

***Acianthera rinkei* Luer, sp. nov.**

Fig. 1.

Ety.: Named for Bryon K. Rinke of Winfield, KS, who imported and cultivates this species.

Species haec *Aciantherae aechmi* (Luer) Pridgeon & M.W.Chase affinis, sed sepalis carnosissimis, synsepalo concavo et labello verrucoso differt.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls sharply winged, laterally compressed and sulcate from below the middle, suberect to horizontal, to 12 cm long, with a tubular sheath from above the base and another tubular sheath at the base. **Leaf** erect in relation to the ramicaul, thinly coriaceous, elliptical, acute, acuminate, 12-15 cm long, 4.5 cm wide, the basal margins decurrent up to 3 cm onto the ramicaul. **Inflorescence** a single, a simultaneously several-flowered raceme ca. 2 cm long, borne on top of the leaf, subtended by a spathe 12 mm long from the apex of the ramicaul, 3 cm above the lowermost portion of the leaf; peduncle ca. 3 mm long; floral bracts 2.5 mm long; pedicels 1 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long, densely short-pubescent; **sepals** fleshy, minutely pubescent externally, ochre with small, dark brown spots, the dorsal sepal narrowly oblong, obtuse, 8 mm long, 3 mm wide, 3-veined, free from the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals connate into a broadly ovoid, obtuse, minutely bifid, concave synsepal with incurved margins, 7.5 mm long, 6 mm wide unexpanded, 6-veined; **petals** oblong-spathulate, obtuse, 3.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, 1-veined, with the margins minutely denticulate toward the apex; **lip** dark brown, thick, fleshy, oblong-trilobed, 5.5 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, the apex rounded, entire, the lateral lobes erect, oblong, obtuse, below the middle, the disc with a thick pair of parallel, verrucose calli on the middle third anterior to the marginal lobes, the base truncate, obscurely minutely lobed at the angles, hinged to the tip of the column-foot; **column** slender, 3.5 mm long, dilated in distal quarter, the foot thick, 3 mm long, the anther, rostellum and stigma ventral.

ECUADOR: without locality, collected by Ecuagenera, cultivated in Winfield, KS, Jan. 2006, by B. Rinke s.n. (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 20999.

This species is native to Ecuador, but collection data are unknown. It is most closely related to *Acianthera aechme*, but it is distinguished from the latter by thin leaves that are decurrent onto a sharply winged ramicaul, and as with the former, a short, simultaneously flowered raceme is borne on the top surface of the leaf. The sepals are thickly fleshy and pubescent externally. The synsepal is concave with incurved, not recurved, margins. The lip is thick and elliptical with verrucose calli on the disc, and with erect, obtuse, marginal lobes below the middle.

