Brassavola* species, *B. nodosa* has been known and illustrated in botanical literature since the end of the 17th Century. My own interpretation of the synonymy differs slightly from that of some recent taxonomists who have dealt with the species (7, 9). Dr. Schweinfurth followed traditional usage in reducing *B. grandiflora* Lindl. and *B. venosa* Lindl. to the synonymy of this species; but I prefer to regard these concepts as separate species — or at least, distinct varieties. These taxa are found in Central America, and *B. grandiflora* also occurs on the West Indian island of Jamaica; but they are not found on the South American continent.

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