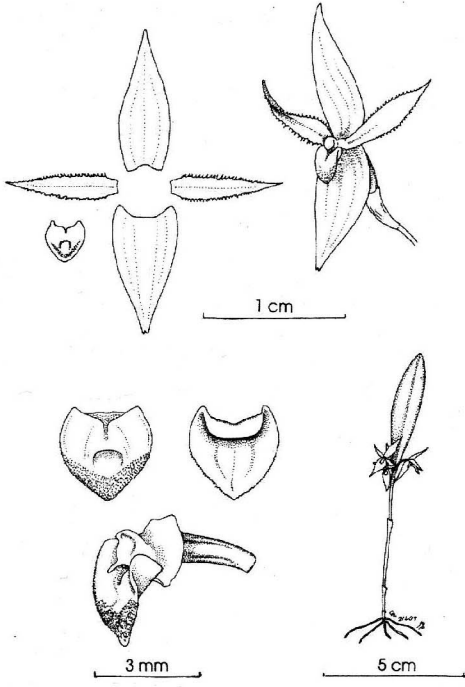


Acronia niesseniae Luer, *sp. nov.* TYPE: COLOMBIA. Valle del Cauca, near Buenaventura, near sea level, submitted by Orquídeas del Valle, 5 April 2011, A. Niessen 02/11 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 21609. Fig. 5.

Species haec Acroniae simulanti (L.O.Williams) Luer *affinis, sed floribus paucis fasciculatis, sepalis petalisque angustioribus, petalis dense fimbriatis et labello sine callo supra basim profundo differt.*

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. *Ramicauls* slender, erect, 3 cm long, with a tubular sheath below the middle. *Leaf* erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, 4.5 cm long, 1 cm wide, cuneate below to a subpetiolate base. *Inflorescence* 2–3 simultaneous, single flowers, borne by a fascicle of peduncles ca. 2.5 mm long at the base of the leaf; floral bract 2.5–3 mm long; pedicel 2–3.5 mm long; ovary 3 mm long; *sepals* purple, membranous, glabrous, the dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, attenuate, acute, 9.5 mm long, 3.9 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into a narrowly ovate-attenuate, acute synsepal, 9 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, 4-veined, with the tip minutely retuse; *petals* purple, narrowly ovate, acute, fimbriate, 8 mm long, 2 mm wide including the fringe, 1-veined; *lip* purple, fleshy, broadly ovate, obtuse, 2 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, 3-veined, the angles above the base rounded, the margins thickened and



minutely pubescent, edges microscopically denticulate, the disc with a slender glenion, shallowly concave above the middle, the base broadly concave, connate to the base of the column; *column* stout, semiterete, 1 mm long, the anther and stigma apical.

Etymology: Named for Andrea Niessen Uribe of Orquídeas del Valle, Cali, Colombia.

Among the species of *Acronia* section *Amphygiae*, this small species from near sea level of Pacific Coastal Colombia is most similar to the Panamanian *Acronia simulans* (L.O.Williams) Luer. It is distinguished by an elliptical, subpetiolate leaf and a fascicle of two or three simultaneous, purple flowers. The dorsal sepal and synsepal are narrowly ovate and attenuate; the outstretched petals are fringed; and the lip is broadly ovate with a zone of pubescence along the margins.