

NEW TAXA OF BROMELIACEAE (V)

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ABSTRACT. A synopsis of the subspecific classification of *Aechmea chantinii* (Carr.) Bak. is presented. A new species and variety of *Aechmea* Ruiz & Pav. (subgenus *Platyaechmea* (Bak.) Bak.) are also described.

1. *Aechmea chantinii* (Carriere) Baker, Handb. Bromel. 49. 1889.

Billbergia chantinii Carriere, Rev. Hort. 50: 112, figure 2. 1878; 52: 272, figures 54-56. 1880.
TYPE: Brazil?, flowered in cultivation, *Baraquin in Paris Hortus s.n.* (p?, n.v.).

DISTRIBUTION. Amazonian South America.

The following synopsis of the subspecific taxa of *Aechmea chantinii* is presented prior to the publication of a full monograph of the Amazonian taxa of *Aechmea* subgenus *Platyaechmea* (Luther, in prep.). A full citation of specimens examined will be given at that time.

Key to the Subspecific Taxa of *Aechmea chantinii*

1. Leaves concolorous. var. *chantinii* f. *amazonica*.
1. Leaves conspicuously silver banded.
2. Flowers to 30 mm long. var. *chantinii* f. *chantinii*.
2. Flowers to 40 mm long. var. *fuchsii*.

Aechmea chantinii var. *chantinii* forma *chantinii*
FIGURE 1.

DISTRIBUTION. Venezuela, Brazil, Peru.

Aechmea chantinii var. *chantinii* forma *amazonica* (Ule) Luther, comb. et stat. nov.

Aechmea amazonica Ule, Verh. Bot. Ver. Brand. 48: 136. 1907. TYPE: Peru, San Martin, Tarapoto, Ule 6315 (B, F photo 11305).

DISTRIBUTION. Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador (?), Peru.

Aechmea chantinii (Carr.) Bak. var. *fuchsii* Luther, var. nov. FIGURE 2.

A typo *Aechmeae chantinii* var. *chantinii* similis sed bracteis partibus florum permajoribus.

TYPE. Ecuador, Napo, without specific locality, F. Fuchs, Jr. s.n. (SEL, holotype; US, isotype).

Plant propagating by stout, 30 cm long stolons; leaves to 65 cm long, conspicuously silver banded on both sides; sheaths elliptic, to 17 cm wide, dark castaneous within; blades to 10 cm wide, armed with dark 4 mm long antrorse spines. Scape erect to decurved, stout, white flocculose; scape bracts imbricate but the upper often reflexed, to 18 cm long, serrate, pink. Primary bracts like the scape bracts but the upper bracts abruptly much reduced. Branches stipitate, spreading, to 12 cm long, 8- to 15-flowered. Floral bracts broadly ovate, to 2 cm long, yellow green. Sepals very asymmetrical, 17-20 mm long, yellow green. Petals 25 mm long, each with 2 basal appendages, bright yellow with white apex. Ovary to 15 mm long.

DISTRIBUTION. Ecuador.

RELATIONSHIPS. According to overall morphology this new variety fits comfortably within the taxon *Aechmea chantinii* but differs in the size of the bracts and flower parts being more or less 50 percent larger. This is the first and only verified collection of this species to be found in Ecuador and has been in cultivation for several years under the cultivar name 'Pink Banners'.

2. *Aechmea cucullata* Luther, sp. nov.

FIGURE 3.

Aechmeae tessmannii Harms similis et affinis sed bracteis florigeris majoribus cucullatisque et sepalis ellipticus majoribusque differt.

TYPE. Ecuador, Napo, km 6 Tena-Puerto Napo, elev. ca. 450 m. C. H. & P. M. Dodson, D. Benzling & A. Hirtz 14062, 18 June 1983 (SEL, holotype).

Plant propagating by stout stolons 8-20 cm long; leaves spreading, to 70 cm long, appressed cinereous lepidote especially beneath, overall green or abaxially reddish; leaf sheaths elliptic, to 15 cm wide, entire, castaneous toward the base; leaf blades to 12 cm wide, rounded with a pungent apex, armed with 4-5 mm long dark, antrorse spines. Scape erect, 8-10 mm in di-

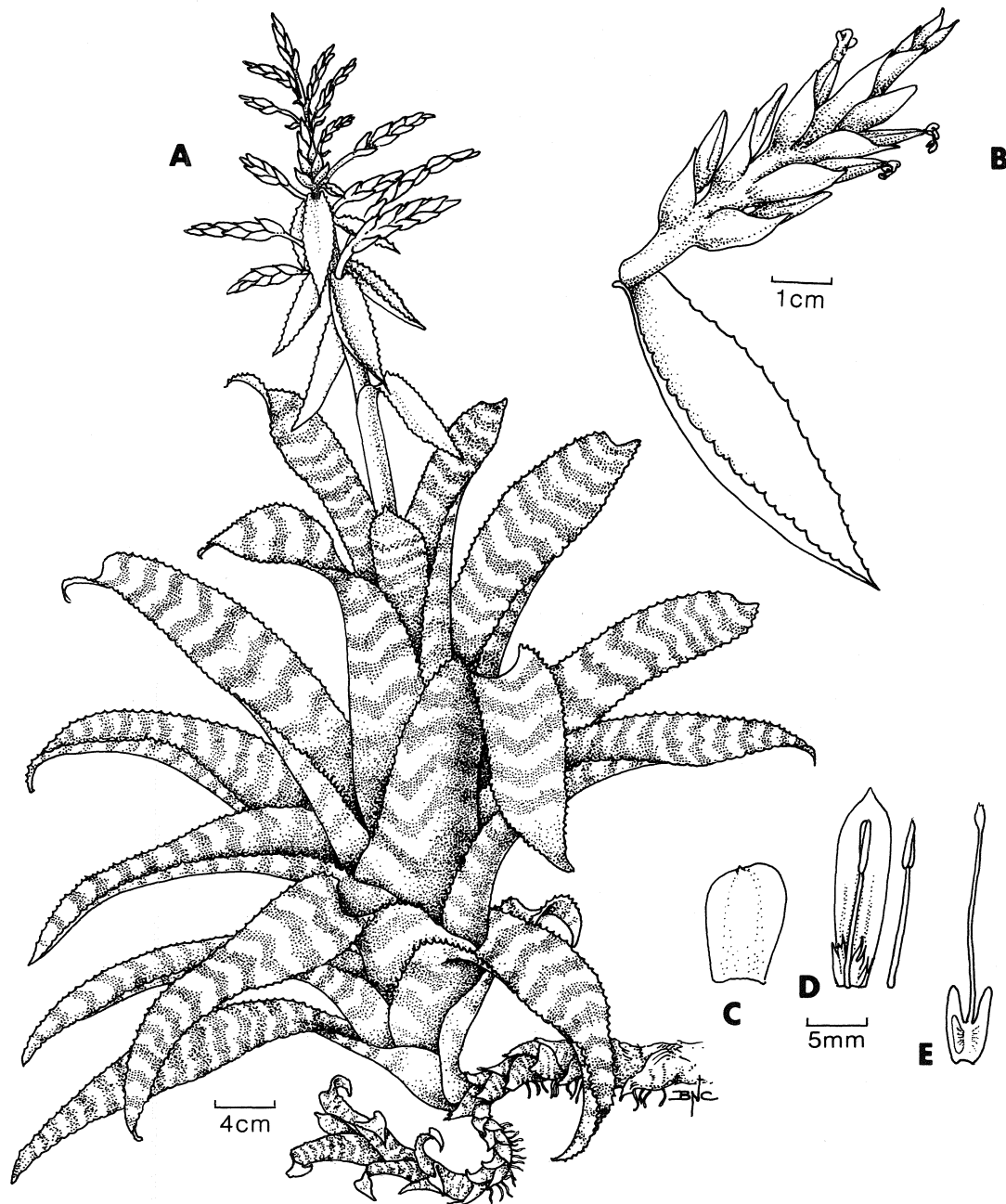


FIGURE 1. *Aechmea chantinii* var. *chantinii*. A, habit. B, branch of inflorescence. C, sepal. D, petal and stamens. E, pistil and ovary.

ameter, pale lepidote, reddish; scape bracts lanceolate, erect or reflexed, to 8 cm long, orange red or pink. Primary bracts like the upper scape bracts, the lowest exceeding the lateral branches, gradually smaller toward the apex of the inflo-

rescence, laxly serrate. Inflorescence bipinnate with 8 to 20 erect to spreading branches. Peduncles flattened, 2-3 cm long, pale lepidote, reddish. Branches 8- to 12-flowered. Rachis broad, excavated, dark, slightly lepidote but soon gla-

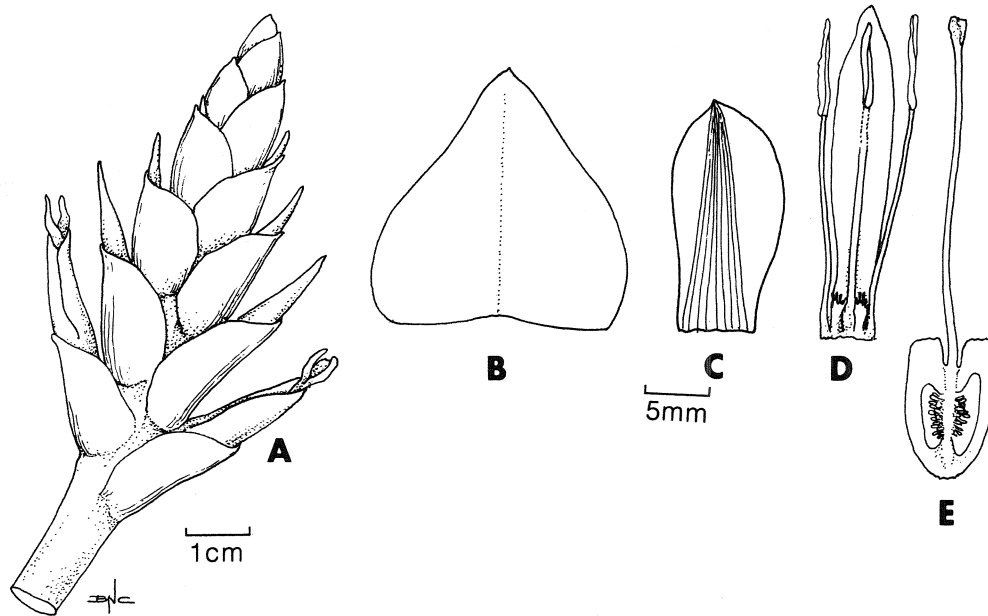


FIGURE 2. *Aechmea chantinii* var. *fuchsii*. A, branch of inflorescence. B, floral bract. C, sepal. D, petal and stamens. E, pistil and ovary.

brous. Floral bracts broadly elliptic, 23–30 mm long, 12–20 mm wide, carinate, incurved and cucullate, tightly imbricate but slightly exposing the rachis at anthesis, thin nerved, subcoriaceous, glabrous, bright orange and yellow, or pink

and yellow, much exceeding the sepals and nearly equalling the petals. Flowers sessile. Sepals broadly elliptic, nearly symmetrical, 16–20 mm long, 6–8 mm wide, rounded at the apex, nerved, nearly free, yellow green. Petals 18–23 mm long,

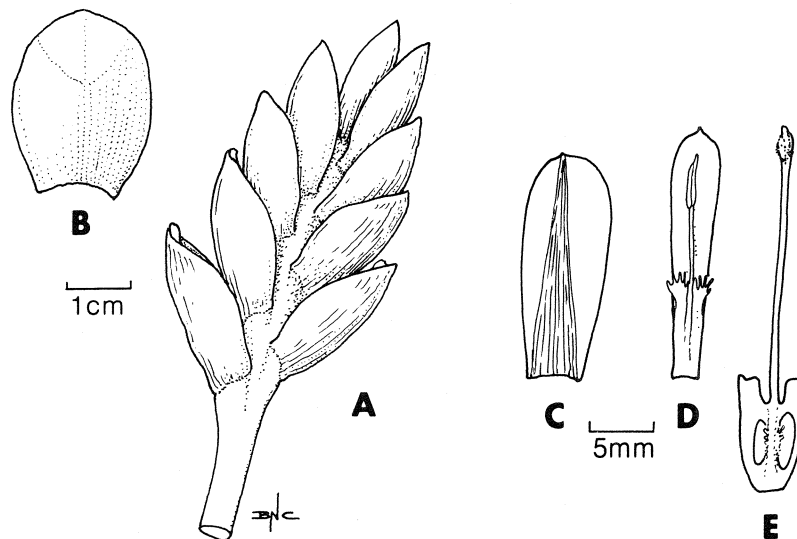


FIGURE 3. *Aechmea cucullata*. A, branch of inflorescence. B, floral bract. C, sepal. D, petal and stamen. E, pistil and ovary.

barely exerted beyond the floral bracts, bright yellow. Ovary ellipsoid, 5–7 mm long, epigynous tube to 3 mm deep.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED. **Colombia.** Putumayo: Las Mesas, 140 m, *M. B. & R. Foster 2222* (us). **Ecuador.** Napo: Shingupino Forest between Rio Napo and Tena, 8 km SE of Tena, 450 m, *P. J. Grubb, J. R. Lloyd, T. D. Pennington & T. C. Whitmore 1692* (us); Tena to Pano, 750 m, *E. W. Davis 402* (s, n.v.; photo us). **Without locality.** Flowered in cultivation, *L. Ariza Julia, s.n.*, 31 July 1981 (SEL).

RELATIONSHIPS. This new species closely resembles (and has been consistently confused with) *Aechmea tessmannii* Harms. It differs from it by having much larger, incurved and cucullate floral bracts and larger, elliptic sepals that are entirely concealed by the floral bracts at anthesis. Two strikingly different color morphs of *A. cucullata* have been collected and introduced into cultivation: an unusual pink and yellow combination and a more common red, orange, and yellow color phase that resembles *A. tessmannii*.