

Hetaeria whitmeei Rchb. f.

Adenostylis stricta Rolfe

Hetaeria francisii Schltr.

Hetaeria polyphylla Rchb. f.

Zeuxine betchei Schltr.

Zeuxine sphaerocheila H. Fleischm. & Rechinger

Zeuxine triandra Hotta

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 it has not been collected in nearly 80 years, and the known collections are scattered in lowland forest on the two largest islands. Like the other rare orchids, it should be looked for in future lowland and montane forest surveys.

Indigenous to Samoa, ranging westward to New Caledonia. In Samoa it occurs in lowland to montane forest of Savai'i and 'Upolu, and on Ta'ū in American Samoa, reported from 200 to 650 m. No Samoan names or uses have been reported.

Medium-sized terrestrial orchid up to 60 cm in height. **Leaves** simple, alternate; blade elliptic to lanceolate, 10–22 × 1.5–3 cm, acute at the base, acuminate at the tip; surfaces glabrous; margins entire; petiole 2–3.5 cm long sheathing at the base. **Inflorescence** a glabrous, laxly many-flowered raceme 20–40 cm long; flowers brownish white without, creamy within, ovary 7–9 mm long. Sepals unequal; dorsal sepal ovate, subacute at the tip, 4–5 mm × ca. 3 mm; lateral sepals obliquely oblong-ovate, subacute at the tip, 4–5.5 × 2–2.5 mm. **Petals** oblong, rounded at tip, 4–4.5 × 0.7–1 mm. Lip 4.5–5.5 × 3–4 mm, saccate at the base with two lamellate, papillate calli within and longitudinally divided by a shallow groove externally; apical part transversely oblong, 1–1.5 × 1.5–2 mm; column ca. 1.5 mm long. **Fruit** a fusiform capsule 8–10 mm long excluding the persistent perianth. **Flowering** reported from September and October, but it and fruiting probably occur throughout the year.

Distinguishable by medium-sized terrestrial orchid habit; elliptic to lanceolate leaves over 2 cm wide; raceme 20–40 cm long; brownish white to cream-colored flowers less than 5 mm long, with the perianth borne at an angle to the ovary.

SAVAII:

Graeffe 1268—Without further locality (not in Reinecke).

Rechinger 3710—Montane forest above Vaipōuli near the “new craters” (Matavanu).

Christophersen 653—Forest edge next to a plantation above Manase at 200 m elevation.

UPOLU:

Betche 57—Without further locality (not in Reinecke).

Rechinger 1663—Montane forest above Utumapu.

Christophersen 542—Maugatele Ridge above Sāluafata at 550 m elevation.

SINE LOC:

Whitmee s.n.—Samoa without further locality.

OTHER SAMOAN COLLECTIONS: Ta'ū (1). This species should have been on American Samoa list of rare plants, but was inadvertently omitted.

