

Brachionidium satyreum Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named for the fancied allusion of the lip and flower to a *satyr*, a mythological woodland deity.

Planta grandis suberecta rhizomate crasso vaginis glabris, foliis ellipticis, 7- vel 9-nervatis, flore atropurpureo, sepalo mediano synsepaloque elliptico-ovatis acuminatis caudatis, petalis similibus obliquis reflexis, labello subquadrato-trilobatis, lobis lateralibus erectis acutis, lobo mediano late obtuso, callo oblongo curvato pubescenti.

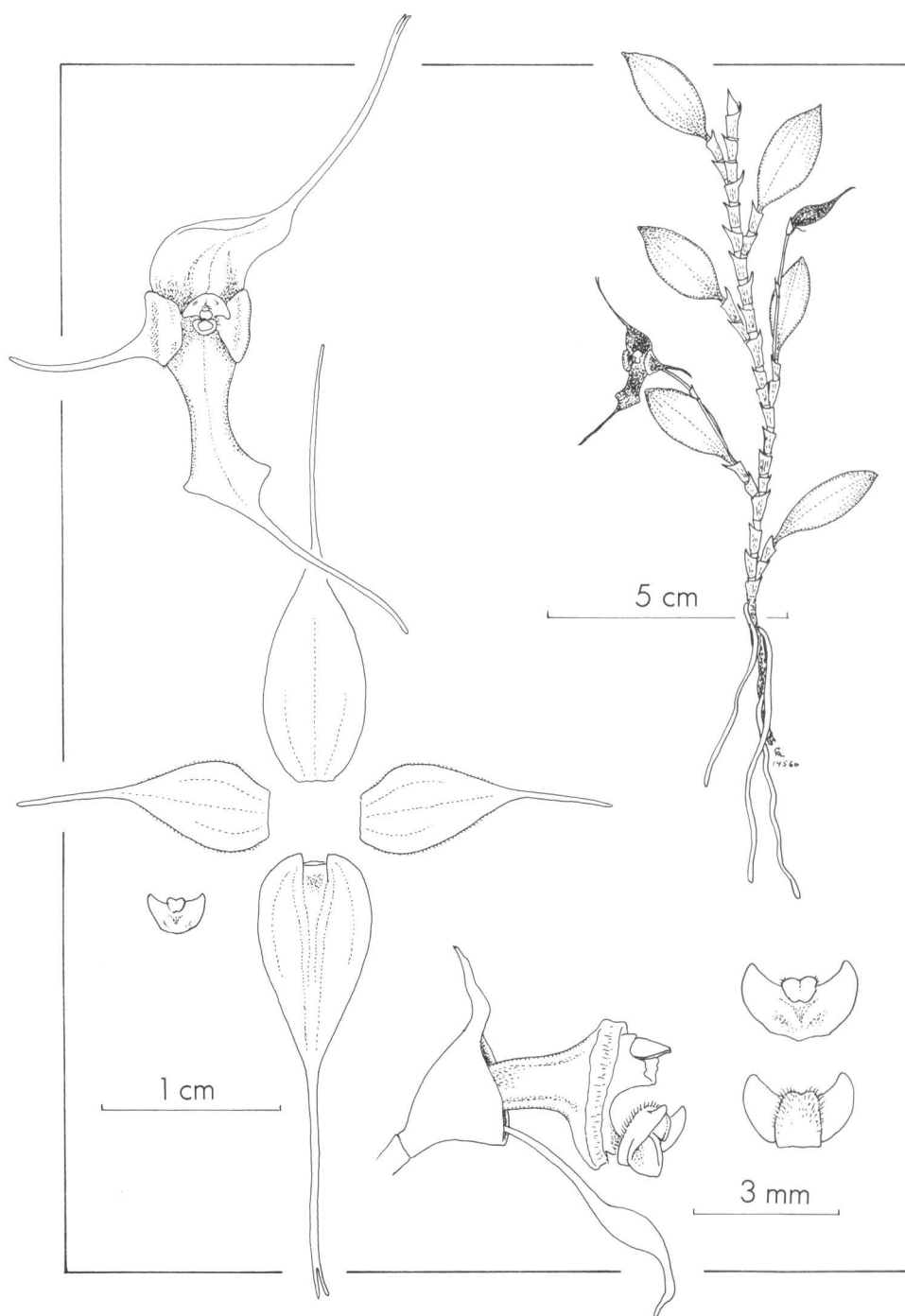
Plant large, epiphytic or terrestrial in loose moss, erect to suberect, up to 25 cm tall, the rhizome relatively stout, occasionally branching, 15-20 mm long between ramicauls, enclosed by 2-3 tubular, mucronate sheaths; roots coarse from near the base. Ramicauls slender, suberect, 6-7 mm long, enclosed by 2 tubular, mucronate sheaths. **Leaf** erect or suberect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute to subacute, 15-24 mm long including a petiole 2-3 mm long, 6-11 mm wide, 7- to 9-veined. **Inflorescence** a solitary, non-resupinate flower borne by a slender, erect peduncle 20-26 mm long, with a bract near the middle, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bract inflated, acute, mucronate, 4 mm long, enclosing the pedicel and part of the ovary; pedicel 1 mm long, with a filament 5 mm long; ovary 3 mm long; **sepals** dark wine purple, the middle sepal elliptical, convex with revolute sides, acute, acuminate, the blade 12 mm long, 6

mm wide, 3-veined, the tail filiform, 13 cm long; lateral sepals connate into an ovate, acute, acuminate, synsepal, concave with the middle third convex, the blade 11 mm long, 6.5 mm wide expanded, 4-veined, the tail filiform, 14 mm long, the tips free for 2 mm; **petals** deep wine red, reflexed, minutely ciliate, ovate, oblique, acute, acuminate, the blade 8 mm long, 5 mm wide, 3-veined, the tail 5 mm long; **lip** purple, subquadrate-trilobed, acutely deflexed near the middle, 1.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the lateral angles subacute, erect, the middle lobe broadly obtuse, concave centrally below the callus, the disc with a rounded, curved, pubescent callus, protruding above the cavity of the blade; **column** stout, 1 mm long, pollinia 6.

PANAMA: Prov. of Bocas del Toro: Trocha 3 de noviembre, near Paso de la Zorra over the continental divide, alt. 1500 m, 5 Apr. 1977, *R. L. Dressler, K. Dressler & N. H. Williams* 5809 (Holotype: MO), *C. Luer* illustr. 14560; ?Cerro Colorado, 50 Km north of San Félix, alt. 1400, 20 Sept. 1977, *R. L. Dressler* 5712 (MO).

This species is apparently endemic in wet, cloud forests along the continental divide in western Panama where it was first discovered and photographed by Robert Dressler and companions. It is identified by the large, more or less erect habit; elliptical leaves; glossy, dark purple flowers; elliptical-ovate sepals with equally long tails; acutely reflexed, minutely ciliate, short-tailed petals; and a small, subquadrate lip with erect, acute, lateral lobes. The rounded, pubescent callus projects forward from the deflexed base.



Plate 52. *Brachionidium satyrium* Luer