

Chinchipe: area of Estación Científica San Francisco, alt. 2230 m, 23 March 2004, F.A. Werner 1402 (Holotype: LOJA, Isotype: SEL), C. Luer illustr. 21649. Fig. 13.

Species haec Crocodeilanthis salpingantha (Luer & Hirtz) Luer *affinis*, sed *folio petiolato*, *bracteis floralibus brevioribus*, *spatha minore*, *floribus minoribus*, *sepalis intus glabris*, et *sepalo dorsali ad sepalos lateralia tantum breviter connatis differt*.

Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. *Ramicauls* stout, erect, 9–12 cm long, with 2–3 tubular sheaths below the middle. *Leaf* erect, coriaceous, elliptical, subacute, petiolate, 10–12 cm long, 2.5 cm wide dry, cuneate below into a petiole 1.5 cm long. *Inflorescence* an erect, densely and simultaneously many-flowered raceme to 24 cm long including the peduncle ca. 5 cm long, subtended by a spathe 1 cm long, from the annulus immediately below the abscission layer; floral bracts 4 mm long; pedicels erect, 2–3 mm long; ovary 2 mm long; *sepals* yellow, glabrous within, the dorsal sepal elliptical, obtuse, 7 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals suboblong, obtuse, 7 mm long, connate 4 mm, 5 mm wide together; *petals* membranous, oblong, rounded at the apex, 2 mm long, 1 mm wide, 3-veined; *lip* ovate, obtuse, 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the disc with a pair of erect, parallel calli below the middle, the base truncate, solidly connate behind a low, transverse callus to the base of the column; *column* stout, conical, 1.5 mm long, the foot thick, 1 mm long, the anther and stigma subapical.

This large, caespitose species is known from only the area near the San Francisco Scientific Station in southern Ecuador. The yellow flowers are superficially similar to those of the frequent and widely distributed *Crocodeilanthia salpingantha* (Luer & Hirtz) Luer. The spathe is smaller; the shorter floral bracts do not engulf the base of the flowers; the sepals are glabrous within; and the sepals are not deeply connate.

Etymology: From the Latin *juxta*, “near,” referring to the close similarity to *Crocodeilanthia salpingantha* (Luer & Hirtz) Luer.

