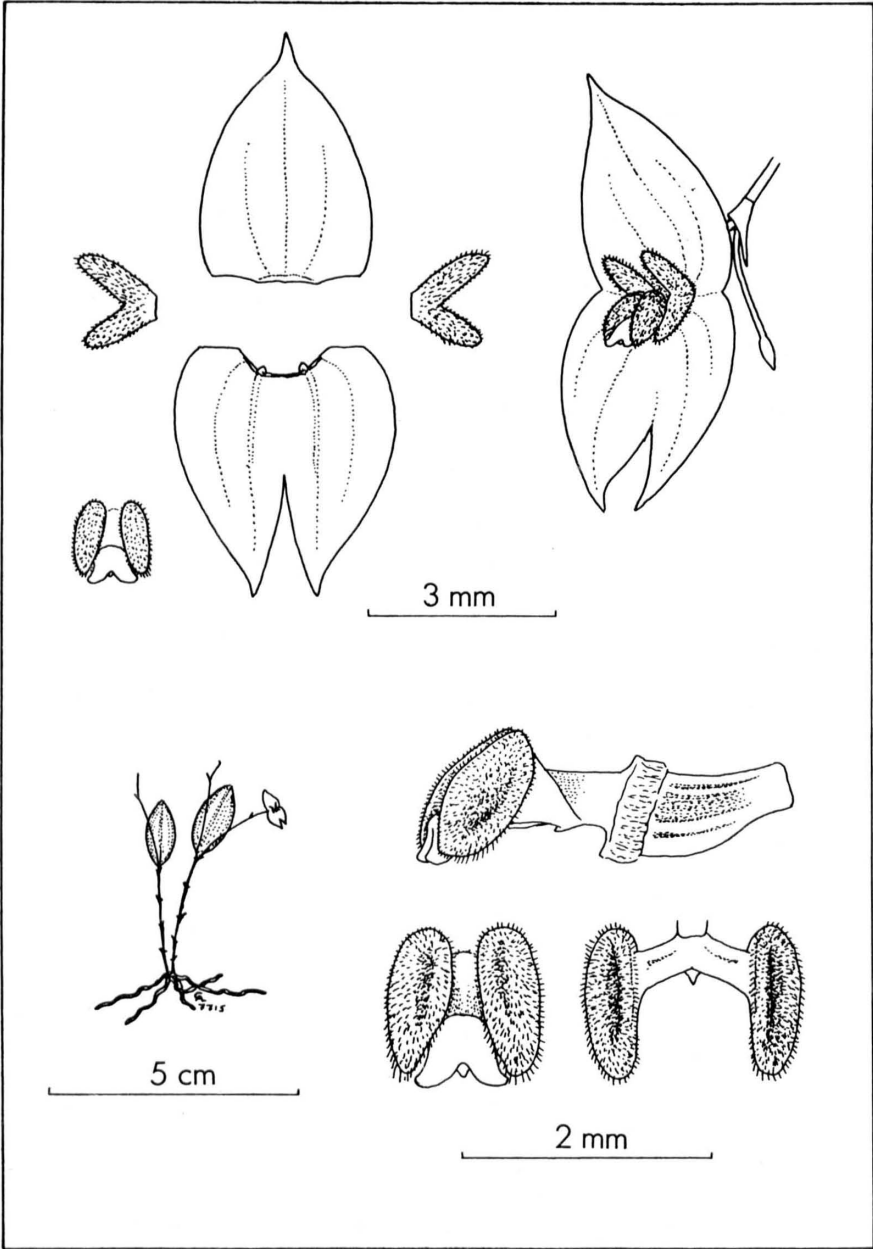


**Lepanthes didactyla** Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta parva, racemo bifloro folio elliptico leviter longiore, sepalis ovatis, petalis bifurcatis pubescentibus, labelli laminis ellipticis pubescentibus, appendice minuta triangulari.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems slender, erect, 10-25 mm long, enclosed by 3-5 ciliate lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, elliptical, subacute, 10-16 mm long including the 1.5-2 mm long petiole, 5-6 mm wide, the base cuneate into the petiole. Inflorescence a successive, distantly 2-flowered raceme ca. 2 cm long including the filiform peduncle; floral bract 1 mm long; pedicel 1.25 mm long; ovary 1.25 mm long; sepals translucent tan, ovate, acute, carinate, glabrous, the dorsal sepal 4 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, connate less than 1 mm to the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals connate 1.5 mm, 4 mm long, 3.5 mm wide together; petals dull yellow, pubescent, bilobed-bifurcate, the lobes oblong, obtuse, 1.5 mm long, 0.3 mm wide, diverging ca. 90° from each other; lip red-purple, the blades elliptical with rounded ends, lightly concave, pubescent, 1.2 mm long, the connectives long and narrow, the narrow body connate to the column above the base, the sinus with a minute, triangular appendix; column 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek *di-*, "two-, "and *dactylos*, "a finger," referring to the two fingerlike lobes of the petals.



*Lepanthes didactyla*

Illustration: Carlyle A. Luer

ETIMOLOGIA: Del griego *di*, "dos", y *dactylos* "un dedo", refiriéndose a los dos lóbulos de los pétalos que parecen dedos.

TYPE: *COLOMBIA*: NORTE DE SANTANDER: epiphytic in cloud forest near Agua de la Virgen, Ocaña, alt. 1.650 m, 4 May 1982, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar & D. Portillo 7715* (Holotype: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Colombia, Eastern Cordillera.

This small species may be recognized by the slender, two-flowered raceme slightly longer than the elliptical leaf; pubescent, forked petals; and pubescent blades of the lip with narrow connectives and a minute, triangular appendix.

Esta pequeña especie puede reconocerse por el delgado racimo de dos flores, ligeramente más largo que la hoja elíptica; pétalos bifurcados, pubescentes; y aletas pubescentes del labelo con las conexiones estrechas y un apéndice triangular diminuto.