

***Pleurothallis quadriserrata* Luer, sp. nov.**

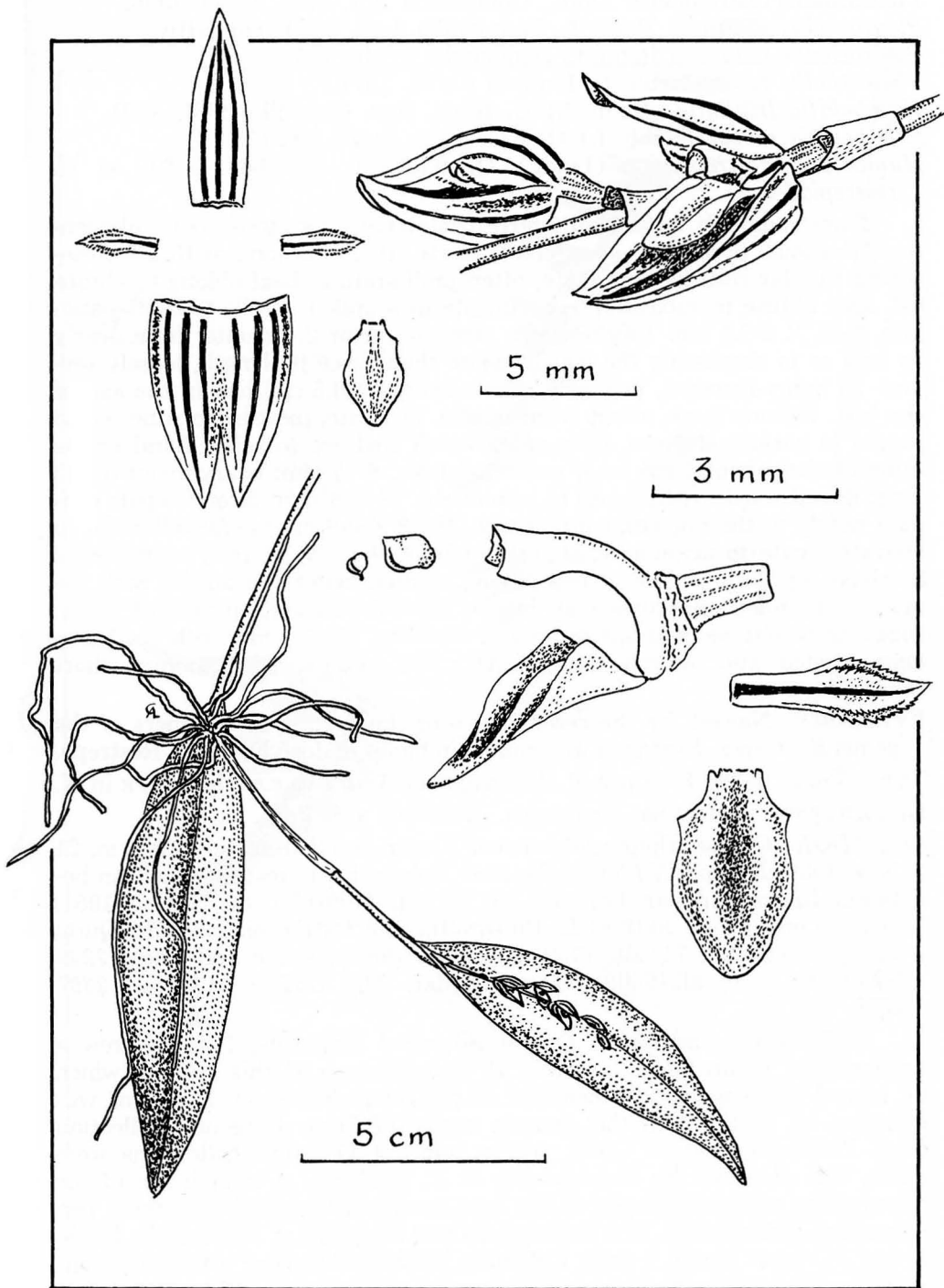
Herba epiphytica pendens, caule prolifero, folio sessili anguste elliptico acuto vel acuminato, racemo paucifloro folio brevior, sepalis carinatis, sepalo dorsali oblongo acuto, sepalis lateralibus semiconnatis, petalis acuminatis quadriserratis, labello carnosio elliptico obtuso, angulo obtuso utrinque, basi microauriculato.

Plant epiphytic, medium-sized, proliferative, pendent; roots numerous, slender, velamentous. Secondary stem slender, 6-8 cm long, usually producing a new stem from the apex of an older one, with 1-2 close tubular sheaths, unifoliate. Leaf coriaceous, richly suffused with purple, narrowly elliptical, 7-9 × 1.5-2 cm, apex acute to acuminate, tridentate, base acuminate, sessile. Inflorescence racemose, few-flowered (5-6), about half the length of the leaf, peduncle slender, from a 6 mm spathe at the base of the leaf; flowers yellow-green with purple stripes; floral bract tubular, 2 mm long; pedicel short, 1 mm; ovary stout, 1.5 mm; dorsal sepal oblong, acute, 6 × 2 mm, prominently 3-veined, dorsally carinate; lateral sepals coherent to above the middle into a bifid lamina, 6.5 × 4.5 mm, 6-veined, bicarinate externally; petals narrowly obovate, acuminate, margins serrate, with a prominent central vein and the two other veins produced into a pair of parallel serrated crests on the inner surface; lip red-purple, fleshy, elliptical, obtuse, 3.25 × 2 mm, with an obtuse angle on each side below the middle, base with a pair of minute auricles, short-unguiculate, disc with a pair of low parallel fleshy calli; column slightly arcuate, semiterete, 2.5 mm long with a foot 0.5 mm long. ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *quadri-*, "four-," and *serratus*, "serrate" or "saw-edged," referring to the four serrated edges of each petal.

**ECUADOR:** PICHINCHA: Epiphytic in old cacao trees along road between Santo Domingo and Chone, alt. 350 m, collected in 1972, flowered in cultivation 15 June 1974. *David and Thomas Dodson s.n.* HOLOTYPE in SEL, #14-74-70.

This species is readily distinguished by its proliferative and pendent habit, purplish leaves, a short, few-flowered raceme of yellow-green flowers prominently striped with purple, each petal with serrated edges as well as a pair of serrated lamellae, and a purplish red lip with an obtuse apex and minute basal auricles.

The unusual condition of the petals suggests a relationship with *Pleurothallis carinata* Schweinfurth, which occurs in Peru at a considerable altitude on the opposite side of the Andes, but the lip of the latter differs in being apiculate, in having small, erect, triangular lateral lobes, and in lacking the basal auricles. The flowers are dark yellow and the secondary stems apparently are not proliferative, but produced from a creeping rhizome.



PLEUROTHALLIS QUADRISERRATA Luer