

Lepanthes camptica Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

Fig. 37.

Ety.: From the Greek *kamptikos*, "bent, curved, flexible," referring the appendix.

Planta mediocris debilis, inflorescentia cum racemo congesto disticho folio ovato longiacuminato brevior, sepalis late ovatis laevis, petalis minute pubescentibus transverse bilobis, lobo superiore ovato quam lobo inferiore triangulari majore, labelli laminis ovatis planis ciliatis, connectivis anguste cuneatis, appendice ciliata transverse convoluta cardinata.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, weak, erect to suberect, 3-8 cm long, enclosed by 7-10 minutely scabrous, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** suberect, coriaceous, ovate, acute, long-acuminate, 3.5-5 cm long, 1.8-2.3 cm wide, the rounded base abruptly contracted into a petiole 1-2 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme up to 6 mm long, borne on top of the leaf by a slender peduncle 10-18 mm long; floral bract muriculate, 1.5 mm long; pedicel 0.75 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** translucent yellow, carinate, ovate, acute, glabrous, the dorsal sepal 3 mm long, 2.4 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.6 mm, the lateral sepals oblique, connate 1.75 mm, 3 mm long, 2.8 mm wide together, each 2-veined; **petals** orange, suffused with red medially, shortly pubescent, transversely bilobed, 0.8 mm long, 2.4 mm wide, the upper lobe ovate, the apex oblique, narrowly obtuse, the lower lobe triangular, narrowly obtuse, smaller than the upper lobe; **lip** red, bilaminate, the laminae microscopically pubescent, ciliate, ovate, flat, 1.3 mm long, acute at the apex, round at the base, the connectives cuneate, the body narrow, connate to the base of the column, the appendix transversely convolute and hinged the margin of the broad sinus, with a pubescent terminal segment; **column** 1 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

Pastaza: north of Topo, epiphytic in forest along Río Zuñag, alt. 2200 m, 23 Feb. 1990, A. Hirtz, S. Dalström, L. Årnby, J. Del Hierro, E. Astorga, S. Ortega & J. Cabezas 4662 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 14720.

This species from the eastern slopes of the Andes of central Ecuador is most similar to *L. oscillifera* Luer & Escobar from Colombia. The habit is weak with slender stems bearing more or less spreading, long-acuminate leaves and a short inflorescence lying on top. The sepals are ovate and glabrous. The petals are transverse and more or less triangular. The lip blades of the lip are ovate and minutely pubescent. The pubescent appendix is broadly hinged to the anterior margin of the sinus. The appendix is convex below the middle, concave across the middle with a solid apical segment.

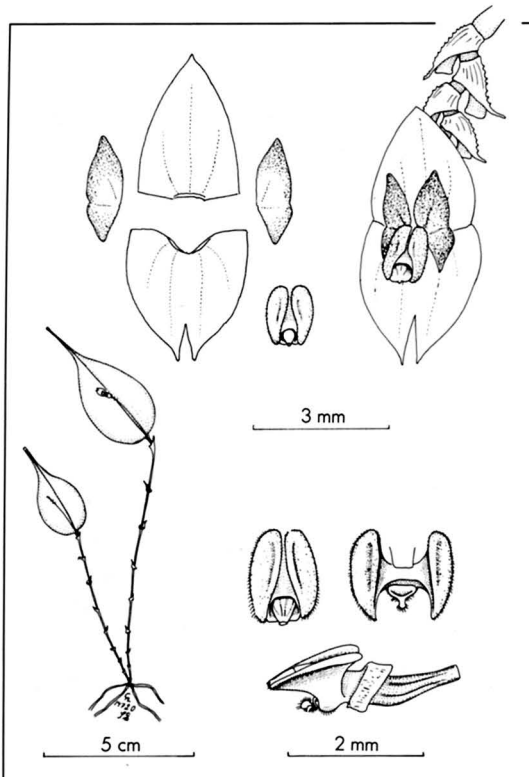


Fig. 37. *Lepanthes camptica*