

Pleurothallis juxtaposita Luer, sp. nov.

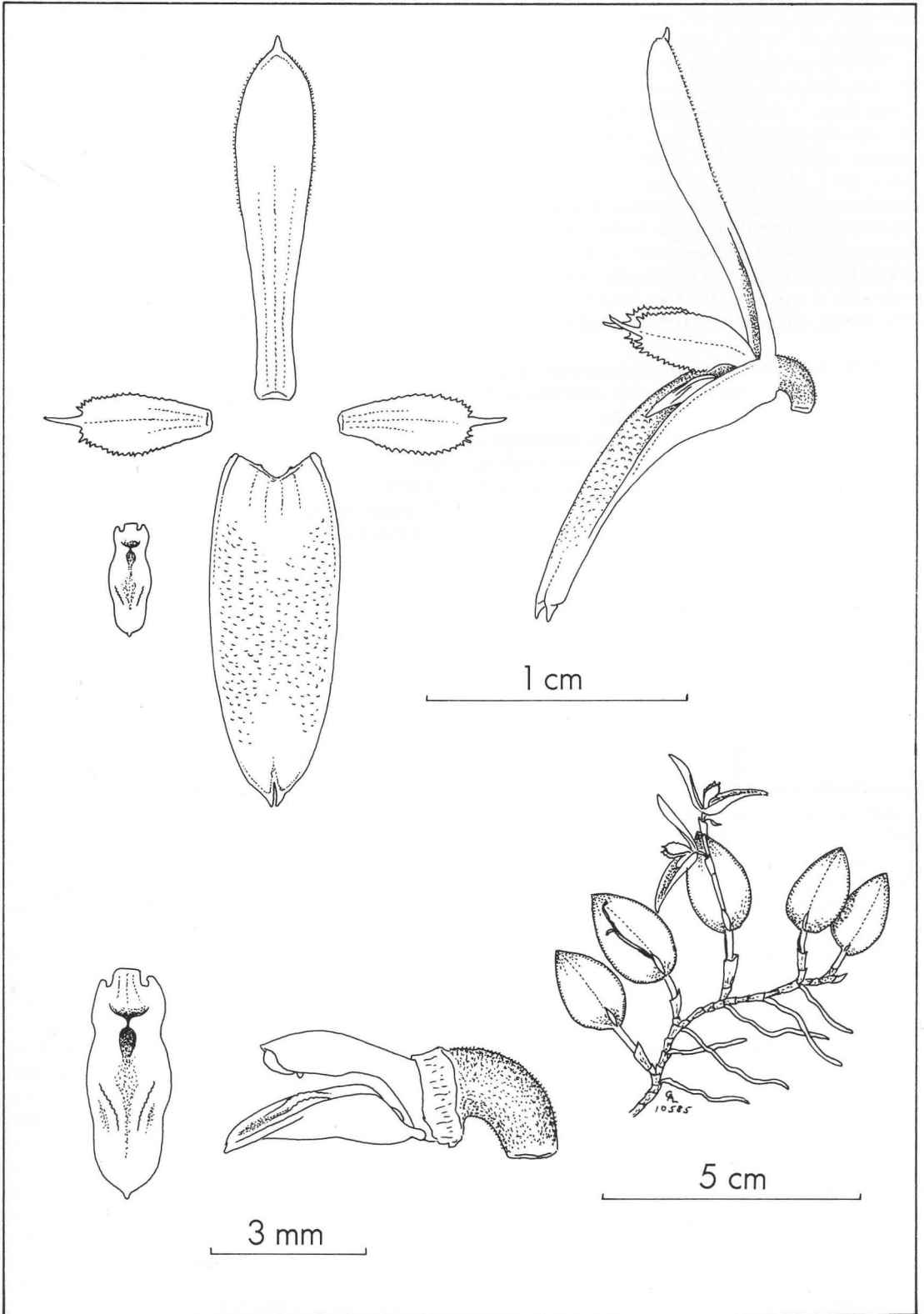
Inter species subgeneris *Aciantherae* species haec habitu parvo, racemo bifloro pedunculo folio ovato breviori, floribus proportione magnis, sepalis carnosus extus glabris, synsepalo intus verruculoso, petalis minute fimbriatis apiculatis, labello crasso oblongo cum callis rotundatis supra basim juxtapositis distinguitur.

Plant small, epiphytic, repent, the rhizome prostrate, branching, 0.5-2 cm long between ramicauls; roots slender, scattered along the rhizome. **Ramicauls** slender, ascending to erect, 9-18 mm long, with 2 tubular sheaths about the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, ovate, subacute, 15-20 mm long, 8-12 mm wide, the base rounded, sessile. **Inflorescence** an erect, distantly and simultaneously 2-flowered raceme, 5 mm long, borne by a peduncle 10-13 mm long, produced from the base of the leaf with a narrow spathe 5 mm long; floral bracts 3 mm long; pedicels cellular-glandular, 2 mm long; ovary minutely pubescent, 3 mm long; **sepals** dull yellow with red-brown veins, fleshy, minutely ciliate, glabrous externally, the dorsal sepal narrowly obovate, obtuse, apiculate, 14 mm long, 3 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into an elliptical, obtuse, bifid, biapiculate lamina, minutely verrucose within, 13 mm long, 5 mm wide; **petals** translucent with a red midvein, obovate, obtuse, minutely fringed, apiculate, 6.5 mm long, 2.25 mm wide, 3-veined; **lip** brown, thick, oblong, 4 mm long, 1.6 mm wide, with the apex rounded, apiculate, the disc with a converging pair of crested calli near the middle, and a pair of rounded calli above the base, cleft between, the base bilobulate, hinged to the column-foot; **column** semiterete, 3 mm long, the foot stout with the apex of the ovary, the anther, rostellum, and stigma ventral.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *juxtapositus*, "placed beside each other," referring to the calli above the base of the lip.

TYPE: PANAMA: Prov. of Chiriquí: epiphytic in cloud forest near the Fortuna dam site, alt. 1100 m, 16 Feb. 1985, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. L. Dressler & K. Dressler 10585* (Holotype: SEL).

This species is another of the numerous allied species included in the subgenus *Acianthera*. The habit is small, repent and branching to form entangled masses. The peduncle, bearing a two-flowered raceme, is shorter than the little, ovate leaf. The flowers are basically similar to most of the others including fleshy sepals and fimbriate petals. Most distinguishing is the pair of rounded calli above the base of the lip. They nearly touch in the midline with a deep cleft between them.



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