Pleurothallis ciliata Knowl. & Weste. var. abbreviata C. Schweinfurth var. nov.

Herba variabilis, inflorescentiis abbreviatis et floribus

extus dense pubescentibus et labelli basi cum lobulis parvis dentiformibus a specie differt.

Plant epiphytic, medium-sized to large, apparently with a creeping rhizome. Stems unifoliate, 6-27 cm. long, with two or three close, tubular, evanescent sheaths near the base. Leaf erect, oblong-elliptic, subacute, cuneate at the sessile base, 9-14 cm. long, up to 3.5 cm. wide. Inflorescences one or two (perhaps more), abbreviated, nodding, densely few-flowered. Flowers small, finely short-pubescent without, bilabiate, brownish yellow somewhat "striped with darker brown-yellow," Dorsal sepal narrowly oblong-lanceolate, acute and mucronate, up to 9.4 mm. long and 2.2 mm. wide, 3- to 5-nerved. Lateral sepals connate into an elliptic-lanceolate, sharply bidentate lamina which is about as long as the dorsal sepal but nearly twice as wide. Petals much smaller than the sepals, elliptic-lanceolate, short-acuminate, serrate above, about 4 mm. long and 1.2 mm. wide near the middle. Lip smaller than the petals, lightly arcuate below, ovate-oblong, rounded at the apex, trilobulate above the cuneate base with a pair of small, erect, dentiform, obtuse lateral lobes, bicarinate through the middle, about 2.2 mm. long. Column about as long as the lip, abruptly dilated above.

This variety of a widespread species is commonly distinctly larger than the type and has very short inflorescences. Moreover, the flowers are densely pubescent without, and the lip has short but distinct lateral lobules.

Huanuco: Yanano, at about 1800 meters altitude, on mossy tree, May 13-16, 1923, J. Francis Macbride 3837 (Type in Herb. Ames No. 37529).

Junin: Chanchamayo Valley, at 1200 meters altitude, September 1930, Carlos Schunke 1127 (whole plant very small).