

***Pleurothallis hystricosa* Luer, sp. nov.**

Ety.: From the Latin *hystricosus*, "prickly," in allusion to the sepals and ovary.

Species haec *P. ibexis* Luer affinis, sed sepalis laevis carinato-spiculatis, et labelli lobis uncinatis denticulatis differt.

**Plant** very small, epiphytic, caespitose, roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 1-3 mm long, enclosed by 2 thin, loose, ribbed sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical-obovate, petiolate, 8-18 mm long, 2-4.5 mm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole less than 3-9 mm long. **Inflorescence** a distantly, successively 2- to 3-flowered raceme, up to 13 mm long including the capillary peduncle ca. 8 mm long, borne laterally from the ramicaul; floral bract oblique, acute, 1 mm long; pedicel 2 mm long; ovary long-spiculate, 1.5 mm long; **sepals** carinate-spiculate, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, acuminate, 3.5 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, acute, lightly acuminate, 4 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, connate 1.5 mm, faintly 3-veined; **petals** translucent, narrowly ovate, acute, long-acuminate, 2.75 mm long, 0.5 mm wide; **lip** transversely 3-lobed, 1 mm long, 1.75 mm wide, the margins crenulate-denticulate, the surfaces subverruculose, the apical lobe narrowly triangular, 0.3 mm long, the lateral lobes uncinately curved forward, spreading, acute, 1 mm long, the disc with a rounded, shallowly concave callus in the center above the base, the base reflexed, hinged to the base of the column; **column** stout, semiterete, 1.25 mm long, dilated above the middle, the anther and rostellum and stigma subapical, the foot obsolescent.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Huila: epiphytic in dwarf *Clusia-Weinmannia* forest, southwest of Alejandría, south of Cueva de los Guácheros, alt. 8500 ft., 21 Aug. 1944, *E. L. Little, Jr.* 8519 (Holotype: US).

This tiny species is known only from the type-collection from southern Colombia made nearly half a century ago by *E. L. Little, Jr.*, with the Cinchona Division of the Foreign Economic Administration. *Pleurothallis hystricosa* is distinguished by the tiny, caespitose habit with petiolate leaves; proportionately large, long-spiculate ovaries; carinate-spiculate sepals; subulate petals; and a trilobed lip with uncinately curved lateral lobes. The collector noted that the color of the flowers was "red and green." *Pleurothallis hystricosa* is closely allied to *P. trimetyra*, but the latter differs by possessing microscopic petals.



