

Brachionidium lehmannii Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named in honor of F. C. Lehmann, German Consul, mining engineer, and renowned orchidologist, who discovered this species.

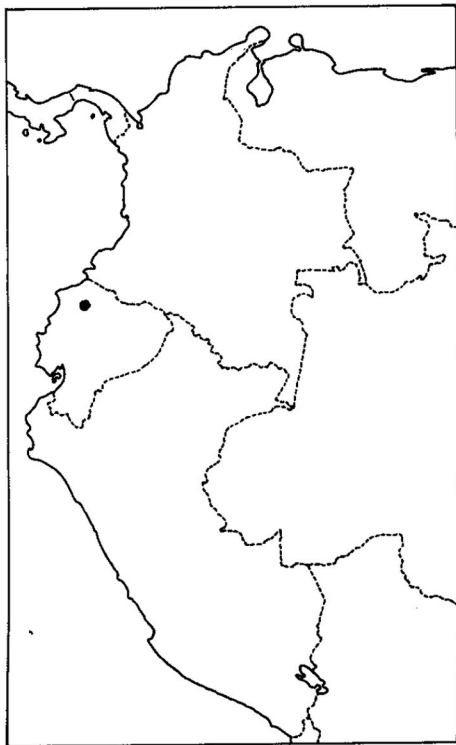
Planta parva rhizomate erecto vel suberecto, pedunculo foliis ellipticis quinque-nervatis multilongiore, flore parvo luteo, sepalis medianis synsepalis petalisque ciliatis longicaudatis, labello perparvo transverse ovato apiculato margine serrato, disco concavo cum callo basali pubescenti transverso.

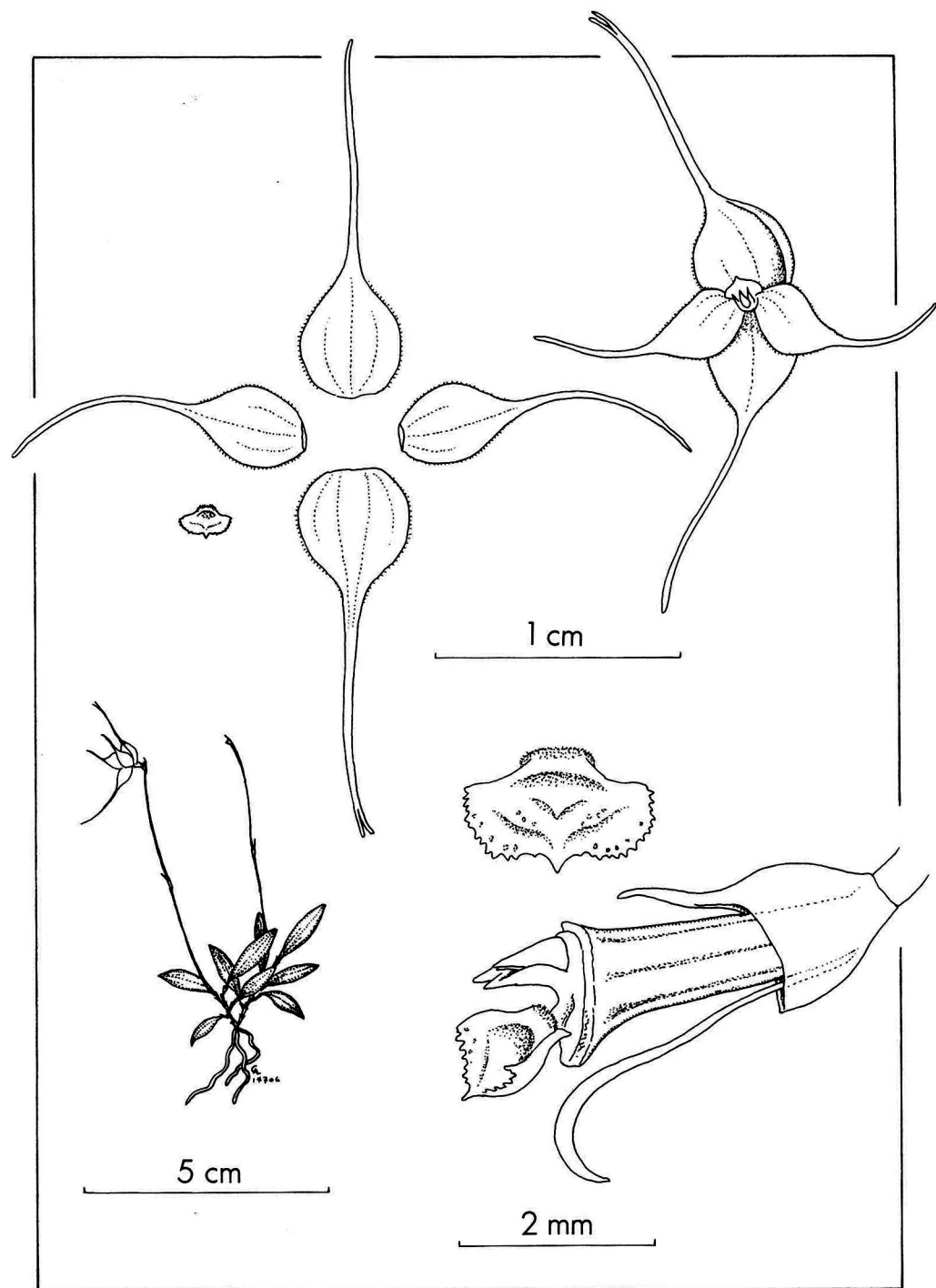
Plant small, epiphytic, suberect to erect, up to 3 cm tall excluding the inflorescence, the rhizomes slender, occasionally branching, 2-4 mm long between ramicauls, enclosed by 2 imbricating, long-mucronate sheaths; roots slender from nodes near the base. Ramicauls suberect, 2-4 mm long, enclosed by 2 mucronate sheaths. Leaf erect to suberect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, apiculate, 8-15 mm long including the petiole 2-3 mm long, 4-6 mm wide, 5-veined, cuneate below into the petiole. **Inflorescence** a solitary, lemon yellow, resupinate flower borne by an erect, slender peduncle 4-5 cm long, with a bract near the middle; floral bract long-mucronate, 2 mm long, enclosing the pedicel and part of the ovary; pedicel 0.5 mm long, with a protruding filament 4 mm long; ovary 3 mm long; **sepals** minutely ciliate, the middle sepal suborbicular, concave, 5 mm long, 4 mm wide, the apex obtuse, contracted into a slender tail 11 mm long, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into a suborbicular, concave synsepal, 5 mm long, 4.5 mm wide expanded, 4-veined, the apex obtuse, contracted into a slender tail 11 mm long, bifid for 1 mm at the apex; **petals** ovate, oblique, densely minutely ciliate, 5 mm long, 3 mm wide, 3-veined, the apex obtuse, contracted into a slender tail 8 mm long; **lip** transversely ovate, 1.25 mm long, 2 mm wide, with obtuse lateral angles, the apex broadly rounded, serrate, apiculate, the disc concave behind a low carina equidistant to and parallel to the margin, the base with a pubescent, transverse callus, hinged to the column-foot; **column** stout, 0.5 mm long, 1 mm broad; **pollinia** 6.

ECUADOR: Prov. of Pichincha?: Pileña - Cuyambe, F. C. Lehmann s.n. (Holotype: K), C. Luer illustr. 14706.

This little species is known only from an Ecuadorian collection of several plants by Consul Lehmann in the nineteenth century. Unusual among Lehmann's collections, no altitude, date, or collection number is given. The specimen was among those purchased by Kew in 1906 from Lehmann's heirs in Colombia.

The most remarkable feature of the little, erect plant is the length of the peduncles, more than twice as long as the plant is tall. The small flowers were noted to be lemon yellow. The sepals and petals are minutely ciliate with filiform tails about twice as long as the blades. The tiny lip is transverse, serrate, and concave with a transverse callus across the base.



Plate 31. *Brachionidium lehmannii* Luer