

Lepanthes guanacastensis A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba minuta, epiphytica, caespitosa. Radices fibratae, crassae ut videtur. Caules monophylli, breves, filiformes, pauciar-ticulati. Folium late cuneato-spathulatum vel obovatum, in apice rotundatum. Inflorescentiae saepissime singulae. Flores duo, magni. Sepala ovata, abrupte caudata; lateralia in laminam profunde bidentatam connata. Petala ob-ovato-subquadrata, in medio callosa. Labellum trifidum; lobi laterales in circuitu triangulares, margine exteriore bilobato; lobus intermedius minutus, lineari-triangularis.

Plant very small, about 2 cm. tall, caespitose, epiphytic. Roots fibrous, short, very stout, flat and chlorophylligerous like those of *Taeniophyllum*. Stems filiform, consisting of 2-3 internodes of which the lowermost is very short and the uppermost the longest, up to 9 mm. long, monophyllous, enclosed in minutely scabrous sheaths which terminate in rather conspicuous infundibuliform hispid mouths. Leaf broadly cuneate-spatulate or obovate, indistinctly petioled, up to 1 cm. long, 3.5-5 mm. wide, rounded and minutely tridenticulate at the apex, cuneate-narrowed at the base, erect, margined, coriaceous. Inflorescences solitary or rarely

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS

2, apparently 2-flowered. Peduncle up to the raceme filiform, shorter than or surpassing the leaf, with a small tubular sheath in the middle. Sepals abruptly long caudate, 3-nerved. Lateral sepals exceeding 11.2 mm. long (tails incomplete), connate into an ovate deeply bidentate lamina which is 7.5 mm. wide near the base, obliquely 6-nerved, the 2 inner nerves extending to the tip of the tails, dorsally carinate. Dorsal sepal triangular-ovate, 11.2 mm. long including the tail which is about 6.8 mm. long, 5.2 mm. wide near the base, mid-nerve dorsally carinate. Petals minute, obliquely obovate-quadrate, 1 mm. long and about equally wide at the broadly rounded apex, the entire center occupied by a fleshy pyramidal callus. Labellum trifid; lateral lobes relatively large, obliquely triangular in outline, 1.9 mm. long measuring along the inner margin, 1 mm. wide along the spreading truncate base, acuminate, the outer margin irregularly sinuate-bilobed with the anterior lobe slightly indented, the inner margin straight at the base then abruptly and irregularly concave, the basal part with a transverse flabellate thickening; middle lobe very minute, linear-triangular. Column small, shorter than the petals. Anther quadrate-ellipsoid, with 2 spreading triangular tips, 2-celled. Pollinia 2, oblong-pyriform.

This description was made from herbarium specimens.

Lepanthes guanacastensis closely resembles *L. Johnsonii* Ames vegetatively, but it has very different petals and lip. It is remarkable for its thick fleshy roots, its stout callose petals and the peculiar side lobes of its lip. Because of these peculiarities, *L. guanacastensis* appears to have no allies.

COSTA RICA, Province of Guanacaste, Naranjos Agrios,
Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio 46440, January 29, 1926.
600-700 meters altitude. "On tree; flowers red and green."
(TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33485.)