

**Dryadella verrucosa Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.**

Ety.: From the Latin *verrucosus*, "verrucose," referring to the blade of the lip.

Species haec *D. simulae* (Rchb.f.) Luer similis, sed sepalis late ovatis dense pusticulatis ecaudatis et labelli lamina dense verrucosa differt.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, densely caespitose; roots coarse. Ramicauls erect, 10-15 mm long, enclosed by 2-3 thin, loose, tubular sheaths. Leaf erect, thickly coriaceous, narrowly elliptical-ovate, pustulate on the dorsal surface, subacute, 3-6 cm long, 4-5 mm wide, gradually narrowed 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, 6 mm long; pedicel 6-7 mm long; ovary 1 mm long, minutely verrucose; sepals cream-colored, spotted with purple-brown, thick, the dorsal sepal broadly ovate, concave, obtuse, 6.5 mm long, 5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm to form a sepaline cup, the lateral sepals broadly ovate, oblique, 5 mm long, 4 mm wide, the apex obtuse, shortly acuminate, connate 0.5 mm at the base, with a transverse callus above the deflexed base; petals translucent brown, subquadrate, sagittate, 2.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the apex obtuse, obtusely angled on both upper margin below the apex, with a ligulate lobule on the labellar margin; lip brown, long-unguiculate, rigid, the blade elliptical, diffusely verrucose with denticulate margins, acutely deflexed near the middle, 3.25 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the base above the claw with a pair of short, obtuse lobules directed posteriorly, the disc with a low rounded pair of diverging calli below the middle, the claw 1.5 mm long, lightly channeled, bilobulate at the base, hinged to the apex of the column-foot; column green, 3 mm long, longitudinally winged above the middle, the foot thick, equally long.

COLOMBIA: Antioquia: Munic. of Cocomá, epiphytic in cloud forest near Río Cocomá, alt. 2000 m, 2 May 1984, C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar & E. Valencia 10091 (Holotype: MO).

This distinctive species is known only from the original collection made in the Central Cordillera of Colombia. Although related to the variable and widely distributed *D. simulae*, this species is recognized by the pustulate leaves and sepals. The sepals are broadly ovate, obtuse, and shortly acuminate but tailless. The petals of the two species are somewhat similar. The blade of the lip of *D. verrucosa*, however, is diffusely and markedly verrucose.