

131. ***LEPANTHES ARETHUSA*** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta parva, racemo congesto folio roseo-punctato brevior, sepalis ovatis acuminatis denticulatis, labelli laminis oblongis cum corpore angusto et appendice apice longiciliata.

TYPE: Colombia: Dept. of Antioquia: epiphytic in cloud forest north of the pass between Urrao and Carmen de Atrato, alt. 2700 m, 30 May 1995, C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar, L. Posada, B. López, F. López & G. Arteaga 17633 (Holotype: MO).

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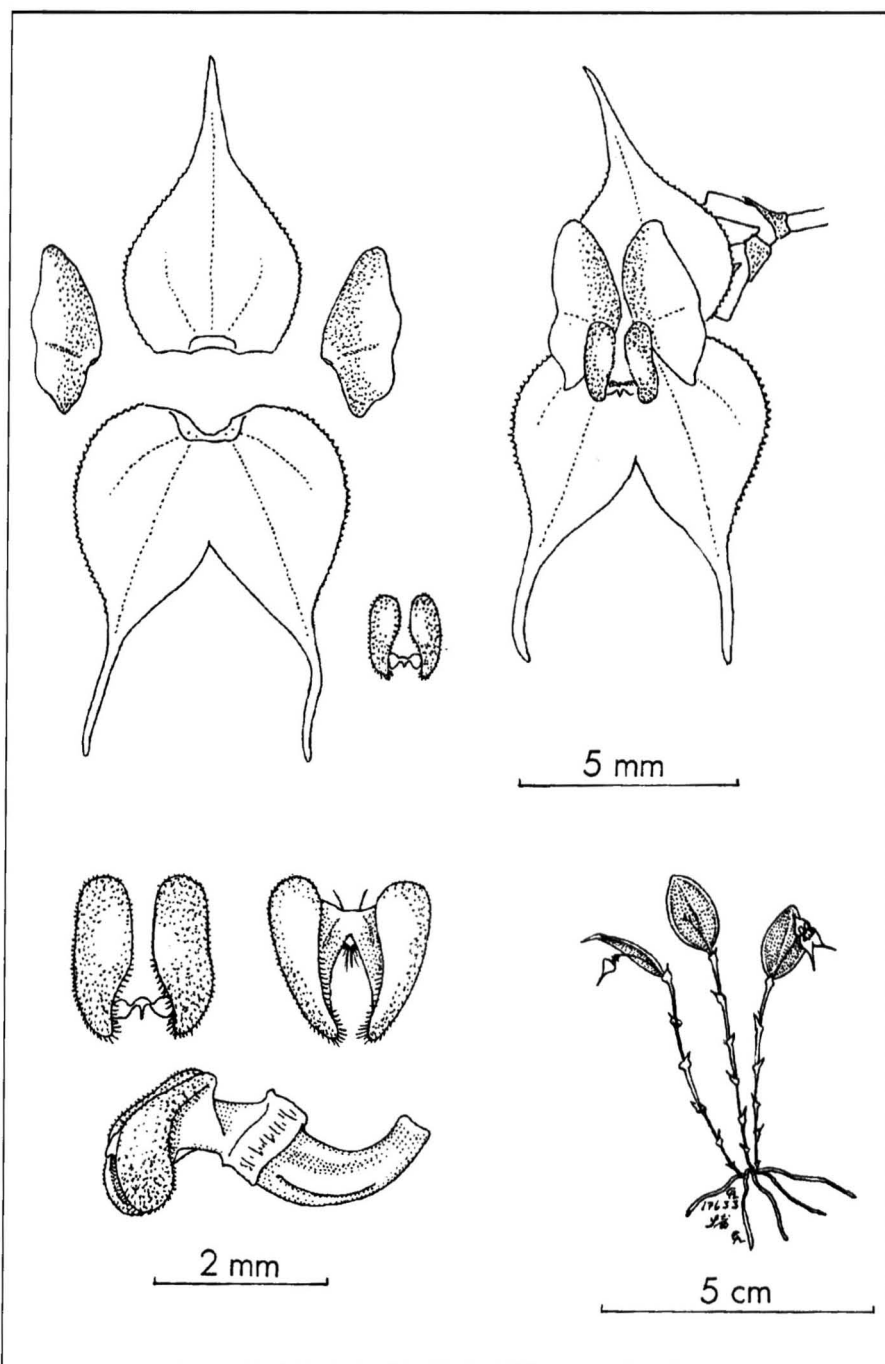
ETIMOLOGÍA: Lleva el nombre de Aretusa, hermosa ninfa mitológica de los bosques.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for Arethusa, the beautiful, mythological wood nymph.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 1.5-5 cm long, enclosed by 5-8 microscopically ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths with acuminate apices. **Leaf** suberect, coriaceous, convex, rose-gray and stippled beneath, ovate, subacute, 13-22 mm long, 8-10 mm wide, the base cuneate, contracted into a petiole 2 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively few-flowered raceme up to 2 mm long, 2- to 4-flowered, borne beneath the leaf by a filiform peduncle 3-15 mm long; floral bract 1 mm long; pedicel 1.5 mm long; ovary 1.5-2 mm long; **sepals** light yellow, membranous, carinate, minutely dentuculate, widely spread, the dorsal sepal ovate, subacute, acuminate, 7 mm long, 4 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, 8 mm long, 3.3 mm wide, connate 2 mm, the apices acute, acuminate into slender tails 3 mm long; **petals** yellow-orange, microscopically pubescent, transversely bilobed, 1.5 mm long, 4 mm wide, the lobes ovate, obtuse, oblique, the upper lobe larger than the lower; **lip** rose-purple, bilaminate, the blades minutely pubescent, oblong, with the ends rounded, 2 mm long, the connectives short, cuneate, the body narrow, connate to the base of the column, the sinus acute, with a small pubescent appendix, long-ciliate at the apex; **column** 2 mm long, the anther apical and the stigma ventral.

Esta especie es aparentemente endémica en la Cordillera Occidental de Colombia. Se caracteriza por hojas pequeñas, ovadas, de color rosado grisoso, diminutamente punteados por debajo, con una inflorescencia más corta. Los sépalos son ovados, acuminados, diminutamente dentados y con caudas cortas; los pétalos en forma de ala, son irregularmente bilobulados, con el lóbulo superior más grande; las láminas del labelo son oblongas, con un cuerpo angosto y un pequeño apéndice con un fascículo de cilios apicales largos.

This species is apparently endemic in the Western Cordillera of Colombia. It is characterized by small, ovate, rose-gray leaves stippled beneath, and a shorter inflorescence. The sepals are ovate, acuminate with short tails and minutely toothed; the wing-like petals are unequally bilobed with the upper lobe larger; and the blades of the lip are oblong with a narrow body and a small appendix with a fascicle of long, apical cilia.



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