

lamina, 2.3 mm long, 2.3 mm wide; **petals** yellow, suffused with red-brown medially, microscopically pubescent, transversely bilobed, 0.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the upper lobe larger, triangular with the apex rounded, the lower lobe oblong, rounded at the apex; **lip** cinnabar red, bilaminar, the blades microscopically pubescent, elliptical with rounded ends, 0.75 mm long, the connectives broadly cuneate, the body broad, concave, connate to the base of the column, with the sinus protuberant, with the appendix oblong, pubescent; **column** stout, 1 mm long, the anther apical and the stigma ventral.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *atratus*, “blackened” referring to the cauline sheaths.

This species is known only from Endres’ original collection without collection data. It was described in detail and beautifully illustrated with the intended name “atrata.” It is related to the widely distributed *L. disticha*-complex, but it is readily distinguished from the others by the larger habit with the black sheaths of the ramicauls dilated at the orifice. The congested, distichous, small-flowered inflorescence is similar, but the flower is distinguished by the protuberant body of the lip with a projecting, oblong appendix.

Lepanthes atrata Endres ex Luer, *sp. nov.*
TYPE: COSTA RICA. Without locality, ca. 1867,
A. Endres 18 (Holotype: W). Fig. 1.

Planta grandis, ramicaulorum vaginis atratis ostiis dilatatis, inflorescentia *L. distichae* (A. Rich. & Galeotti) Garay & R.E. Schult. similis, sed labelli laminis ellipticis et corpore protuberanti cum appendice oblonga pubescenti.

Plant medium in size to large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls stout, erect, 6–16 cm long, enclosed 12–14 black, lepanthiform sheaths with dilated, microscopically ciliated ostia. **Leaf** erect, purplish, thinly coriaceous, elliptical-ovate, subacute to obtuse, acuminate, 5–7 cm long, 2–3 cm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole 3–5 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, successively many-flowered raceme, up to 15 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a slender peduncle 15–20 mm long; floral bracts oblique, muricate, 1.5 mm long; pedicels 1.5–2 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** translucent greenish, carinate, the dorsal sepal ovate-triangular, acute, 2.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, subacute, connate 1.75 mm into a bifid

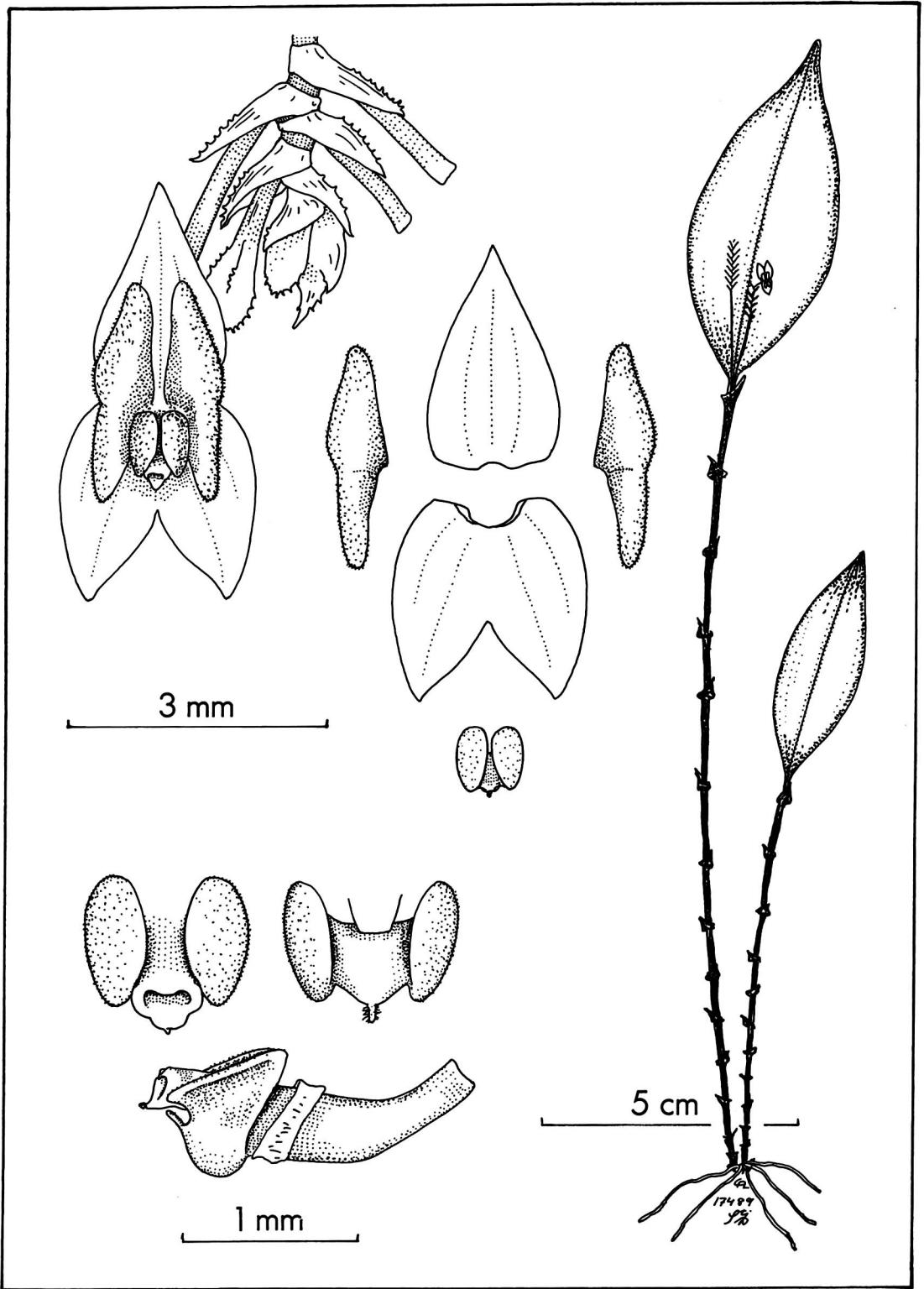


Fig. 1. *Lepanthes atrata* Endres ex Luer.