

Habenaria monogyne Schltr.

Habenaria supervacanea Fleischm. & Reehinger, non Rchb. f.

SAMOAN NAME: none

ENGLISH NAME: none

STATUS: rare archipelago endemic

REASON FOR LISTING: rarity of collections

SUGGESTED ACTION: Not much can be done for this terrestrial orchid, since it is scattered over three islands and at reported elevations from 300 to 900 m elevation, but is should be looked for lowland and montane botanical surveys.

Endemic to Samoa, where it is restricted to Savai'i and 'Upolu, and in American Samoa to Tutuila (one 1920 collection), reported from 300 to 900 m elevation. No Samoan names or uses have been reported.

Medium-sized terrestrial orchid up to 60 cm in height, with glabrous stems. **Leaves** simple, alternate; blade lanceolate, up to 14–17 x ca. 2.7 cm, acuminate at the tip; surfaces glabrous; margins entire. **Inflorescence** a terminal, several-flowered raceme; flowers greenish?. Sepals similar, ovate, ca. 9 mm long, acuminate at the tip. **Petals** bipartite, posterior lobe linear-lanceolate, ca. 9 mm long, anterior lobe half as long. Lip 3-lobed, midlobe linear, ca. 1 cm long, side lobes up to 2 cm long; spur ca. 1.4 cm long. **Fruit** a fusiform capsule mm long. (The description needs to be completed; no specimens could be located for this description, and the one in Cribb and Whistler [1996] is abbreviated.) **Flowering** reported in June, fruiting times not recorded, but both probably occur much of the year.

Distinguishable by its medium-sized terrestrial orchid habit; lanceolate leaves up to 17 cm long; greenish flowers in loose, many-flowered racemes; and spur at least 1.4 cm long.

SAVAII:

Vaupel 69—(Specimen not at Bishop Museum—lost?)

UPOLU:

Betche s.n.—Without further locality (“lost”).

Reehinger 952—Native forest above Utumapu.

Reehinger 1392—Lowland forest on Mt. Vaea at 300 m elevation.

OTHER SAMOAN COLLECTIONS: Tutuila (1, in 1920). Cribb and Whistler (1996) list Christophersen 2073 from Savai'i as belonging to this species, but this is a mistake as the specimen with this number is something entirely different.

