

***Lepanthes fugiens*** Luer, *sp. nov.* TYPE: COSTA RICA. Without locality, ca. 1867, A. Endres *s.n.* (Holotype: W). Fig. 12.

Planta parva, inflorescentia dense racemosa disticha folio ovato plus minusve brevior, sepalis ovatis acutis, petalis bifurcatis lobis pubescentibus triangularibus, labello bilobo lobis subreni-

formibus ciliatis columnam erectam amplectentibus, appendice extus corpore connata.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 2–4.5 cm long, enclosed by 6–8 light brown, closely clasping, minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths, with oblique ostia. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical-ovate, acute, 16–25 mm long, 8–10 mm wide, the base cuneate, contracted into a petiole 1–2 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively many-flowered raceme up to 18 mm long, held behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle 10–15 mm long; floral bracts 1 mm long, muricate; pedicels 2–3 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** appear to have been either pale yellow or white, glabrous, carinate, entire, the dorsal sepal slightly reflexed, convex, ovate, acute, 3.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, acute, 3.3 mm long, 1.6 mm wide, connate 0.5 mm; **petals** appear to have been red or purple, pubescent, transversely bifurcate, 0.75 mm long, 4 mm wide, with the lobes triangular, narrowly obtuse, nearly equal in length, diverging ca. 135°; **lip** appears to have been red or purple, bilobed, the lobes subreniform with the ends rounded, with a vestigial blade-like fold near the posterior angle, 1.25 mm long, ciliate, embracing the column, the connectives broadly cuneate, the body connate to the base of the column, the sinus obtuse with the appendix oblong, ciliate, longitudinally connate externally to the body; **column** cylindrical, protruding, 1.5 mm long, the anther apical and the stigma subapical.

**ETYMOLOGY:** From the Latin *fugiens*, “flying, fleeing,” in allusion to the fancied appearance of the flower.

This species is present among the numerous specimens collected by Endres around 1867, and was preserved without collection data, illustration or description. It is characterized by the small habit with ovate leaves that can be surpassed by a congested, distichous, continuously lengthening raceme. The slightly reflexed sepals are ovate and acute; the petals are bifurcate with triangular, pubescent lobes; the column, clasped by the lip protrudes erect from the center. The lobes of the lip are ciliate and reniform with a suggestion of a blade forming along the posterior margin. A prostrate appendix is connate to the external surface of the body of the lip.

The illustration was made from a flower hydrated in concentrated ammonia.

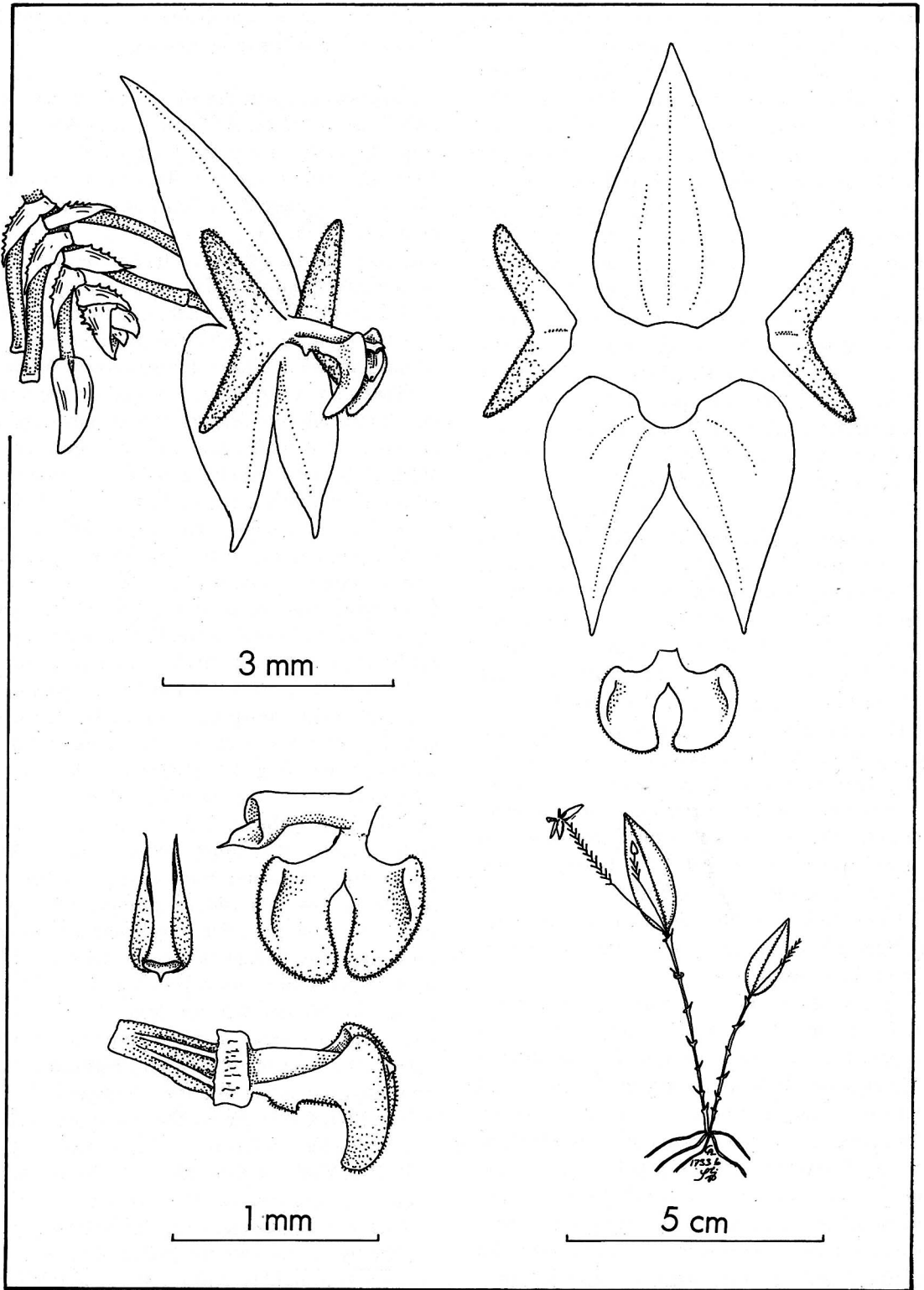


Fig. 12. *Lepanthes fugiens* Luer.