



Lepanthes anemica Luer & Thoele, *sp. nov.*

TYPE: COLOMBIA. Antioquia: Cocomá, Río Vino, collected March 1999, by Francisco López, flowered in cultivation by Colomborquídeas, Retiro, 15 June 2009, *L. Thoele 142* (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 21485. Fig. 20.

Species haec Lepanthis agglutinatae Luer affinis, sed sepalis proportione angustioribus, petalis albis laete roseomarginatis, labelli laminis liberis, appendice minore, et columnae apice latissimi differt.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots and rhizome unknown. *Ramicauls* slender, erect, at least 7.5 cm long, enclosed by at least 8 microscopically ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. *Leaf* erect, thinly coriaceous, ovate, acute, acuminate, 5.5 cm long, 3 cm wide, the base broadly cuneate to rounded, contracted into a petiole 2–4 mm long. *Inflorescence* an extremely congested, long-pedicellate, successively many-

flowered raceme up to 15 mm long, borne by a slender peduncle 5–22 mm long, along the back of the leaf; floral bracts 1–1.5 mm long; pedicels 2–3 mm long; ovary 2 mm long; *sepals* translucent light yellow, carinate, with microscopically denticulate margins, acute, acuminate, the dorsal sepal ovate-triangular, 7.5 mm long, 4.25 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 1.5 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, acute, acuminate, 8.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, 2-veined, connate 2 mm; *petals* white with the upper and inner margins pale rose, shortly pubescent, transversely bilobed, 1.25 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, 3-veined, with a 0.5 mm long process from the outer margin at the midvein, the upper lobe oblong, obliquely obtuse, 2.4 mm long, the lower lobe triangular, obtuse, 1.8 mm long; *lip* rose, bilaminar, the blades thin, free, microscopically pubescent, oblong-ovate with rounded ends, 1.2 mm long, the connectives narrow, oblique, from the central portion of the blade, the body broad with the basal halves of the connectives, connate to the base of the column, the sinus bitumorous, the appendix pubescent, triangular, narrowly truncate, concave basally, 0.4 mm long; *column* stout, 1.7 mm long, the apex 1 mm wide, the anther apical, the stigma ventral.

Etymology: From the Greek *anhaemeticos*, “anemic,” referring to the pale colors of the flower.

This species from the Central Cordillera of Colombia is similar to the frequent and widely distributed *Lepanthes agglutinata* Luer, and possibly has been identified as that. In habit similar, it is distinguished from *L. agglutinata* by larger flowers with narrower, longer-acuminate sepals. The petals of the two species are similar except that those of *L. agglutinata* are green with upper portion dark purple. In the present specimen, the blades of the lip are not “agglutinated.” Instead of from the apical quarter, the connectives are from the central quarter. Instead of oblong with an apical gland, the appendix of *L. anemica* is triangular and half the size.