Lepanthes lancipetala L. O. Williams sp. nov.

Herbae epiphyticae, repentes, usque ad 4 dm. longae. Folia lanceolata, oblanceolata vel elliptica, obtusa vel acuta, carnosissima. Inflorescentia laxe pauci-vel pluriflora, secunda, quam folia longior. Sepalum dorsale ovale, apiculatum, paene usque ad basim serrulatum, cucullatum. Sepala lateralia ovato-lanceolata, apiculata, margine exteriore ciliata, trinervia. Petala lanceolata, acuta, carnosa. Labellum trilobatum; lobi laterales subovales, obtusi; lobus medius suborbicularis, obtusus; discus carnosus, callo mammillato ornatus. Columna sectionis. Ovarium echinato-pubescens.

Repent, epiphytic herbs up to 4 dm. long. Secondary stems up to 6 mm. long, very slender and inconspicuous, covered with the chartaceous sheaths of the primary stem. Leaves 15-35 mm. long, 3-7 mm. broad, lanceolate, oblanceolate or elliptic, obtuse or acute, very fleshy, glabrous. Inflorescence few- to several-flowered, lax, secund, exceeding the subtending leaf; bracts about 1 mm. long, chartaceous, apiculate, surrounding the rachis and pedicel, subequal to or a little shorter than the pedicel. Dorsal sepal 3.5-4 mm. long, 2.5-3 mm. broad, oval, apiculate, serrulate nearly to the base, cucullate, carinate along the mid-nerve dorsally. Lateral sepals about 4.5 mm. long and 2 mm. broad, ovate-lanceolate, apiculate, coarsely glandular-ciliate along the outer margins with the inner margins smooth or nearly so, 3-nerved, with the mid-nerve lamellate dorsally. Petals 0.8-1 mm. long, about 0.2 mm. broad, lanceolate, acute, fleshy. Lip about 2 mm. long and 3-3.5 mm. broad when expanded, with the surface more or less glandular-papilliferous, 3-lobed; lateral lobes suboval, obtuse, about 1.5 mm. long from the apex to the point of attachment and 1 mm. broad; mid-lobe 1 mm. long and about 1 mm. broad, suborbicular, obtuse; disc fleshy, with a mammillate callus near the junction of the mid-lobe with the lateral lobes. Column 2-2.5 mm. long. Ovary pubescent with coarse hairs.

Ecuador: epiphyte, Lake Cuicocha, Province of Imbabura, at 3300 meters altitude, leaves thick, fleshy, pale green, sepals transparent light brown, the dorsal with three purple-red stripes, sides of the lip arched around the column, capsule prickly, June 2, 1939, Penland & Summers 835 (Type in Herb. Ames No. 57873).

Lepanthes lancipetala is closely allied to L. pensilis Schltr. from which it is distinguished by the lobes of the lip, when expanded, being at right angles to the axis, and by the callus on the disc of the lip. Lepanthes echinocarpa L. Wms. is also an allied species.