THE GENUS PAPPERITZIA

BY Louis O. Williams

In 1844, H.G. Reichenbach described Leochilus Leiboldi from specimens received in liquid from Leibold. He realized that the species was different from Leochilus but at that time did not think that it was distinct enough to warrant the erection of a new genus. However, in 1852, Reichenbach described the genus Papperitzia to include this species. Later, in 1854, in his Xenia Orchidacea, he redescribed it and published a figure. The figure is so badly drawn that it is misleading.

The characters of Papperitzia were so obscure, however, that Bentham included it among his uncertain genera in the Genera Plantarum.

In Reichenbach's herbarium there are two specimens of Papperitzia, the original one which was collected by Leibold and a specimen collected by Kienast. Dr. Rudolph Schlechter had one specimen in his herbarium collected by H. Schenck. In the Ames Herbarium there are two specimens, one collected by Purpus and the other collected by Nagel & Juan G. [onzáles]. The latter specimen is also represented by flowers preserved in liquid.

The study of this more adequate material has made possible a fuller understanding of the genus, and consequently, it seems advisable to present an amplified description.

Papperitzia Reichenbach filius in Bot. Zeit. 10 (1852) 670; Xenia Orch. 1 (1858) 237, t. 100, figs. I, 1–5.

Small epiphytic herbs. Stems pseudobulbose. Pseudobulbs small, ancipitous, unifoliate. Leaves coriaceous, lateral under the pseudobulbs (usually one pair) and articulated, and also with a single leaf on the summit of

EXPLANATION OF THE ILLUSTRATION

Papperitzia Leiboldii Reichb, f. 1, plant, natural size. 2, flower, oblique view, enlarged four times. 3, lip and column from the front, enlarged four times. 4, lip and column from the side, enlarged four times. 5, longitudinal section of lip and column to show sac.

Drawn from herbarium specimen and flowers preserved in liquid by Gordon W. Dillon.



the pseudobulb. Peduncles lateral, simple. Inflorescence racemose, few- to several-flowered; bracts small. Dorsal sepal free, hood-like, subcaudate. Lateral sepals connate to their apices, navicular, subcaudate. Petals free, similar to the dorsal sepal except flat, caudate. Lip fleshy, saccate at the base (but the sac ordinarily obscured by the sepals), with a trilobulate callus below partly enfolding the column and column-wings. Column short, auriculate-winged at the apex, footless; rostellum elongated; anther terminal, operculate, incumbent; pollinia two, ceraceous.

A rare monotypic genus.

1. Papperitzia Leiboldii Reichenbach filius in Bot. Zeit. 10 (1852) 670; Xenia Orch. 1 (1858) 237, t. 100, figs. I, 1–5, (very poor figures).

Leochilus Leiboldi Reichenbach filius in Linnaea 18 (1844) 404.

Range: Mexico (Vera Cruz and Oaxaca).

Mexico: Kienast; Liebold; Nagel & Juan G[onzáles] 6050; Purpus 2125; Schenck.



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