



Lepanthes celox Luer & Hirtz

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *celox*, "a cutter, or a yacht," referring to the appearance of the appendix.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: Prov. of Imbabura: epiphytic in forest near Estacion Cachaco, alt. 800 m, Dec. 1983, A. Hirtz 1461 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 11513.

This small species, recently discovered by Hirtz in the western lowlands, is characterized by the short, distichous raceme with a pinkish flower with long-pointed lobes of the petals. Most distinguishing, however, is the long, boat-shaped appendix with a solid prow that reaches to just beneath the viscidium.

***Lepanthes celox* Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.**

Planta parva caespitosa, inflorescentia racemosa congestissima disticha folio late elliptico breviter acuminato brevior, sepalis anguste ovatis acutis breviter acuminatis, petalis transverse bilobatis, lobis anguste triangularibus subaequalibus, labello bilaminato, laminis ovatis, connectivis latis brevibus, appendice longiscaphoidea.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 20-30 mm long, enclosed by 5-6 minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, purplish beneath, broadly oblong, obtuse, shortly acuminate, 20-23 mm long, 12-15 mm wide, the rounded base contracted into a petiole 3-4 mm long. Inflorescence a very congested, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme up to 7 mm long, borne beneath the leaf by a filiform peduncle 7-9 mm long; floral bracts 1 mm long, spiculate; pedicels 1-1.5 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; sepals light rose, ovate, acute, shortly acuminate, carinate, the dorsal sepal 5.5 mm long, 3.8 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals oblique, 5.5 mm long, 2.4 mm wide, connate 2.5 mm; petals dark rose, transversely bilobed, 1 mm long, 5.5 mm wide, 3-veined, minutely pubescent, the lobes nearly equal, obliquely triangular, acute, the upper lobe slightly larger; lip bilaminate, dark rose, the laminae microscopically pubescent, ovate, convex, 1.1 mm long, the apices acute, the bases obtuse, the connectives shortly and broadly cuneate, the body connate to the base of the column, the sinus obtuse with a long, narrowly ovoid, concave, pubescent appendix with a solid apiculum reaching to the viscidium; column stout, 1 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.