

Pleurothallis madisonii Luer, sp. nov.

Species haec *P. decurrentis* Poepp. & Endl. similis sed floribus minoribus, petalis obovatis apicibus rotundatis serrulatis apiculatis et labello obovato lobis lateralibus supra medium serrulatis differt.

Plant large, epiphytic, shortly repent to caespitose; rhizome thick, ca. 1 cm between secondary stems; roots coarse, flexuous. Secondary stems erect, slender, terete below, lightly compressed above, to 28 cm long (or longer), unifoliate, with a close tubular sheath 4 cm above the base and another at the base. Leaf erect, coriaceous, elliptical, 14.5 cm long, 9 cm wide, the apex

shortly acuminate, acute, tridenticulate, the base rounded, decurrent on the stem for 2.5 cm. Inflorescence a 5 cm long, congested, 8-flowered raceme (in the only specimen examined), the peduncle subnil, from a spathe 1 cm long at the apex of the embedded secondary stem, emerging 2.5 cm above the base of the leaf; floral bracts infundibular, oblique, acute, 4 mm long, concealing the 2 mm long pedicel; ovary 2.5 mm long; flowers fleshy, glabrous, not wide-spreading; dorsal sepal yellow, narrowly obovate, 9.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, connate basally for 1 mm to the lateral sepals, thickened and convex above the middle, subverrucose externally, the apex rounded, apiculate; lateral sepals maroon, connate to within 2 mm of the apices into a bifid, obovate, bicarinate lamina 9.5 mm long, 5.5 mm wide, thickened above the middle, the apices subacute, apiculate; petals obovate, oblique, 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, minutely verrucose within, serrulate above the middle, the apex rounded, apiculate, with a curved, serrated carina along the apical margin on the inner surface; lip obovate, indistinctly 3-(5-)lobed, 4.5 mm long, 3 mm spread, the apex more or less rounded, serrulate, shortly acuminate, the lateral lobes above the middle erect, rounded, serrulate, thickened basally, with a longitudinal callus between, the disc thickened below the middle between erect, rounded, serrulate margins, the narrowed base subunguiculate, concave, minutely biauriculate, hinged to the column-foot; column 3 mm long, broadly winged above the middle, the foot thick, 1.5 mm long.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Michael T. Madison of the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, Florida, who discovered this species.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: *CARCHI*: epiphytic in wet forest in the vicinity of Maldonado, alt. 1600 m, 13 April 1977, *M. Madison 3922* (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Northwestern Ecuador.

The illustration and description were drawn from a single stem, leaf, and inflorescence with two flowers preserved in alcohol and formalin.