Dracula adrianae Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named in honor of Adriana, wife of Antonius (Ton) P. Sijm of Venhuizen, The Netherlands, who cultivates this species.

Planta parva, pedunculo erecto unifloro (semper?), sepalis albis in cupulam latam profunde connatis intus breviter pubescentibus, labelli epichilio hypochilio minore alte carinato, hypochilio profunde excavato distinguitur.

Plant small, presumably epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, slender, 2-2.5 cm long, enclosed by 2-3 loose, tubular sheaths. Leaf erect, thinly coriaceous, carinate, narrowly obovate, acute, 7-12 cm long including the petiole, 0.8-1.5 cm wide, gradually narrowed below into an indistinct, conduplicate petiole 2-2.5 cm long. Inflorescence a single flower, probably followed by another, borne by an erect peduncle, 7-8 cm long, from low on the ramicaul; floral bract tubular, 7 mm long; pedicel 12 mm long; ovary 7 mm long, round in cross section; sepals white, suffused with brown within at the base, diffusely short-pubescent within, the dorsal sepal transversely obovate, 7 mm long, 9 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 5 mm to form a broad, deep, sepaline cup, the apex rounded, abruptly contracted into a comparatively thick, red-brown tail 13 mm long, the lateral sepals broadly ovate, oblique, 9 mm long, 9 mm wide, connate 6.5 mm into a broad, rounded mentum, the apices broadly obtuse, contracted into tails 12 mm long, similar to that of the dorsal sepal; petals cream, marked with dark brown, cartilaginous, oblong, 4 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the apex bivalvate, densely papillose between the laminae, the inner lamina subacute, denticulate, the outer lamina rounded; lip white, thickly pandurate, 8 mm long, 6 mm wide, the epichile transversely reniform, 3 mm long, 5 mm wide, with the outer halves lightly rugose, shallowly concave to either side of a tall, central, central carina, the hypochile ovoid, 5 mm long, 6 mm wide, deeply and broadly cleft centrally, with thickened margins continuous from the carina, the margins broadly rounded, the base decurved, concave, hinged to the column-foot; column white, stout, semiterete, 5 mm long, denticulate at the tip, with a stout foot 3-4 mm long.

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ICONES PLEUROTHALLIDINARUM

COLOMBIA: Without collection data, obtained from Hubein, professional importer, cultivated at Orchideeënkwerkerij, Venhuizen, The Netherlands, August 1998, by *Ton Sijm 20898* (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illust. 18879.

In the key to the species of *Dracula* (*Icones Pleurothallidinarum*-10), this species keys out to *D. delassandroi* Luer, from which it differs markedly. *Dracula adrianae* is distinguished by a small habit and a small, white, deeply cupped flower borne by an erect peduncle nearly as long as the leaf. Within, the sepals are shortly pubescent, and the tails are short and thick. The petals and lip are proportionately large, mostly filling the sepaline cup. The deeply and broadly cleft hypochile is larger than the epichile with a tall, central keel.

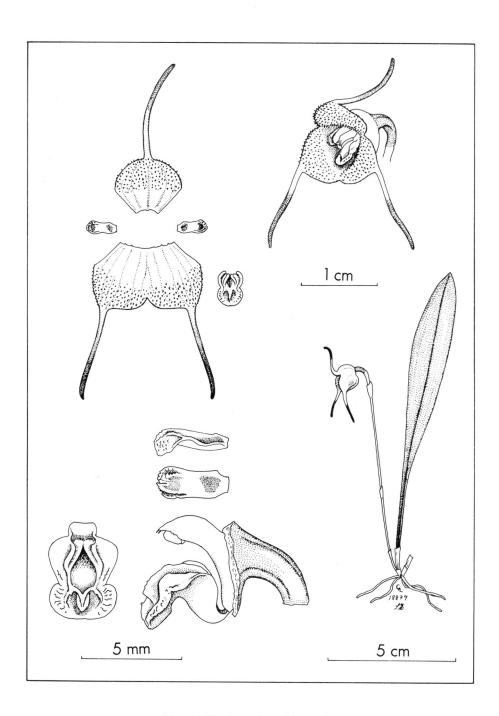


Plate 112. Dracula adrianae Luer