

Lepanthes generi Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

Fig. 271.

Ety.: From the Latin *gener*, *generi*, "of the son-in-law," referring to the close relationship of the sympatric *L. gloris*, the "sister-in-law."

Planta parva, inflorescentia cum racemo congesto disticho longipedicellato folio anguste ovato acuminato brevior, sepalis anguste ovatis acutis minute pubescentibus, petalis transverse bilobis, lobis anguste triangularibus, lobo superiore duplo longiore, labelli laminis oblongis minute pubescentibus, connectivis late obliquis, appendice concava pubescenti.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls very slender, erect, 3-5.5 cm long, enclosed by 9-10 ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths with acuminate ostia. **Leaf** erect, thinly coriaceous, ovate, acute, acuminate, 3-5 cm long, 1.2-1.5 cm wide, the base broadly cuneate into a petiole 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, long-pedicellate, successively flowered raceme up to 5 mm long.

borne on top of the leaf by a slender peduncle 20-30 mm long; floral bracts 0.75 mm long, glabrous; pedicels 2-2.5 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** dark red, minutely ciliate-pubescent, the dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, acute, 4 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.2 mm, the lateral sepals narrowly ovate, acute, 4 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, 2-veined, connate 1.5 mm; **petals** dark red, minutely pubescent, transversely bilobed, 0.5 mm long, 4 mm wide, the upper lobe narrowly oblong-triangular, obtuse at the tip, twice longer than the lower lobe, the lower lobe triangular, oblique, acute; **lip** dark red, bilaminate, the laminae oblong, convex, 1.5 mm long, minutely pubescent, with the bases and apices rounded, the connectives broad, oblique with the anterior margin short, connate to the column above the base, the appendix broadly concave, pubescent; **column** 0.75 mm long, the anther apical, the stigma ventral.

ECUADOR: **Carchi**: south of Chical, Cerro Oscuro, alt. 2100 m, May 1997, A. Hirtz 6558 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 18685.

Also a member of subsection *Lepanthes* series *Lepanthes*, this species, apparently endemic in northwestern Ecuador, is similar to another sympatric species from which it is distinguished by broader leaves; long-pedicellate, distichous racemes; narrower sepals and petals; and a lip with the anterior margin of the connectives much shorter than the posterior margin.

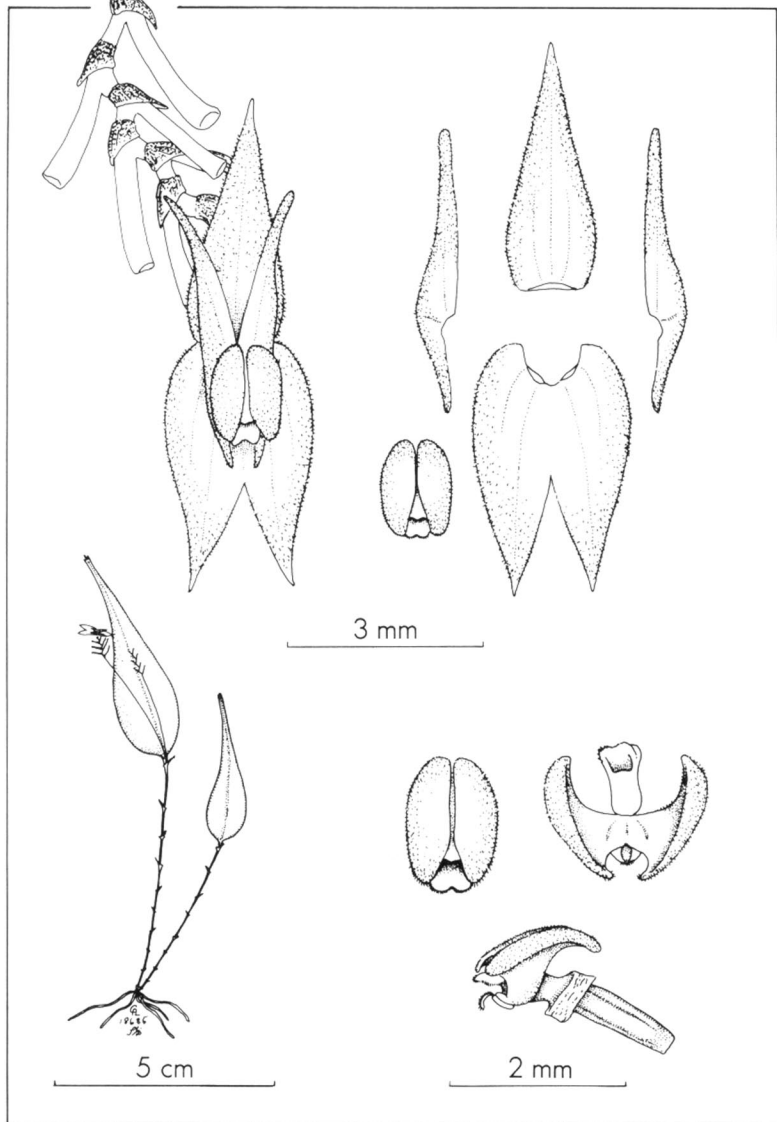


Fig. 271. *Lepanthes generi*