

**Brachionidium haberi** Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named in honor of William A. Haber, researcher of the Missouri Botanical Garden, who discovered this species.

*Planta grandis erecta rhizomate crasso vaginis glabris, foliis ellipticis, flore atropurpureo, sepalis ovatis obtusis caudatis, petalis ovatis obliquis minute ciliatis, labello transverse cordato, lobis basalibus acutis incurvis, apice late rotundo denticulato apiculato, callo suborbiculari pubescenti.*

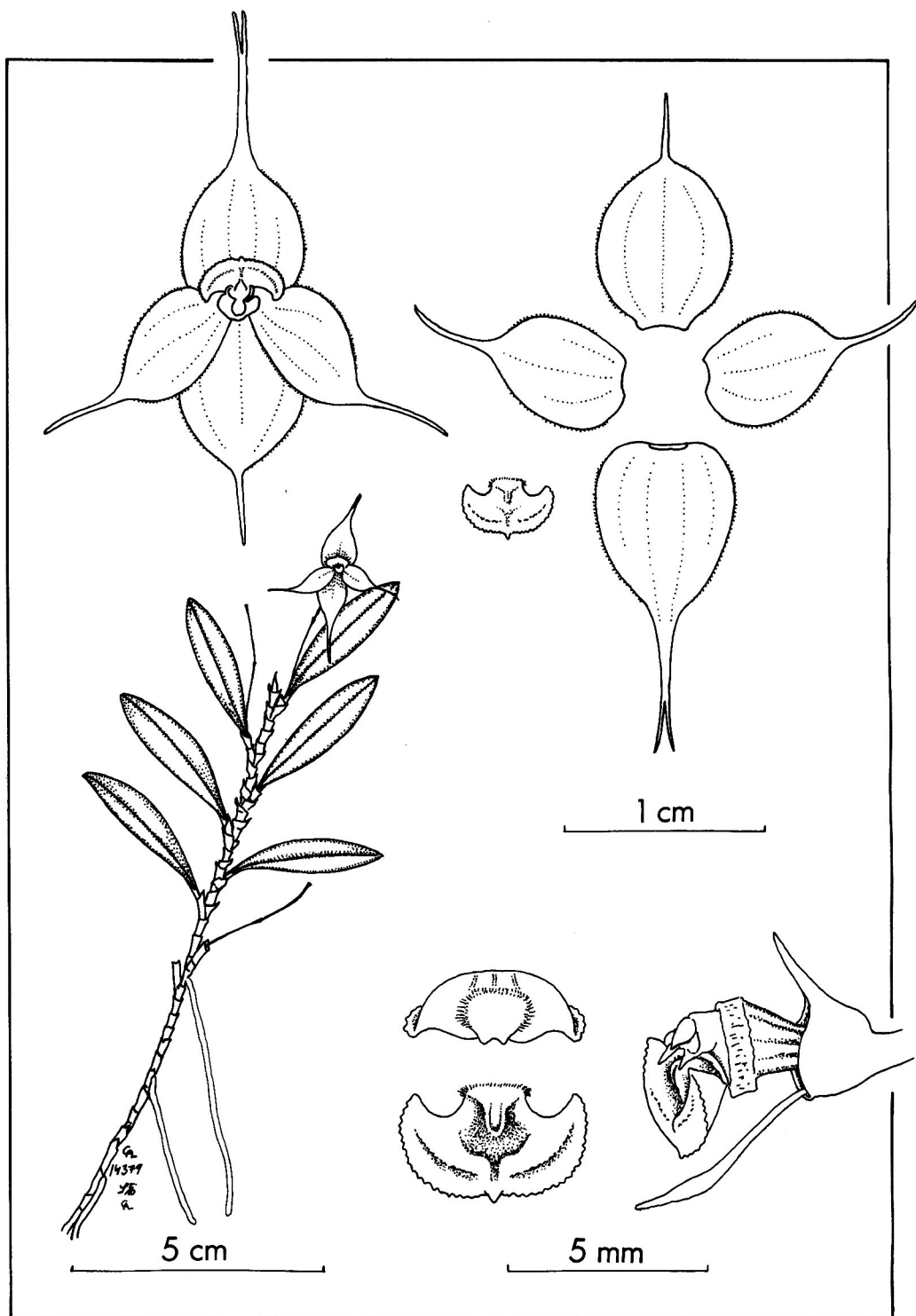
**Plant** large, epiphytic or terrestrial in loose moss, erect to suberect, up to 30 cm tall, the rhizome relatively stout, occasionally branching, 8-10 mm long between ramicauls, enclosed by 2-3 tubular, mucronate sheaths; roots coarse from near the base. Ramicauls slender, suberect, 7-9 mm long, enclosed by 2 tubular, mucronate sheaths. **Leaf** erect or suberect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, 25-35 mm long including a petiole 2-3 mm long, 7-10 mm wide, 9- to 13-veined. **Inflorescence** a solitary, non-resupinate flower borne by a slender, erect peduncle 20-25 mm long, with a bract near the middle, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bract inflated, acute, mucronate, 5 mm long, enclosing the pedicel and part of the ovary; pedicel 2 mm long, with a filament 7 mm long; ovary 4 mm long; **sepals** dark purple, microscopically ciliate, the middle sepal suborbicular, concave, 10 mm long, 8 mm wide, 3-veined, the apex obtuse to rounded, contracted into a tail 2-5 mm long, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate, concave synsepal, 10 mm 8 mm wide, 4-veined, the apex obtuse, contracted into a slender tail 8 mm long, with the tips free for 3 mm; **petals** dark purple, minutely ciliate, ovate, oblique, subacute, the blade 8 mm long, 6 mm wide, 3-veined, the tail 5 mm long; **lip** purple, transversely cordate, 3 mm long, 5 mm wide, the basal angles subacute, incurved, the middle lobe broadly rounded, denticulate, apiculate, thickened behind the margin, the disc with a flat, ovate, pubescent callus; **column** stout, 1 mm long, pollinia 6.

**COSTA RICA:** Prov. of Puntarenas: Veracruz river valley and ridges south of the Monteverde Reserve, Pacific slope, wet forest, alt. 1600 m, 29 Apr. 1986, W. A. Haber, E. Bello & L. Lierheimer 4485 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 14379. Same locality, date and collectors, W. Haber 4489 (MO); Monteverde, Cerro Ojo de Agua, alt. 1700-1800 m, 22-23 Apr. 1987, W. Haber & E. Bello 7027, 7076 (CR, MO).

This species is apparently endemic in wet cloud forests near and within the Monteverde Preserve in Costa Rica where it is sometimes found to be locally abundant. Although vegetatively considerably larger, *B. haberi* is similar to *B. folsomii*.

*Brachionidium haberi* is distinguished by large, erect habit and relatively large floral parts with comparatively short, slender tails. The lip is large, thick, transversely cordate with a minutely denticulate margin as in *B. folsomii*.



Plate 25. *Brachionidium haberi* Luer