



118. ***LEPANTHES DEWILDEI***  
Luer & R. Escobar

118. *LEPANTHES DEWILDEI* Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta parva caespitosa, debilis, inflorescentia racemosa congesta folio angustissime ovato acuminato brevior, sepalis ovatis obtusis quam petalis minoribus, petalis igneis transverse lobatis ciliatis pubescentibus, lobo superiore oblongo longiacuminato, lobo inferiore brevior angustissime triangulari, labelli laminae carmesinis oblongis truncatis ciliatis, appendice oblonga concava retusa ciliata.

**TYPE:** Colombia: Dept. of Chocó: above San José del Palmar, Alto de Los Galápagos, epiphytic in cloud forest, alt. 2050 m, 13 May 1993, C.

Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar, A. De Wilde & J. Gómez 16848 (Holotype: MO); same locality, 22 Feb. 1992, flowered in cultivation at 'El Jordán,' 25 June 1992, A. De Wilde 3899 (MO).

**ETIMOLOGIA:** Nombrada en honor de Arend De Wilde de Pereira, Colombia, quien descubrió la especie.

**ETYMOLOGY:** Named in honor of Arend De Wilde of Pereira, Colombia, who discovered this species.

**Plant** small, weak, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls very slender, erect, 6-8 cm long, enclosed by 7-8 tightly fitting, essentially glabrous, lepanthiform sheaths with minimally dilated ostia. **Leaf** purplish, erect, coriaceous, very narrowly ovate, acuminate, 4-5 cm long, 0.5 cm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole ca. 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme, up to 3-4 mm long, borne on the dorsum of the leaf by a filiform peduncle 8-13 mm long; floral bracts 1 mm long; pedicels 1 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; **sepals** translucent tan, glabrous, the dorsal sepal broadly elliptical, obtuse, 3.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, barely 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.4 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, obtuse, 3 mm long, 2 mm wide, barely 2-veined, connate 1 mm; **petals** bright orange-crimson, ciliate, minutely pubescent, transversely bilobed, 1 mm long, 8.5 mm wide, 3-veined, the upper lobe more or less oblong with the apical third acuminate, the lower lobe equally long, narrowly triangular, acuminate; **lip** bright crimson, bilaminated, the blades microscopically pubescent, oblong with the bases narrowly obtuse and the apices truncate, ciliate, 2.75 mm long, the connectives short, narrow, the body narrow, connate to the base of the column, the sinus obtuse with an oblong, retuse, concave, microscopically ciliate appendix; **column** 1.5 mm long, with the anther dorsal and the stigma ventral.

Esta rara especie se da epífita en ramitas delgadas en un húmedo y ventoso paso de montaña entre los departamentos de Chocó y Valle del Cauca. Se caracteriza por el ramicaule muy delgado con vainas ajustadas, no dilatadas. Como en muchas especies similares, las plantas consisten por lo general de solamente uno o dos ramicaules con hojas. La hoja morada, muy angosta, acuminada, es más o menos erecta en relación al ramicaule, y el corto y atestado racimo, nace encima de la hoja.

La flor, brillantemente coloreada, se caracteriza por pétalos proporcionalmente grandes los que con sus acuminados ápices son considerablemente más largos que la longitud combinada de los sépalos. Los lóbulos del labelo están colocados en posición oblicua tapando la vista lateral del apéndice. El apéndice es pequeño, oblongo y cóncavo.

This rare species occurs as a twig-epiphyte in a wet, windy pass between the departments of Chocó and Valle del Cauca. It is distinguished by the

very slender ramicaul with tightly fitting, non-dilated sheaths. In common with many similar species, plants usually consist of only one or two ramicauls with leaves. The very narrow, acuminate, purple leaf is more or less erect in relation to the ramicaul, and the short, congested raceme is borne on top of the leaf.

The brightly colored flower is distinguished by proportionately large petals that are considerably longer with their acuminate apices than the combined length of the sepals. The lobes of the lip are positioned obliquely to obscure a lateral view of the appendix. The appendix is small, oblong and concave.