

Lepanthes exasperata A. & S. sp. nov. Herba nana, caespitosa. Radices fibratae, numerosae. Caules unifoliati, filiformes, plurivaginati. Folium anguste lanceolatum, in vivo valde carnosum, margine revoluta, apice tridentata. Inflorescentiae breves. Flores membranacei. Sepala margine et nervis dorso minute ciliolata. Sepala lateralia obliquissime ovata. Sepalum dorsale majus, ovato-oblongum. Petala inverse reniformia, lobis ovatis, subaequalibus. Labellum trilobatum.

Plant dwarf, caespitose, 4.5–5.4 cm. tall. Roots numerous, fibrous, flexuous, filiform, finely pubescent. Stems filiform, monophyllous, about 1–2.5 cm. long, 3–5-jointed, entirely concealed by tightly clasping tubular sheaths. Sheaths longitudinally nerved and pubescent on the angles, abruptly dilated into an ovate aristate nervose lamina which is ciliate on the margin. Leaf erect or erect-spreading, narrowly lanceolate, very fleshy with revolute margins (in material preserved in formalin), 2.15–2.7 cm. long, 4.6–5.6 mm. wide below the middle, long-narrowed above to a broad tridentate apex, rounded or cuneate below to a short-petioled base which is tightly enclosed by the uppermost sheath of the stem, the longitudinal centre of the blade deeply sulcate on the upper surface and bluntly carinate beneath. Inflorescences one to three with apparently only one fertile raceme at a time, very short, about 5–9.5 mm. long, rarely up to 9-flowered. Flowers approximate, distichous, on the upper part of the peduncle, minute, apparently membranaceous. Sepals cellular-ciliolate on the margins and on the nerves of the outer surface. Lateral sepals connate to the middle, broadly and very obliquely ovate, 2 mm. long, 1.6 mm. wide at the base of the free portion, acute, 2-nerved, the lobes correct with the outer margins prominently ciliolate and the inner margins very obscurely so. Dorsal sepal larger, oblong-ovate, 3 mm. long, about 1.65 mm. wide, acute, 3-nerved. Petals inversely reniform, bilobed, with the lobes set at an obtuse angle, about 2.2 mm. wide from tip to tip, entire margin densely and finely long cellular-fimbriate; posterior and anterior lobes subequal, ovate, obtuse. Labellum 3-lobed; lateral lobes broadly dolabriform, about 1.7 mm. wide, expanded into a broad transversely oblong pubescent apex; middle lobe much smaller, deltoid in outline with a retuse-truncate apex, finely long-hairy at the base, short-hairy above. Column characteristic of the genus, dilated above into a retuse and apiculate tip.

Lepanthes exasperata closely resembles *L. micrantha* Ames, but differs strikingly in the shape and size of the leaves (even in fresh specimens) and in the relative width of the petal lobes.

COSTA RICA, Navarro, C. H. Lankester 689, 1923. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 28791.)