

Lepanthes corrugata Luer & Dalström, sp. nov.

Fig. 58.

Ety.: From the Latin *corrugatus*, "with wrinkles," referring to the wrinkles of the leaves.

Planta grande caespitosa, inflorescentia racemosa congestissima folio tenui corrugato ovato acuminato brevior, sepalis ovatis carinatis, petalis transverse lobatis cum apiculo deflexo brevi inter lobos, lobo superiore triangulari, lobo inferiore majore, labelli laminis lunatis connectivis latis et corpore lato membranei, appendice marginali.

Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 15-18 cm long, enclosed by 20-22 microscopically scabrous, lepanthiform sheaths with dilated ostia. **Leaf** suberect, thinly coriaceous, purple reticulate-veined, ovate, acuminate, 8-9 cm long, 3.5-4.5 cm wide, broadly cuneate below into a petiole 2-3 mm long. **Inflorescence** an extremely congested raceme of successive flowers, up to 10 mm long, borne by a filiform peduncle 3-4 cm long along the back of the leaf; floral bract acuminate, recurved, 2.5 mm long; pedicel 3-4 mm long; ovary 3 mm long; **sepals** reddish, glabrous, carinate, the dorsal sepal ovate, narrowly obtuse, apiculate, 6 mm long, 4.25 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 1.5 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, shortly acuminate, subacute, 6 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, connate 2 mm; **petals** olive green, microscopically pubescent, transversely bilobed, 1.5 mm long, 5.5 mm wide, with a filament 0.6 mm long from the margin near the middle, the lobes triangular, the upper lobe slightly larger; **lip** olive green, bilaminar, the blades thin, glabrous, lunate, 2.5 mm long, the connectives broadly cuneate, the body broad, membranous, slightly concave, protruding, connate to the column at the base, the appendix ciliate, triangular, acute, on the protruding margin of the body; **column** 2 mm long, with the anther dorsal, and the stigma ventral.

Sucumbios: forested ridge above La Bonita, alt. 2300 m, 15 Mar. 1996, S. Dalström, S. Ingram & K. Ferrell-Ingram 2153 (MO), C. Luer illustr. 17917.

This large species is known only from the original collection. It is related to *L. cotyledon* from farther south on the eastern slopes, but it is distinguished from the latter by the longer, multisheathed ramicauls and larger leaves that are similarly thin, crinkly and purple; a congested, long-pedicellate raceme shorter than the leaf; petals with a thin, lateral process; and a lip with thin, transparent blades adherent over the column, and a large concavity filling the body behind a relatively large, oblong appendix with a lobulate apex.

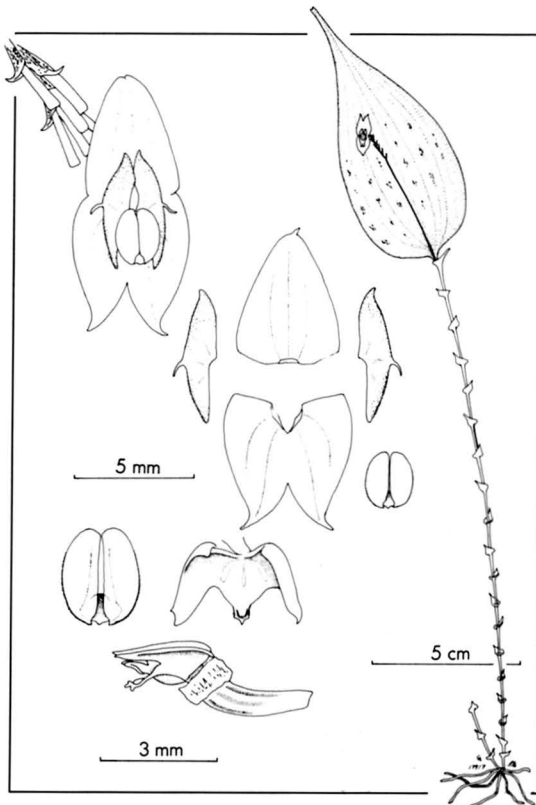


Fig. 58. *Lepanthes corrugata*