

Pleurothallis morenoi Luer, sp. nov.

Species haec *P. recurvae* Lindl. affinis sed habitu minore, floribus paucis guttatis et labello verrucoso notabilis.

Plant small, epiphytic, repent, the primary stems 7-13 mm long, usually concealed by 2 tubular sheaths; roots slender, flexuous, produced singly from nodes. Secondary stems abbreviated, 2-4 mm long, enclosed by 2 white, imbricating, tubular sheaths, unifoliate. Leaf thick, prostrate, commonly distichously arranged and overlapping, green suffused with purple, especially beneath, ovate, 12-17 mm long, 10-14 mm wide, the obtuse apex retuse with an apiculum in the sinus, the rounded base sessile. Inflorescence a solitary, gaping flower or a simultaneously 2-flowered raceme, the peduncle up to 5 mm long, from a 1 mm long spathe at the base of the leaf; floral bract 1 mm long; pedicel 1-1.5 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long, purple, glabrous; sepals fleshy, rose diffusely covered within by minutely pubescent, raised spots, glabrous externally, the dorsal sepal recurved, ovate, obtuse, 8 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, connate 1 mm at the base to the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals connate (but easily separable) to the apices to form a broadly obovate to suborbicular lamina, 8 mm long, 9 mm wide; petals translucent, dotted with purple, ovate, 2 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, minutely erose above the middle, the apex subacute; lip purple, thick elliptical, 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, verrucose with denticulate margins above the middle to the rounded apex, with erect, obtuse, marginal angles below the middle, the truncate base biauriculate, the disc with oblique calli extending forward from the lateral angles; column stout, longitudinally winged, denticulate at the apex, 2 mm long, with a concave foot equally long.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Dr. Luis Moreno of Santa Cruz, Bolivia, who discovered this species.

TYPE: *BOLIVIA*: SANTA CRUZ: without specific locality, L. Moreno s.n. cultivated at SEL. flowered in cult. 25 Sept. 1979, *C. Luer 4285* (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Eastern Bolivia.

This species is related to *P. recurva*, but *P. morenoi* may be distinguished by the smaller habit, fewer, externally glabrous flowers with pubescent, purple spots within, and a verrucose lip. A pair of flowers practically covers the little, prostrate leaf.