

Dryadella toscanoi Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named in honor of Dr. Antonio Toscano de Brito who collected this species.

Species haec *D. edwallii* (Cogn.) Luer similis, sed habitu majore, foliis latoribus et petalorum lobo inferiore grandi et rotundo differt.

Plant large for the genus, epiphytic, densely caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, 10-12 mm long, enclosed by 3 thin, loose, tubular sheaths. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, elliptical-obovate, sub-acute to obtuse, 3-6 cm long, 0.8-1 cm wide, narrowly cuneate below to the subpetiolate base. **Inflorescence** a congested, successively few-flowered raceme borne by a peduncle 4-5 mm long, enclosed by a sheath, from low on the ramicaul; floral bracts thin, imbricating, 5-8 mm long; pedicel 8-10 mm long; ovary 3 mm long, triolate; **sepals** yellow, spotted with red-purple, the dorsal sepal ovate, concave, 8 mm long, 14 mm long including the tail, 5.75 mm wide expanded, 3-veined with the midvein carinate, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm to form a sepaline cup, the apex obtuse, contracted into a thickened tail 6 mm long, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, 8 mm long, 13 mm long including the tail, 4.5 mm wide, connate less than 1 mm at the base, with a transverse callus above the decurved base, the apices sub-acute, contracted to a thickened tail ca. 5 mm long; **petals** translucent, subsagittate, 4 mm long, 4 mm wide, 2-veined with the midvein carinate, the apex broadly obtuse, with a variable angle on the upper margin and a large, rounded lobule on the lower margin below the apex; **lip** unguiculate, the blade obovate, 3.5 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, the apex broadly rounded, acutely deflexed, the base above the claw with a pair of acute, elongate, retrorse angles, the disc with a pair of obtuse, minutely denticulate lamellae near the middle, the claw 2 mm long, bilobulate at the base, deeply channeled longitudinally, hinged to the apex of the column-foot; **column** slender, proportionately small, 3 mm long, winged on the distal half, minutely denticulate, the foot equally long, thick with the apex of the ovary.

BRAZIL: **Minas Gerais**: south of Minas Gerais, Serra da Mantiqueira, near the border with São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, alt. ca. 1200 m, 25 Dec. 1981, (spirit collection 277) A. *Toscano de Brito* 144 (Holotype: MO, in liquid), C. Luer illustr. 18411.

This species, known only from the original collection, is not in cultivation. It is characterized by the large habit similar to that of *Dryadella aviceps*, and large flowers similar to those of *D. edwallii*. The leaves are broad and thick; the sepals have thick tails about as long as the blades; the petals have a large, rounded lobule below the apex; and the large, obovate blade of the lip is rounded at the apex and acutely deflexed, and the basal lobes are acute, elongated and retrorse.

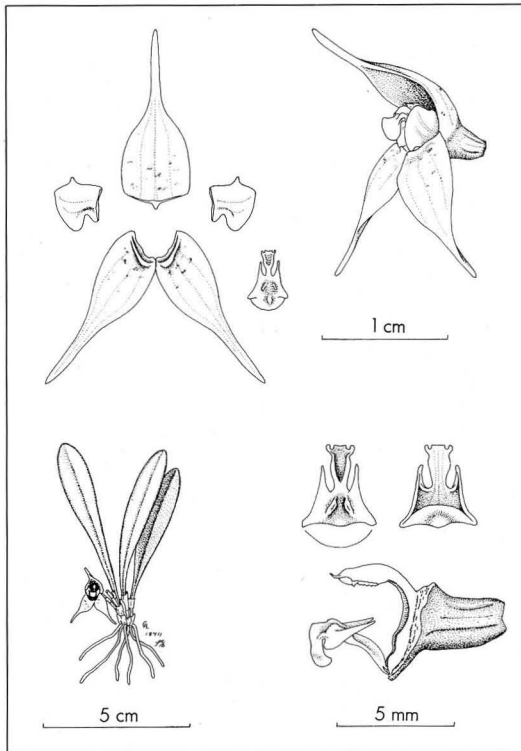


Fig. 43. *Dryadella toscanoi*