

*Bulbophyllum pachyanthum* Schltr.

*Bulbophyllum longiscapum sensu* Parham; non Rolfe

*Bulbophyllum* sp. of Yuncker

**SAMOAN NAME:** none

**ENGLISH NAME:** none

**STATUS:** rare indigenous

**REASON FOR LISTING:** rarity of collections

**SUGGESTED ACTION:** Not much can be done for this orchid, since epiphytic orchids are hard to locate because they are often high up in the forest canopy. Its infrequency of collection may be a result of this rather than actual rarity. Since it occurs at up to 1600 m elevation, it is probably in no immediate danger.

Indigenous to Samoa, ranging from westward to New Caledonia. In Samoa it occurs in foothill to cloud forest of 'Upolu and Savai'i, reported from 300 to 1600 m elevation. No Samoan names or uses have been reported.

**Large epiphytic orchid** with a clustered or weakly spreading habit, a somewhat elongated rhizome 4–6 mm in diameter, and closely spaced, obliquely ovoid pseudobulbs 1.8–3.5 × 1–1.7 cm. **Leaves** simple, alternate; blade coriaceous, oblong-elliptic, 8–25 × 3–5.5 cm, narrowly cuneate at the base, broadly acute at the tip; surfaces glabrous; margins entire; petiole 1.5–4 cm long. **Inflorescence** an erect, laxly 2–4-flowered raceme 22–40 cm long, on a peduncle bearing 3 or 4 widely spaced sheaths along its length, as well as broadly ovate, acuminate-tipped bracts 10–12 mm long; flowers developing sequentially, green or greenish yellow spotted with purple, glabrous, pedicel and ovary 1.5–2.5 cm long. Sepals unequal; dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, acuminate at the tip, 2.2–2.8 × 1.2–1.4 cm, slightly thickened and carinate dorsally; lateral sepals obliquely lanceolate, acute at the tip, 3.3–3.8 × 0.8–1.2 cm, dorsally carinate. **Petals** obliquely ovate, acute at the tip, 1.2–1.6 × 0.8–0.9 cm. Lip arcuate, fleshy, oblong-lanceolate, subacute at the tip, 1.2–1.4 × ca. 0.5 cm, auriculate at base; calli 2, longitudinal, somewhat papillate; column ca. 1 cm long, with setose steldia as long as the column; foot ca. 8 mm long. **Fruit** a ribbed fusiform capsule up to 8.5 cm long (including the stalk). **Flowering** and fruiting probably occur throughout the year.

**Distinguishable** by its epiphytic orchid habit; creeping rhizome with large leaves borne singly from pseudobulbs; leaf blade up to 25 cm long; 2–4-flowered raceme up to 40 cm long; relatively large, showy green or yellowish flowers spotted with purple; petals over 1 cm long; and spindle-shaped fruit up to 8 cm long.

**SAVAII:**

Whistler 9614—Epiphyte near Mataoleafi at 1600 m elevation.

**UPOLU:**

Christophersen 558—Epiphyte on tree in foothill forest on Mt. Fao at 300 m elevation.

**OTHER SAMOAN COLLECTIONS:** Tutuila (6), Ta'ū (1).

