

**Lepanthes cordeliae** Luer, *sp. nov.* TYPE: PERU. Dept. of Amazonas (?): without locality, collected by Cordelia Head, Apr. 1988, flowered in cultivation at J. & L. Orchids in Easton, CT, 28 Sept. 1991, *C. Luer 15430* (Holotype: MO). Fig. 4.

Planta parva caespitosa, inflorescentia dense pluriflora folio ovato subaequilonga, sepalis carinatis ellipticis subacutis, petalis magnis transversis, lobo superiore ovalo quam lobo inferiore subacuto majore, labello bilaminato, laminis ellipticis concavis, connectivis cuneatis sine corpore, appendice longipubescenti bisegmentata, segmento apicali trilobato.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. **Ramicauls** slender, erect, 5.5 cm long, enclosed by 7 microscopically ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, suffused with purple beneath, ovate, acute, 26 mm long, 10 mm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole 2 mm long. **Inflorescence** a dense, successively several-flowered raceme up to 18 mm long borne by a filiform peduncle 5-12 mm long; floral bracts lightly muricate, 1 mm long; pedicel 1.5-2 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long; **sepals** red-purple with dull white margins, carinate, elliptic, subacute, the dorsal sepal 3 mm long, 1.75 mm wide, connate basally to the lateral sepals for 0.25 mm, the lateral sepals oblique, 2.75 mm long, 1.4 mm long, connate 0.75 mm; **petals** red-orange with yellow longitudinally through the center, cellular-pubescent, transversely bilobed, 1 mm long, 2.6 mm wide, the upper lobe ovate, broadly rounded, the lower lobe obliquely triangular, smaller than the upper lobe; **lip** bilaminate, the blades yellow-brown on the outer half, orange-brown on the inner half, cellular-pubescent, elliptical, concave, obtuse, 1.5 mm long, the connectives cuneate without a body, connate to the base of the column, the appendix in the sinus between the connectives, long-pubescent, bisegmented, with the apical segment trilobed; column; **column** semiterete, 1 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Cordelia Head of J. & L. Orchids, Easton, CT, who discovered this species.

This species is distinguished by the congested inflorescence that eventually about equals the ovate leaf in length; subacute, elliptical sepals; comparatively large, rounded, upper lobes of the petals; and a protuberant lip. The blades are held more or less perpendicularly to the sepals and petals. The slightly concave blades are borne by wedge-shaped connectives that are connate to the base of the column without a body, similar to that seen in the Ecuadorian *L. disjuncta* Luer & Hirtz and *L. plectilis* Luer & Hirtz. The appendix of *L. cordeliae* is bisegmented with the apical segment trilobed.

