

Lepanthes brachypogon Luer. sp. nov.

Planta mediocris caespitosa, inflorescentia folio longissime acuminato brevior, racemo congesto secundo, sepalis acutis lateralibus denticulatis, petalis transverse oblongis pubescentibus, labello laminis lunatis ciliatis connectivis latissimis, appendice late obtusa ciliata.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems erect, slender, 5-11 cm long, enclosed by 8-16 lepanthiform sheaths with microscopically ciliate stomal margins. Leaf suberect to horizontal, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, 2.5-6 cm long, 0.7-1.3 cm wide, the apex acute, long-acuminate, mucronate, the base cuneate into a petiole 1-2 mm long. Inflorescence a congested, secund, successively flowered raceme up to 15 mm long, borne by a filiform peduncle 12-25 mm long on top of the leaf; floral bract 1 mm long; pedicel and ovary each 1.5 mm long; sepals green, suffused with brown, the veins denticulate externally, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, concave, 4.75 mm long, 3 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals narrowly ovate, acute, denticulate, 5 mm long, 1.6 mm wide, connate 1 mm; petals brown, transversely oblong, pubescent, 0.6 mm long, 2.8 mm wide, the ends obtuse, the lobes nearly equal; lip brown, the blades lunate, 1.8 mm long, ciliate, the ends acute, the connectives broadly cuneate, the wide body connate to the column above the base, the sinus prolonged downward with a broadly rounded, ciliate appendix; column 1.5 mm long, the anther apical, the stigma ventral.

Etymology: From the Greek *brachys* "short," and *pogon*, "a beard," referring to the shortly ciliate, chinlike labellar body and appendix.

Type: *ECUADOR*: PICHINCHA: epiphytic in cloud forest between Tandayapa and Mindo, alt. 2320 m, 13 March 1982, *C. Luer, A. Hirtz & S. Dalström 7301* (Holotype: SEL).

Vegetatively this species looks like a form of the common and widespread *L. mucronata* Lindl., but the flowers prove no close relationship.