

***Dryadella marilyniana* Luer, sp. nov.**

Fig. 8.

Ety.: Named for Marilyn Lee who imported this species from Ecuagenera.

Inter species generis *Dryadellae* Luer, planta parva pedunculo abbreviato, foliis angustissime obovata, sepalis ad apicem incrassatis, petalis acute angulatis, labelli lamina profunde fimbriata distinguitur.

Plant small, presumably epiphytic, densely caespitose; roots thick. Ramicauls erect, 8-9 mm long, enclosed by 2-3 thin, tubular sheaths. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, narrowly linear-obovate, acute to subacute, 3.5-4.5 cm long, 0.4 cm wide, gradually narrowed below into an indistinct petiole. **Inflorescence** a single flower, borne by an erect peduncle 1.5-2 mm long, enclosed by a membranous bract, from low on the ramicaul; floral bracts thin, 2.5-3 mm long; pedicel 2 mm long; ovary thickly carinate, 1 mm long; **sepals** fleshy, especially toward the apices, microscopically erose, the dorsal sepal ovate, pale rose, heavily marked with purple spots and transverse bars, subacute, concave, 8.5 mm long, 4 mm wide expanded, connate to the lateral sepals for 3 mm to form a sepaline cup, the lateral sepals rose-purple, ovate, oblique, acute, 7 mm long, 4 mm wide, with a transverse callus above the decurved base, connate 2 mm at the base to form a small chin; **petals** translucent rose, diffusely dotted with purple, oblong-spathulate, obtuse, with acute marginal angles above the middle, 4 mm long, 1.8 mm wide, 3 mm wide across the angled margins; **lip** rose-purple, long-unguiculate, the blade obovate, rounded at the deflexed apex, the margins deeply fimbriate, 2.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, the base above the claw with a pair of acute, retrorse lobes, the disc with a pair of erect, finlike, fimbriate lamellae, the claw farinose, 1 mm long, bilobulate at the base, hinged to the apex of the column-foot; **column** rose, 3 mm long, longitudinally winged from below the middle, the foot equally long.

ECUADOR: without locality, collected by Ecuagenera, purchased by Marilyn Lee, a part given to and flowered in Howell, MI, March 2006, by Lynn O'Shaughnessy 03233 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 21005.

This colorful little species appears very much like many other tailless species of the genus, but it is easily distinguished by a deeply fringed lip. Except for the bright colors and fringed lip, it is most similar to *Dryadella aurea* Luer & Hirtz. The only other known species with anything like a fringed lip is the long-tailed *D. crenulata* (Pabst) Luer from Brazil, but the margin of the lip of this species is only denticulate.

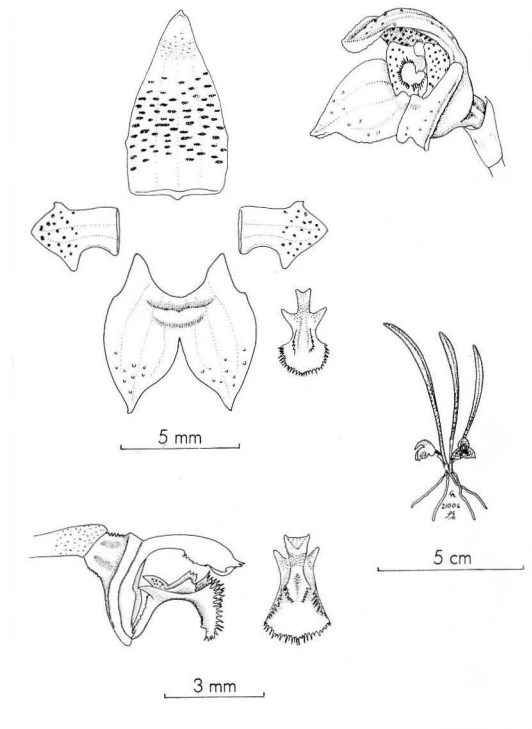


Fig. 8. *Dryadella marilyniana*