

***Lepanthes echinocarpa* L. O. Williams sp. nov.**

Herbae epiphyticae, repentes, usque ad 1.5 dm. longae. Folia oblanceolata, ovato-oblanceolata vel elliptico-ovalia, obtusa, carnosae, glabra. Inflorescentia pauciflora, laxa, quam folia longior. Sepalum dorsale orbiculari-ovatum, aristato-apiculatum, cucullatum, trinervium. Sepala lateralia oblongo-ovata, aristato-apiculata, margine exteriori apicem versus serrulata. Petala lineari-lanceolata, obtusa, uninervia. Labellum trilobatum; lobi laterales explanati, lati; lobus medius parvus et carnosus, cucullatus; discus callo mammillato ornatus. Columna sectionis. Ovarium echinato-pubescentis.

Repent epiphytic herbs up to about 1.5 dm. long.

Secondary stems about 5 mm. long, very slender and inconspicuous, covered with scarious sheaths. Leaves 10–20 mm. long, 4–8 mm. broad, oblanceolate, ovate-oblanceolate or elliptic-oval, obtuse, fleshy, glabrous. Inflorescence few-flowered, lax, much exceeding the subtending leaf; bracts 1–2 mm. long, chartaceous, surrounding the rachis and the pedicel, apiculate, about half as long as the pedicel. Dorsal sepal about 4.5 mm. long including the aristate apicule, orbicular-ovate, aristate-apiculate, serrulate (at least above), 3-nerved, cucullate. Lateral sepals about 4.5 mm. long and 2 mm. broad, oblong-ovate, aristate-apiculate, serrulate toward the apex along the outer margins only, 3-nerved, the inner margins connate for about 2 mm. Petals about 1.2 mm. long and 0.3 mm. broad, linear-lanceolate, obtuse, 1-nerved. Lip about 2 mm. long and 3 mm. broad when expanded, 3-lobed; lateral lobes explanate, about 1.5 mm. long and 1.25 mm. broad; mid-lobe very small and fleshy, about 0.4 mm. long and 0.25 mm. broad, cucullate; disc somewhat fleshy, with a small mammillate callus near the junction of the mid-lobe with the lateral lobes. Column 2–2.5 mm. long, slender. Ovary echinate-pubescent.

ECUADOR: epiphyte in moss at base of tree, Hacienda Talahua, Province of Bolivar, leaves thick and fleshy, dull green above, paler below, flowers brownish yellow, column and lip reddish brown, capsule hairy, at 2600 meters altitude, May 2, 1939, *Penland & Summers 611* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 57860).

Lepanthes echinocarpa is allied to *L. pensilis* Schltr., from which it is distinguished by the aristate-apiculate sepals, the much smaller mid-lobe of the lip and the generally broader leaves. *Lepanthes lancipetala* L. Wms. is allied to the present species, from which it is also distinguished by the small mid-lobe of the lip and by other characters.