

***Pleurothallis pentamytera* Luer, sp. nov.**

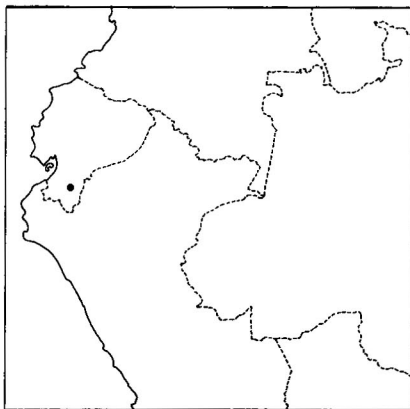
Ety.: From the Greek *pentamyteros*, "five-pronged," in allusion to the lobes of the lip.

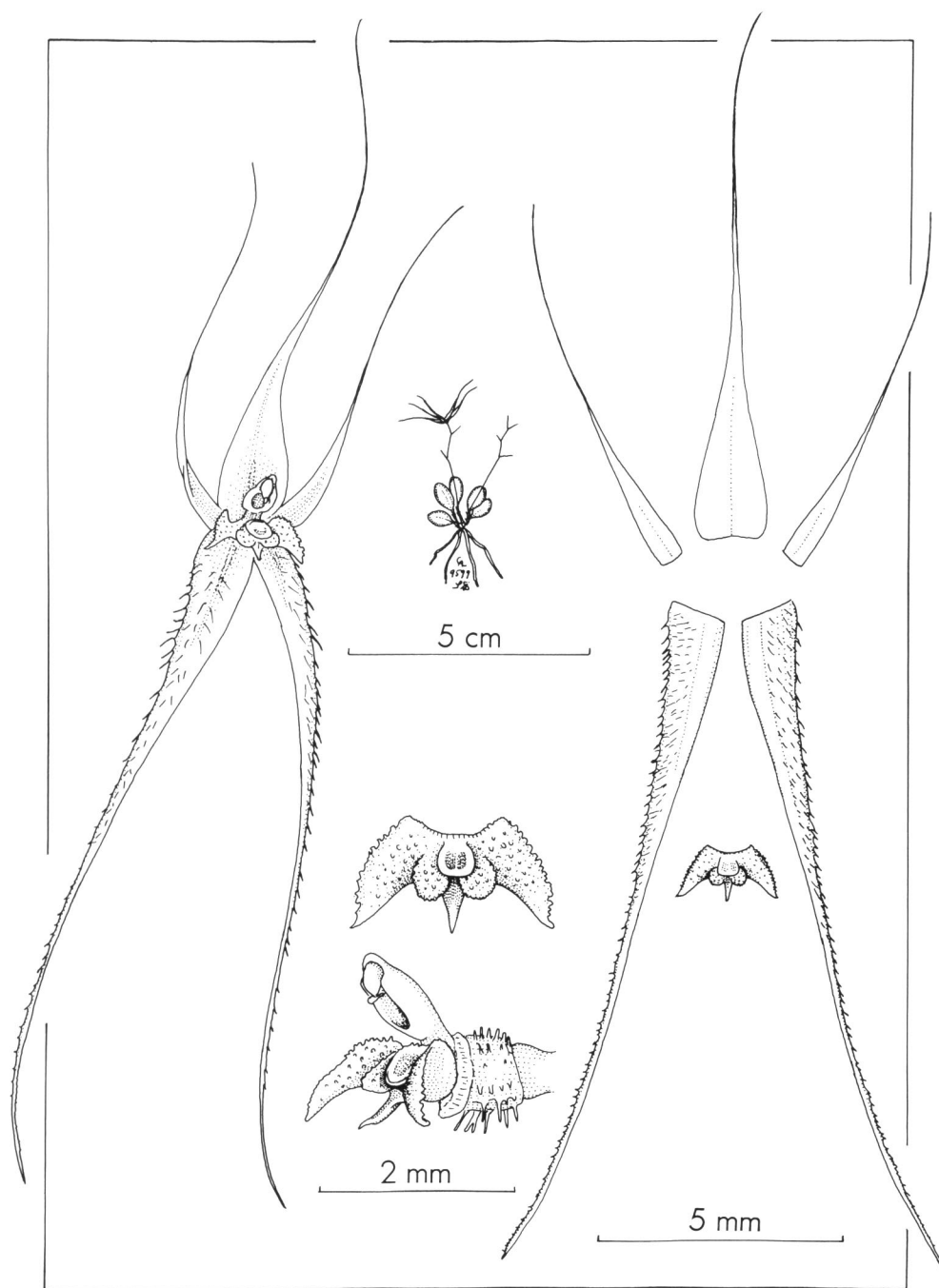
Species haec *Pleurothallidis schizopogonis* Luer affinis, sed habitu et flore multiminoribus, et labello quinquelobato cum callo discoideo differt.

Plant very small, epiphytic, ascending and caespitose, roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 1.5-2 mm long, enclosed by 1-2 loose, ribbed sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, obtuse, the margin denticulate near the apex, 6-8 mm long, 3-3.5 mm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole less than 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a loose, successively few-flowered raceme, up to 18 mm long including the capillary peduncle, borne laterally from the ramicaul; floral bract oblique, acute, 1-1.5 mm long; pedicel 3-5 mm long; ovary long-spiculate, 0.5 mm long; **sepals** translucent greenish white, suffused with purple centrally, the dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, acute, long-acuminate, 11 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 1-veined, the lateral sepals narrowly triangular, acute, long-acuminate, sparsely long-pubescent, 14 mm long, 1.2 mm wide, free to the base; **petals** translucent white, narrowly ovate, acute, long-acuminate, 8 mm long, 0.6 mm wide; **lip** purple, transversely 5-lobed, 1 mm long, 2 mm wide, the margins crenulate, the surfaces verruculose, the apical lobe narrowly triangular, 0.5 mm long, the lateral lobes triangular, spreading, acute, 1 mm long, with a rounded lobe between the apical lobe and the lateral lobes, the disc with a rounded, shallowly concave callus in the center above the base, hinged to the base of the column; **column** purple, stout, semiterete, 1.5 mm long, dilated above the middle, the anther and rostellum subapical, the stigma ventral, the foot obsolescent.

EDUADOR: Prov. of Zamora-Chinipe: epiphytic in cloud forest south of Yangana above Valladolid, alt. 2000 m, 18 Mar. 1984, C. Luer, S. Dalström, T. Höijer & J. Kuijt 9599 (Holotype: MO).

This tiny species is known only from the type-collection from southern Ecuador. It is distinguished by the elliptical leaves with denticulate margins near the apex, reminiscent of so many pleurothallids (and other subtribes) from Hispaniola. The long tails of the sepals and petals are extremely fine, finer than a hair. The lateral sepals are sparsely long-pubescent, reminiscent of its close relative *P. schizopogon*. Most distinctive is the five lobed lip. The acute apical lobe is flanked by a pair of rounded lobes medial to the acute, spreading, lateral lobes. In addition, a circular callus sits on the center of the disc.



Plate 4. *Pleurothallis pentamytera* Luer