

6. **CHONDRORHYNCHA MERANA** Dodson y Neudecker, sp. nov.

Orig. coll.: Pastaza: Baños to Puyo, Mera, 1500 m, 17 March 1976, *Luer et al.* 891 (SEL - holotype).

Other specimens seen: Tungurahua: Baños to Puyo, Río Negro, 1200 m, 26 November 1955, *Asplund 18637* (S); same locality, 4 March 1963, *Dodson & Thien 2327* (SEL); same locality, March 1982, *Hirtz 13* (SEL); April 1983, *Hirtz 51* (SEL); Baños to Puyo, Río Topo, 1300 m, May 1985, *Hirtz 2572* (RPSC - foto); Pastaza: Puyo, 1200 m, *Hirtz 195* (RPSC - foto); Mera, *Hirtz 379* (SEL).

Similis Chondrorhynchae bicoloris Rolfe, a qua differt callo elongato, rectangulari, bidentato, elevato a superficie labelli inde a basi usque ad apicem.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for the locality of collection of the type specimen.

Epiphyte. Stem very short, completely surrounded by imbricating, distichous, foliaceous leaf-sheaths; roots produced in the axils of the lower leaves. Leaves narrowly strap-shaped, acute-acuminate at the apex, tapering to the junction with the sheath at the base, to 36 x 2 cm. Inflorescences from the axils of the basal leaf-sheaths, 1-flowered, to 8 cm long, with 1 or 2 appressed, ovate bracts. Sepals and petals white; lip white with a chocolate colored blotch in the throat and a few spots of brown near the apex of the callus. Dorsal sepal oblong-elliptic, acute at the apex, erect, to 2 x 0.7 cm; lateral sepals obliquely oblong-ovate, acute at the apex, spreading-recurved, incurved on the margins, to 4 x 1 cm; lip elliptic-flabellate, bilobed at the apex, deeply and irregularly undulate on the upper margin, tubular and parallel to the column for the basal 1/2, flaring and recurved abruptly for the apical 3 1/3, to 2.5 x 2.5 cm, the basal portion with a rectangular callus that is slightly raised, and 2-toothed at the apex, without an obvious forward callus; column terete, sulcate on the underside, to 1.5 cm long, with a prominent column-foot; pollinia 4, clavate, superposed at the apex of an obvious stipe, attached to a heart-shaped viscidium.

NOTES: This species was thought to be *C. bicolor*, a species found in Costa Rica, and was treated as that species in *Icones Plantarum Tropicarum*, Series II, Plate 414. *Chondrorhyncha merana* is distinguished by the elongate, rectangular, 2-toothed callus raised from the surface of the lip from the base to the apex.

ETIMOLOGIA: Lleva el nombre del lugar de descubrimiento del ejemplar tipo.

NOTAS: La especie se tenía por *C. bicolor*, proveniente de Costa Rica, y así figura en *Icones Plantarum Tropicarum*, Serie II, Lámina 414, pero se distingue de ella por el callo alargado, rectangular, bidentado, realizado en la superficie del labelo desde la base hasta el ápice.