

*Pseuderia ramosa* L. O. Williams

*Pseuderia* sp. of Christoph.

**SAMOAN NAME:** none

**ENGLISH NAME:** none

**STATUS:** rare indigenous (but not rare in American Samoa)

**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. It should be looked for during any orchid surveys on the upper part of the Matavanu lava flow. It is much more common in American Samoa, so is not endangered in the archipelago as a whole.

Indigenous to Samoa, also found in Futuna. In Samoa it is found in montane scrub and montane forest of Savai'i, and in American Samoa on Tutuila and Ta'u, reported from (100–) 270 to 700 m elevation. It is much more common in American Samoa than in independent Samoa. No Samoan names or uses are reported.

**Medium-sized epiphytic orchid**, scrambling or climbing, with leafy stems up to 40 cm or more in length, forming adventitious roots from its lower nodes. **Leaves** simple, alternate; blade lanceolate, 10–15 x 1.4–2.5 cm, articulate to sheathing at the base, acuminate at the tip; surfaces glabrous; margins entire; sessile on the sheath. **Inflorescence** of many, laxly to subdensely 3–4-flowered racemes 3–4 cm long, emerging opposite to the subtending leaves, bearing subimbricate, ovate bracts up to 10 mm long; flowers cream white to greenish, fleshy; pedicel and ovary 6–10 mm long. Sepals unequal; dorsal sepal incurved, linear-oblongate, obtuse, 11–12 x 1.5–2 mm; lateral sepals falcate, lanceolate, obtuse, 12–14 x 3–4 mm. **Petals** falcate, lanceolate, obtuse, 10–11 x ca. 1.5 mm. Lip entire, elliptic-rhombic, subacute at the tip, 8–9 x 4–5 mm, glandular-farinose in its apical half; callus basal, triangular, sulcate; column 5–6 mm long. **Fruit** a linear capsule 2.8–3.4 cm long. **Flowering** and fruiting probably occur throughout the year.

**Distinguishable** by its scrambling, epiphytic orchid habit; narrowly lanceolate leaves 10–15 cm long; short racemes emerging from the sheath opposite the subtending leaf; green flowers up to 1.2 cm long; and linear capsule up to 3.5 cm long.

**SAVAII:**

Whistler 5151—Lava flow forest on the rim of Matavanu at 580 m elevation.

**OTHER SAMOAN COLLECTIONS:** Tutuila (5), Ta'u (4).

