

***Lepanthes bifalcis* Luer, sp. nov.**

Planta parva caespitosa, racemo subdensifloro folio anguste ovato acuminato brevior, sepalo dorsali synsepaloque subaequalibus, petalis transverse bifalcatis, labello ciliato suborbiculari-bilobato.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems slender, suberect, 3-8 cm long, enclosed by 6-8 minutely scabrous lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf suberect, thinly coriaceous, narrowly ovate, acuminate, acute, 25-40 mm long, 7-11 mm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole 3-4 mm long. Inflorescence a weak, subdensely successively flowered raceme up to 25 mm long including the capillary peduncle, along the back of the leaf; floral bract 1.5 mm long; pedicel 1.5 mm long; ovary 0.75 mm long; sepals light yellow, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, subacute, convex, 2.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate lamina 2.3 mm long, 2 mm wide, the subacute apex minutely bifid; petals dark yellow, transversely bilobed, forked, 0.5 mm long, 2.3 mm wide, the lobes equal, falcate, narrowly obtuse; lip orange, minutely ciliate, suborbicular, 0.75 mm long, 0.75 mm wide, incised at the apex into two rounded lobes, the base cuneate, connate to the base of the column; column 0.8 mm long, the anther apical, the stigma subapical.

Etymology: From the Latin *bi-*, "two-" and *falx*, *falcis*, "a sickle," in reference to the forked, bifalcate petals.

Type: *ECUADOR*: NAPO: epiphytic in cloud forest south of Baeza, alt. 1900 m, 20 Feb. 1982. C. Luer & A. Hirtz 6864 (Holotype: SEL).

This small-flowered species is notable for the bifalcate petals and a bilobed, suborbicular lip connate to the base of the column.