

**Dryadella rodrigoii Luer, sp. nov.**

Ety.: Named in honor of Rodrigo Escobar R. of Medellín, Colombia.

Planta parva, foliis angustissime semiteretibus, sepalis late ovatis obtusis brevicaudatis, petalis acutis margine superiore obtusangulis margine inferiore apiculatis, lamina labelli supra medium acute reflexa, columna pedequ gracilibus elongatis.

Plant small, epiphytic, densely caespitose; roots slender but proportionately thick. Ramicauls erect, 8-10 mm long, enclosed by 2-3 thin, tubular sheaths. Leaf erect, narrowly linear, semiterete, acute, 3-4 cm long, 2 mm wide, 2 mm thick, the base epetiolate. Inflorescence a congested, successively few-flowered raceme borne by a peduncle 2-4 mm long, enclosed by a sheath, from near the middle of the ramicaul; floral bracts thin, imbricating, 5 mm long; pedicel 10-11 mm long; ovary 1-1.5 mm long, subverrucose; sepals translucent yellow, diffusely spotted with purple, the dorsal sepal broadly ovate to suborbicular, 6 mm long, 4 mm wide, the apex obtuse, shortly acuminate into a tail 1.5 mm long, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm to form a sepaline cup, the lateral sepals broadly ovate, oblique, 4.5 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, the apex obtuse, shortly acuminate into a tail 1.5 mm long, with a transverse callus above the deflexed base; petals translucent with a few purple spots, obliquely subsagittate, 2 mm long, 1.25 mm wide at the base, the apex acute with an obtuse angle on the upper margin and an acute apiculum on the labellar margin; lip dull yellow, spotted and suffused with purple, long-unguiculate, the blade suborbicular, 2.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, acutely deflexed near the middle, the apex rounded, minutely denticulate, the base above the claw with a pair of short, retrorse angles, the disc shallowly sulcate, the claw slender, 1.5 mm long, bilobulate at the base, hinged to the apex of the column-foot; column greenish white, lightly spotted with rose, slender, 2.5 mm long, winged above the middle, the foot slender, 3 mm long.

COLOMBIA: Cauca: Enana, Popayán, collected by R. Escobar, cultivated by M. & O. Robledo at La Ceja, 5 Oct. 1977, *R. Escobar 1396* (Holotype: SEL), C. Luer illustr. 1920.

This small species is known only from the collection made by Rodrigo Escobar near Popayán in southern Colombia, and cultivated by Dr. and Sra. Robledo at La Ceja. The species is identified by the very narrowly semiterete leaves, and broadly ovate, obtuse sepals with tails about one millimeter long. Most distinctive are the oblique, narrowly acute petals, obtusely angled on the upper margin, and with a short, acute apiculum on the labellar margin. Also unusual in the genus is the long, narrow column and even longer column-foot.