**Anguloa**

Description: Distinctive waxy, goblet-shaped flowers earn Anguloa the common name of Tulip

Orchid. **Flower**: Broad sepals and petals curve spoon-like around the column, forming a

narrow-mouthed cup. Color varies considerably but white, yellow and orange are common. A

delicately hinged lip is enclosed within the cup: its constant wagging is responsible for another

common name, Mother-in-Law’s Tongue. The short column bears 2 ear-like flaps near the tip.

Long-lived flowers exude strong fragrances by day, including menthol, Wintergreen, and

cinnamon. **Plant**: Large pseudobulbs are egg- or football-shaped and usually furrowed, the

grooves deepening with age. Soft leaves are long (t 24”, broad, and prominently pleated; in high

light conditions leaves can be narrow and leathery. Most species, particularly those with yellow

flowers have deciduous leaves; pseudobulbs retain short, defensive spines. Inflorescences bear l

to 2 flowers, along with several green leaf-like bracts.

**Distribution and Diversity**: The approximately 10 species of *Anguloa* are predominantly

terrestrial, although a few are epiphytic. They occur in lower to upper elevation montane forests,

from Venezuela to Bolivia. **Ecology and History**: Male euglossine bees visit A*nguloa* flowers,

enticed by their odors. Strong fragrance is highly beneficial in tropical forests where dense

vegetation forces pollinators to rely on olfactory rather than visual cues.