

Crossoglossa neiryneckiana (Orchidaceae, Malaxidinae), a new species from Ecuador

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Crossoglossa neiryneckiana Marg. & Szlach. *sp. nova* (Orchidaceae, Malaxidinae) from Ecuador is described and illustrated in line drawings. It is compared with the closely related *C. tipuloides* (Lindl.) Dodson.

Key words: *Crossoglossa*, Malaxidinae, Orchidaceae, taxonomy

The genus *Crossoglossa* Dressler & Dodson (Orchidaceae, Malaxidinae), containing about 20 species, is known from southern Central America and Andean South America. Its members are inhabitants of steep embankments in wet forests and grow as epiphytes as well as terrestrials. The species have previously been placed in *Microstylis* Sw., *Malaxis* Sol., or *Liparis* L. C. Rich., but they differ clearly from those genera. Species of *Crossoglossa* do not produce pseudobulbs, the leaves are distichous, distributed along the stem, and the lip has basal lobules clasping the gynostemium. The gynostemium is short, erect, and its column part is not swollen basally. The staminodes are transformed into a prominent apical clinandrium. The anther is operculate and incumbent. The rostellum is truncate and can produce a single viscidium.

While studying herbarium materials from

South America we found a specimen from Ecuador, which in our opinion represents a hitherto undescribed species.

***Crossoglossa neiryneckiana* Szlach. & Marg., *sp. nova* (Fig. 1)**

Species haec Crossoglossae tipuloidi apparenter affinis, sed distinguitur labello glabro, basi latissimo, supra lineari et apice oblongo-triangulari.

TYPE: Ecuador. Prov. Napo Pastaza, Mera, 15.III.1940 Lugo 63 (holotype B).

Plants ca. 0.5–0.6 m high, erect. Rhizome creeping, rooting, gradually turn into stem. Stem erect, slender, noded, upper portion completely covered with leaf sheaths and petioles. Leaves

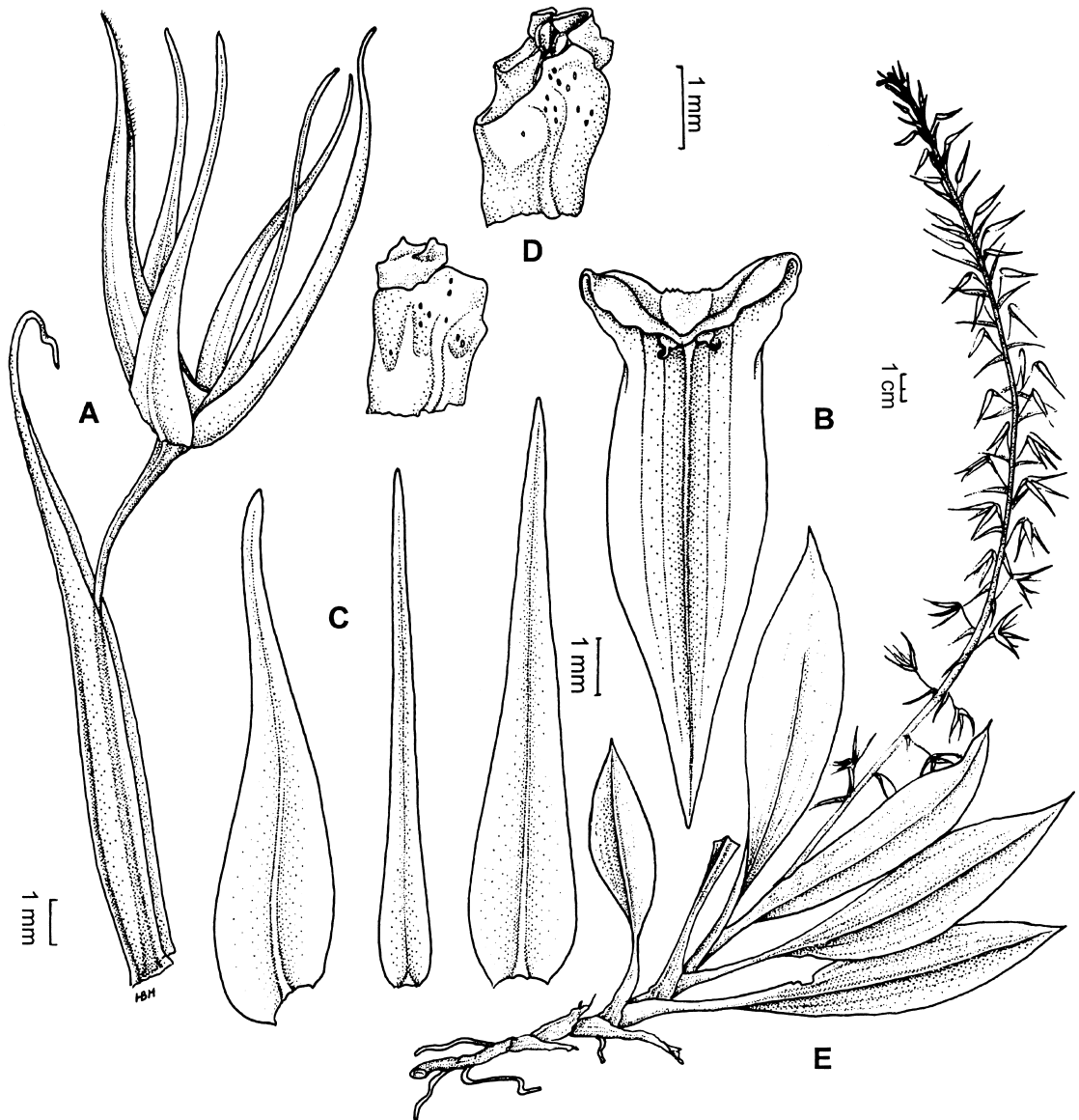


Fig. 1. *Crossoglossa neiryneckiana* Szlach. & Marg. (from the holotype). — **A:** Flower with floral bract. — **B:** Lip in front view. — **C:** Tepals. — **D:** Gynostemium in dorsal and ventral view. — **E:** Plant with inflorescence.

6–10; leaf petiole 2.2–3.5 cm long, 5–8.5 mm wide, rigid, canaliculate, greenish with a flavescent to fulvous tinge, gradually becoming a leaf sheath; leaf sheath 1.2–2.7 mm long, 3.5–9 mm in diameter, broadly and laxly infundibular, fulvous with a flavescent tinge; leaf blade 11–15 cm long, 2.4–3.4 cm wide, lanceolate to broadly lanceolate, distinctly attenuate, acuminate, near stem base sometimes much reduced, nerves 5–7,

thin and delicate, slightly darker, except middle ones thick, yellowish to brownish beneath; blade of leaves olive to dark olive, paler beneath. Inflorescence terminal, erect, rigid; raceme 30–40 cm long, lax; peduncle 10–12 cm long. Flowers slightly spreading, dark olive with a flavescent tinge. Floral bracts 0.9–1.8 mm long, 1.2–2.6 mm wide, longer than ovary with pedicel, narrowly triangular, attenuate, acumi-

nate, 1-nerved, dark olive, brighter near margins, more strongly deflexed below. Dorsal sepal longer than lateral, 11–12 mm long, 1.2–1.5 mm wide, lanceolate, strongly attenuate, acute, 1-nerved. Lateral sepals 10–11 mm long, 1.8–2.1 mm wide, distinctly oblique, lanceolate, strongly attenuate, acute, 1-nerved, distal portion sometimes gently sinuate. Petals 10.5–11.5 mm long, 0.4–0.5 mm wide, lanceolate, distal portion linear, attenuate, acute. Lip 10.2–11.5 mm long, unlobed, with broadly rounded and incurved basal auricles clasping column of gynostemium, oblong in outline, attenuate, acute, margins entire, with 5 nerves; 2 minute calli present bilaterally near base of middle nerve, calli suborbicular with a linear and falcately curved tip.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honour of Mr. Hendrik Neiryneck of Belgium, for his help in getting alcohol-preserved and living material for our studies.

DISTRIBUTION: Known so far from the type collection only.

NOTES: This species is closely related to *Crossoglossa tipuloides* (Lindl.) Dodson, but differs clearly in the lip form. In *C. neiryneckiana* the lip is ribbon-like with an oblong-triangular acute apex, and possesses two widely divergent auricles at the base, which is thus its widest part. The lip margins are glabrous. In *C. tipuloides* the general outline of the lip is widely elliptic with an acuminate apex and parallel basal auricles (Fig. 2). The lip is widest near the middle and its margins are minutely and densely ciliate.

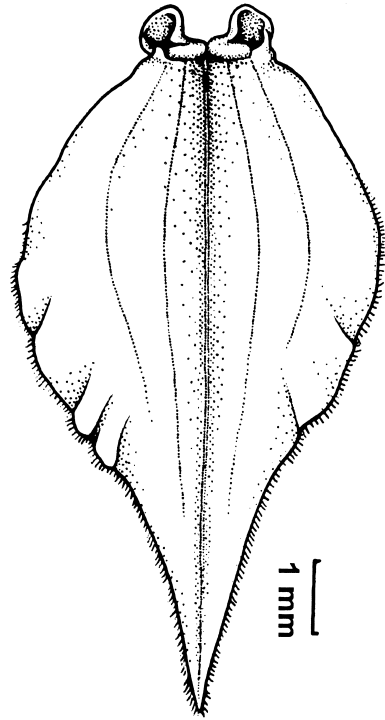


Fig. 2. *Crossoglossa tipuloides* (Lindl.) Dodson (from *Wandland 750*, W-R). Lip in front view.

Acknowledgements

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