

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

Fig. 48.

Ety.: From the Latin *cilicampa*, "a ciliated caterpillar," referring to the long-ciliate petals.

Planta parva, inflorescentia cum racemo congesto disticho folio elliptico brevior, sepalo dorsali triangulari acuto, sepalis lateralibus ovatis obtusis, petalis transverse bilobis, lobo superiore elongato longiciliato, lobo inferiore parvo pubescenti, labelli laminae oblongis ciliatis, connectivis latissime cuneatis, appendice segmentata pubescenti.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 2-3.5 cm long, enclosed by 6-12 minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, 15-20 mm long, 8-10 mm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole ca. 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme up to 5 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a slender peduncle 3-4 mm long; floral bract echinate, 0.75 mm long; pedicel 0.75 mm long; ovary 0.75 mm long; **sepals** purple, carinate, glabrous with the margins shortly ciliate, the dorsal sepal triangular-ovate, acute, 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, obtuse, 2.5 mm long, connate 1 mm, 2.5 mm wide together, each 2-veined; **petals** red, pubescent, transversely bilobed, 0.5 mm long, 2.8 mm wide, 3-veined, the upper lobe narrowly oblong, obtuse, long-ciliate, the lower lobe much smaller, densely pubescent; **lip** red, bilaminar, the laminae oblong-elliptical with rounded ends, 0.8 mm long, ciliate with the apices long-ciliate, the connectives broadly cuneate, the body broad, connate to the base of the column, the sinus acute with a pedunculated, segmented, pubescent appendix; **column** 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

**Esmeraldas:** along the new road from Lita to San Lorenzo, alt. 60 m, 25 Jan. 1996, A. Hirtz, X. Hirtz & J. Del Hierro 6273 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 17919.

**Carchi:** off road to Lita, north of Río Mira, between Guallupe and Parambas, alt. 900 m, 16 Feb. 1996, A. Hirtz & X. Hirtz 6302 (MO).

This species is apparently endemic in lowland western Ecuador. It is characterized by the small habit, acute, elliptical leaves; and a short, congested inflorescence. The sepals are shortly ciliate; the dorsal sepal is acute and the laterals are obtuse. The upper lobe of the petals is erect, narrowly oblong, and long-ciliate. The elliptical blades of the lip are also ciliate with the apices long-ciliate on the specimen collected at 60 meters above sea level, and shortly ciliate on the specimen collected farther inland at 900 meters above sea level.

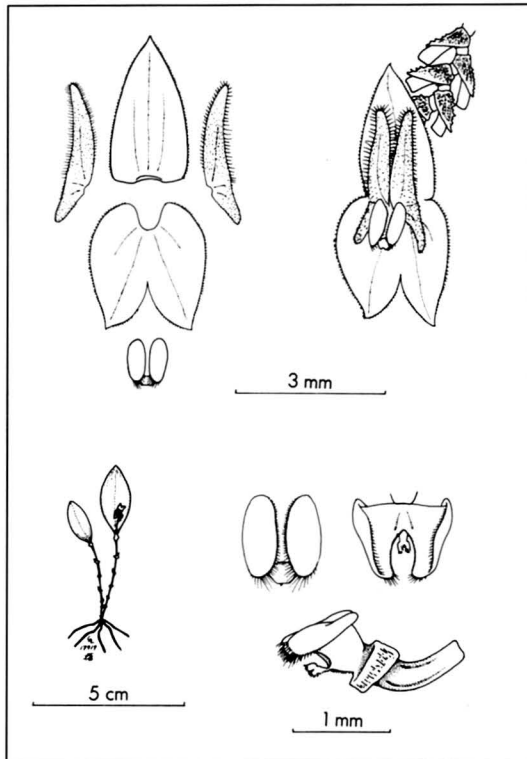


Fig. 48. *Lepanthes cilicampa*