

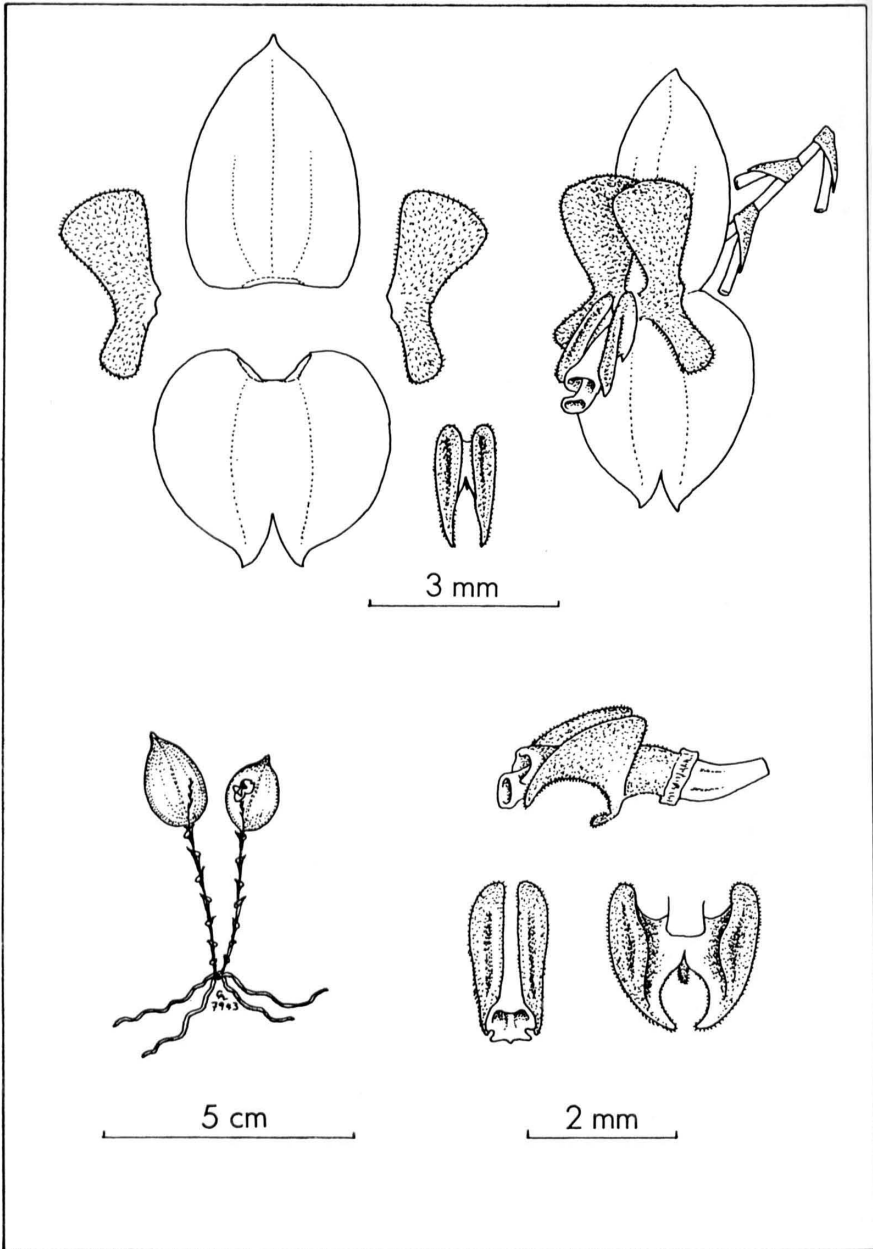
Lepanthes cuneiformis Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta parva, racemo congesto folio ovato brevior, sepalis ovatis subacutis, petalis transverse bilobis cuneatis truncatis pubescentibus, labelli laminis anguste ellipticis, sinu fisso, appendice ligulata pubescenti infra corpus.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems slender, erect, 1.5-3.5 cm long, enclosed by 6-8 ciliate lepanthiform sheaths with widely dilated ostia. Leaf erect, coriaceous, suffused with purple beneath, ovate, abruptly acute, 13-23 mm long including the 2 mm long petiole, 10-14 mm wide, the rounded base contracted into the petiole. Inflorescence a congested, successive, several-flowered raceme up to 5 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle up to 7 mm long; floral bract and pedicel each 1.5 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; sepals translucent yellow, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, subacute, suffused with purple at the apex, 4 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for less than 1 mm, the lateral sepals connate 2 mm into a broadly ovate to suborbicular lamina, 3.5 mm long, 3.75 mm wide, the apex shortly bifid, the apices obtuse, each lateral sepal 1-veined; petals yellow with a purple inner margin, pubescent, transversely bilobed-oblong, 1.3 mm long, 3 mm wide, the upper lobe broadly cuneate, truncate, the lower lobe much smaller, oblong, truncate; lip purple, shortly pubescent, the blades narrowly elliptical, 2 mm long, acute at the apex, rounded at the base, the connectives broadly cuneate, the body connected to the column above the base, the sinus cleft, the ligulate, pubescent appendix protruding from the under surface of the body; column 2.5 mm long, the anther and stigma apical.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *cuneiformis*, "wedge-shaped," referring to the upper lobes of the petals.

ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *cuneiformis* "en forma de cuña", refiriéndose a los lóbulos superiores de los pétalos.



Lepanthes cuneiformis

Illustration: Carlyle A. Luer

TYPE: *COLOMBIA*: NORTE DE SANTANDER: epiphytic in cloud forest, Alto de Santa Inés, alt. 2.150 m, May 1982, C. Luer, R. Escobar & D. Portillo 7943 (Holotype: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Colombia, Eastern Cordillera.

This pretty little species is distinguished by the broadly cuneate, minutely pubescent petals that overlap above the lip. The sinus of the lip is deeply cleft; the appendix originates on the under surface of the body and protrudes forward, but still a long distance from the stigma.

Esta linda y pequeña especie se distingue por los pétalos ampliamente cuneados, finamente pubescentes que se traslapan por encima del labelo. El seno del labelo es profundamente hendido; el apéndice se origina en la cara inferior del cuerpo y sobresale hacia adelante, pero todavía a gran distancia del estigma.