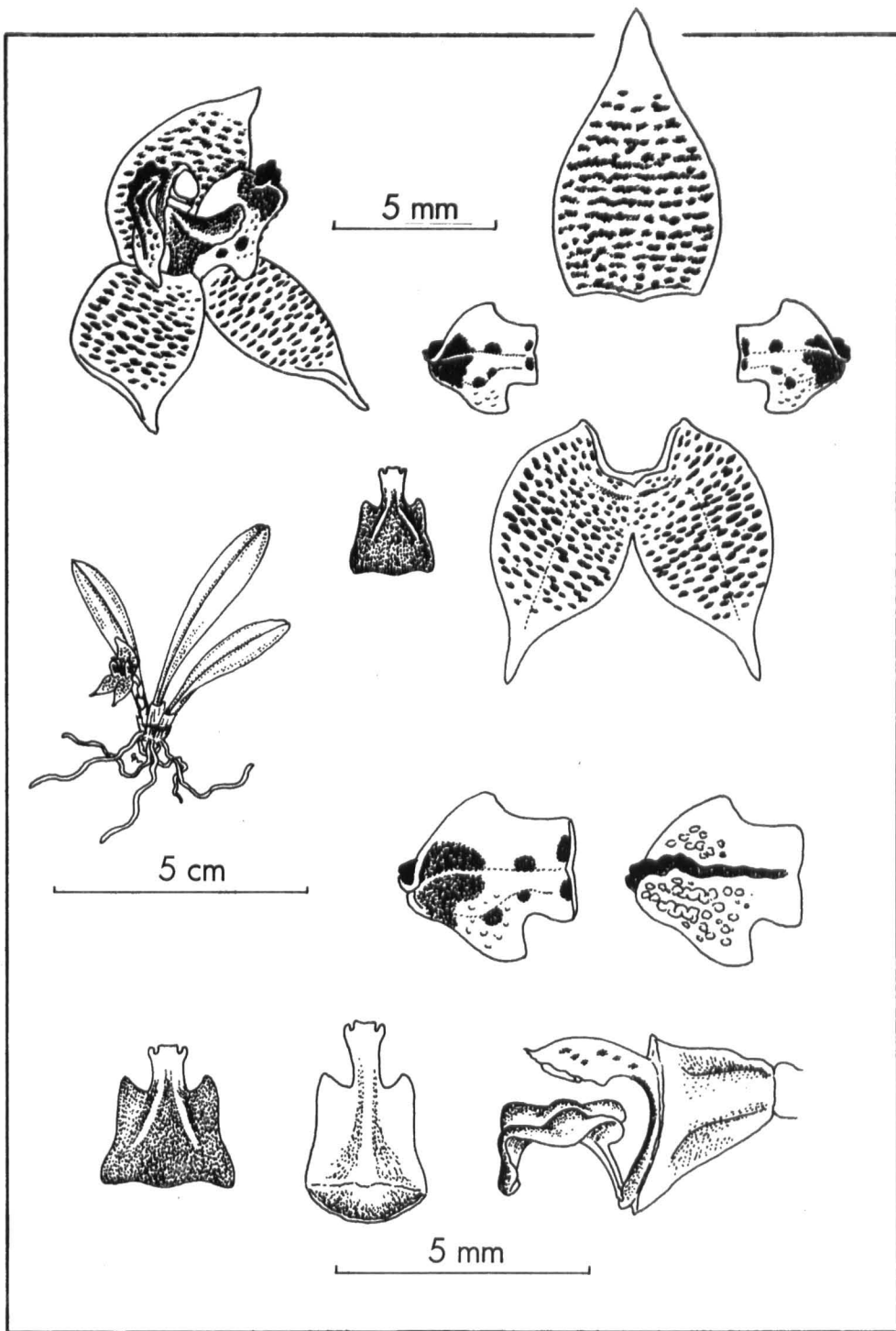


Dryadella cristata Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Inter species generis **Dryadellae** Luer species haec floribus brevipedunculatis apicibus sepalorum breviter acutis, petalis subsagittatis obtusangulis extus verrucosis cristatis et lamina labelli subquadrata bicallosa dignoscenda.

Dryadella cristata Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.





Dryadella cristata Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Plant small, epiphytic, densely caespitose; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems unifoliate, 8-12 mm long, enclosed by 2-3 thin, loose, tubular sheaths. Leaf suberect to erect, thickly coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, 2.5-4 cm long, 5-6 mm. wide, the apex tridenticulate, gradually narrowed to the sulcate base. Inflorescence a solitary flower borne successively by a peduncle ca. 3 mm long from a node on the secondary stem; floral bracts inflated, imbricating, 3-4 mm long, pedicel 5 mm long, ovary dull green, pyramidal, 2 mm long; sepal light green with purple dots coalescing into transverse bars, ovate, with the shortly acuminate, acute apices yellow, the dorsal sepals 9 mm long, 5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 2 mm, the lateral sepals oblique, 8 mm long, 4.25 mm wide, connate 2 mm basally, with a curved, transverse callus above the concave base; petals translucent yellow marked with purple, subsagittate-pentagonal, 3.5 mm long, 3.25 mm wide, with oblique, obtuse, lateral angles, verrucose externally with an undulating carina along the midvein terminating at the obtuse apex; lip dark purple, spatulate, 3.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the claw yellow, 1 mm long, bi-auriculate at the base, the lamina subquadrate with retrorse, subacute angles to either side of the claw, the apex truncate, obscurely bilobed, deflexed (cannot be expanded without fracturing), the disc with a pair of rounded calli diverging from the claw to near the middle; column greenish white marked with purple, 2.5 mm. long, with broad, irregularly margined wings, the foot thick, bright rose, 2.5 mm long.

ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín **cristatus**, "crestado", en referencia a la vena central carinada del dorso de los pétalos.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin **cristatus**, "crested, " referring to the carinate, dorsal midvein of the petals.

TYPE: **COLOMBIA**: VALLE DEL CAUCA: Collected in 1977 by J. Miranda in "Alto de El Militar", cultivated by Amalia Lehmann de Sarria in Popayan, flowered in cult. 26 July 1978, **R. Escobar 1981**. (HOLOTYPE: JAUM; ISOTYPE: SEL), C. Luer illustr. 2984.

DISTRIBUTION: Western Cordillera of Colombia.

Aun cuando superficialmente similar a varias otras especies del género, **D. cristata** puede distinguirse fácilmente por sus flores de corto tallo sin colas, con pétalos sagitados externamente verrugosos con una carina terminada en cresta en el ápice.

Although superficially similar to several other species of the genus, *D. cristata* is easily distinguished by the short-stemmed, tailless flowers with sagittate petals verrucose externally with a carina ending in a crest at the apex.