

*Pleurothallis stonei* Luer, sp. nov.

Species haec *P. lappiformis* Heller & L. O. Wms. affinis sed sepalo dorsali libro elliptico, petalis claviformibus rugosis, lobis lateralibus labelli anguste uncinatis et lobo antico rugoso notabilis.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, shortly repent, the rhizome stout, 1-3 cm long between secondary stems, sheathed at short internodes, rooting at the nodes; secondary stems stout, erect, terete, 3-9 cm long, unifoliate, enclosed by 3-4 large, loose, tubular, imbricating sheaths, soon fragmented. Leaf erect, thickly coriaceous, elliptical, 7-15 cm long, 3-4 cm wide, the acute apex tridenticulate, the base cuneate, conduplicate. Inflorescence a solitary flower produced from a lower node of the secondary stem or from the axil with the rhizome; peduncle ca. 1 cm long, with 2 ribbed sheaths; floral bract ca. 1 cm long, ribbed; pedicel 8-9 mm long, pubescent; ovary 3-4 mm long, densely villous; sepals fleshy, dark red-purple, covered externally by thick, white hairs from wart-like bases, covered by tall, lamellate tubercles within, the dorsal sepal elliptical, 20 mm long, 8 mm wide, the subacute apex free, the lateral sepals connate into a concave, obtuse synsepal, 22 mm long, 12 mm wide unspread; petals purple, oblong, clavellate, 11 mm long, 4 mm wide, the rounded apical portion transversely rugose; lip red-purple, fleshy, oblong, 9 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, the rounded apex rugose, with forwardly projecting, narrowly uncinata, marginal lobes below the middle, the truncate base broadly and inflexibly attached to the column-foot, the disc with a smooth, transverse callus just above the base and a parallel pair of high, smooth, rounded calli near the middle; column dark red, terete, 6 mm long, with a thick foot 3 mm long.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Richard L. Stone of Los Altos Hills, California, who discovered this species.

TYPE: COSTA RICA: SAN JOSE: epiphytic in cloud forest southeast of San Jose, cultivated in California, flowered in cult. 3 March 1978, submitted to the OIC, no. 2022, *C. Luer 2781* (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Costa Rica.

This rare species is closely allied to *Pleurothallis lappiformis* from which it is indistinguishable vegetatively. Single, dark-red, densely pubescent flowers are borne by short peduncles from the rhizome or low on the secondary stem. The flowers of *P. stonei* may be distinguishable by the broader dorsal sepal the apex of which is free from the synsepal, the clavellate, rugose petals, and the narrowly uncinata lateral lobes of the lip.