

cm long. Flower colour: sepals and petals are yellowish-green apically, reddish-brown basally; labellum is white, with pink markings; spur yellowish-green. Dorsal sepal: narrowly oblong, cucullate, 2.5 mm long by 1 mm wide. Petals: sub-spathulate, 1.7 mm long by 0.8 mm wide; reflexing slightly. Lateral sepals: falcate, cucullate, 2.5 mm long by 1 mm wide. Labellum: three lobed; side lobes square, very small; mid lobe fleshy, apex rounded, barely 1 mm wide. Spur: conical, 3.5 mm long by 1.5 mm in diameter, with two small calli near the entrance. Pedicel and Ovary: to 7 mm long by 0.5 mm in diameter; there is a short acute bract about 2.5 mm long at the base of each flower.

**Habitat and Distribution:** *Cleisostoma aikoae* COOTES, is endemic to the Philippines, and grows as an epiphyte, on the undersides of the smaller, outer branches of trees. It grows at elevations of about 600 metres.

**Comparison:** *Cleisostoma aikoae* Cootes, does not seem to have any close relatives. It can be compared with *Cleisostoma sagittatum* Blume, but differs in the much smaller flowers, the unbranching inflorescence, the differently shaped labellum, and the differently shaped mentum.

**Acknowledgements:** My sincere thanks to Peter O'BYRNE for his assistance when I was in the process of writing the description.

# A New *Cleisostoma* (*Orchidaceae*) Species from the Philippines

Jim COOTES

During a hike in the mountains at the back of Puerto Galera, in the north of the island of Mindoro, Philippines, in March 2013, Mr. Ravan SCHNEIDER and Aiko, the daughter of his partner Josephine SANIEGA, found a fallen tree at an elevation of about 600 metres. As is their usual custom, they closely studied the fallen branches and a *Cleisostoma* species was found in bloom. The flowers were preserved in alcohol for closer study by the author. The flowers have since been studied and compared to species from the Philippines and her neighbouring countries. No match has been found and I hereby conclude that this is a previously undescribed species. I propose to call this species *Cleisostoma aiko-*

*ae* COOTES in honour of its discoverer, Miss Aiko SANIEGA.

***Cleisostoma aikoae* Cootes sp. nov.**

**Type:** Philippines, Mindoro, Mount Thimble at ca. 600 metres elevation, on a fallen tree. **Holotype:** NSW907364

## Plant Description:

Growth habit: semi-pendulous, monopodial. Stem: reaching lengths of 12 cm by 3.5 mm in width; bearing the leaves at the apex. Leaves: leathery; alternate; narrowly rectangular; to 9 cm long by 2 cm wide. Inflorescences: pendulous; overall to 19 cm long by 1.5 mm in diameter, bearing many blooms about 4 mm in diameter; rachis to 12

