

Lepanthes dotae Endres ex Luer, sp. nov.
 TYPE: COSTA RICA. San José: Dota, rainy season, Sept.–Nov. ca. 1867, A. Endres 56, sketch 253 (Holotype: W). Fig. 6.

Planta mediocris caespitosa, inflorescentia congesta disticha foliis crassis leviter convexis suborbicularibus brevioris, sepalis ovatis acutis, petalorum lobis triangularibus, labelli laminis anguste subsigmoidea cum apicibus incurvatis, appendice extus minuta.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 3.5–4.5 cm long, enclosed by 6–10 closely appressed, lepanthiform sheaths with oblique ostia, “microscopically velvety” on the margins and ribs. **Leaf** dark green, erect, “cartilaginous-coriaceous,” broadly elliptical to suborbicular, obtuse, slightly convex, 2–3 cm long, 2–2.5 cm wide, the base rounded, contracted into a petiole ca. 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively 10- to 12-flowered (or more) raceme up to ca. 10 mm long, borne beneath the leaf by a filiform peduncle up to 12 mm long; floral bracts ca. 1 mm long, muriculate; pedicels ca. 1 mm long; ovary ca. 1 mm or more long; **sepals** cream-colored, tinged with violet along their midribs, ovate, carinate, acute, with margins entire, the dorsal sepal 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for ca. 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals similar, oblique, diverging, connate ca. 0.5 mm; **petals** yellow suffused with violet medially, transversely bilobed, microscopically pubescent, 0.3 mm long, 2 mm wide, the lobes obliquely triangular, narrowly obtuse, diverging, the upper lobe larger; **lip** carmine, bilaminar, the blades mi-

nutely pubescent, oblong-subsigmoid, ca. 1 mm long, the bases obtuse, the apices narrowed, incurved, the connectives stout, cuneate, the body broad, connate to the base of the column, the sinus obtuse, with the appendix short, ovoid, barely external; **column** stout, ca. 0.5 mm long, with the anther and stigma apical.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for the community of Dota where the species was discovered.

This species, already declared scarce by Endres, is known only by Endres’ accurate illustrations and detailed descriptions which are preserved in Reichenbach’s herbarium at Vienna. His existing notes do not carry an intended name. A search through all Endres’ dried collections failed to uncover a specimen of this species. Perhaps it was never sent to Reichenbach; perhaps it was sent and lost in the intervening 130 years. To my knowledge, no subsequent collection has been made.

The accompanying description was made from Endres’ notes. The illustration was inked directly from Endres’ original. The flowers were noted to be slightly more than one-fourth of an inch long. This is about 6 mm, so each of the ovate, acute sepals is about 3 mm long. The petals are 2 mm broad with the lobes narrowly triangular, the upper the larger. The blades of the lip are narrowly subsigmoid with the apices incurved.

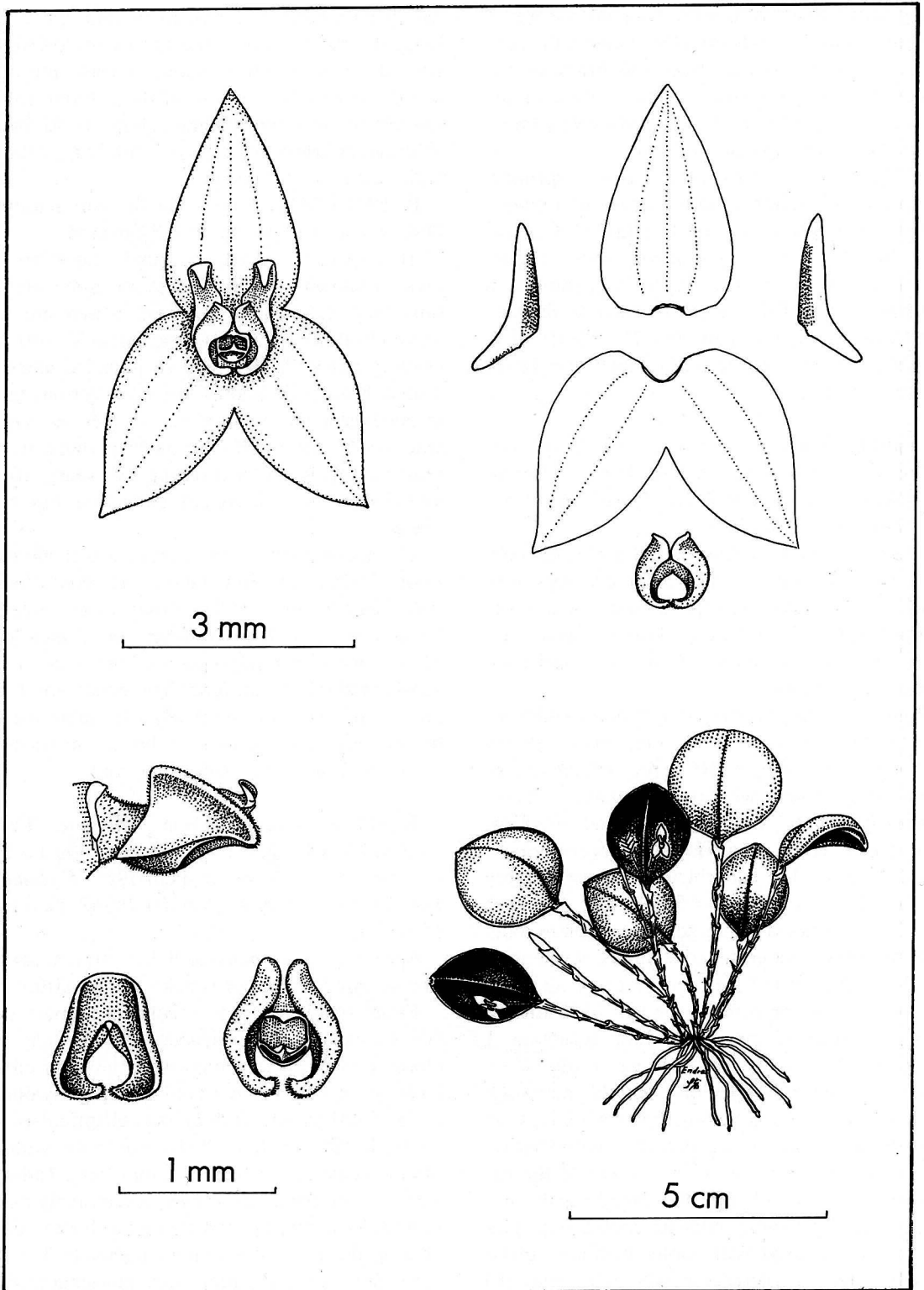


Fig. 6. *Lepanthes dotae* Endres ex Luer.