

Lepanthes guardiana Endres ex Luer, *sp. nov.*
 TYPE: COSTA RICA. Without locality, ca. 1867,
 A. Endres 670, sketch 299 (Holotype: W). Fig.
 14.

Planta grandis, inflorescentia racemosa congesta longipedicellata folio ovato acuminato brevior, sepalis ovatis acutis acuminatis, petalorum lobis triangularibus lobo superiore ter majore, labelli laminis ovatis pubescentibus, corpore crassissimo protuberanti appendice apicali brevi-ciliata, et columna quam labello subduplo longiore.

Plant medium in size to large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls stout, erect, 5–11 cm long, enclosed by 6–12 purplish black, coarsely short-pubescent, lepanthiform sheaths, with oblique, dilated ostia. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, more or less suffused with purple beneath, ovate, subacute, acuminate, 4.5–6.5 cm long, 2–3 cm wide, the base broadly cuneate, contracted into a petiole 2–3 mm long. **Inflorescence** a densely congested, distichous, successively many-flowered raceme up to 20 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle 20–35 mm long; floral bracts 1.5–2 mm long, densely muricate; pedicels 2.5–3.5 mm long; ovary 2 mm long; **sepals** pale yellow, glabrous, minutely ciliate, ovate, acute, the dorsal sepal 3.5 mm long, 2.25 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals 4 mm long, 2 mm wide, connate 2 mm, with the apices diverging; **petals** yellow, edged in red-purple, minutely pubescent, transversely bilobed, 4 mm wide, with the lobes narrowly ovate-triangular, narrowly obtuse, the upper lobe, 3 mm long, 0.9 mm wide, the lower lobe ciliate, 1.2 mm long, 0.5 mm wide; **lip** rose, bilaminar, the blades minutely pubescent, ovate, 1.2 mm long,

rounded at the bases, with the apices continuous with the thick, rounded, protuberant body, with the appendix long-ciliate at the summit, the connectives short, the body connate to the base of the column; **column** stout, 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, and the stigma apical.

ETYMOLOGY: Derivation unknown.

PARATYPE: Without locality, ca. 1867, A. Endres s.n. (W).

This pretty species was illustrated and described by Endres who indicated the name *L. guardiana*, but there is neither clue to the meaning nor any collection data. The accompanying description and illustration have been made from Endres' detailed sketches and colored painting. Apparently this species has not been recollected. In habit, the dark, stout, coarsely short-pubescent lepanthiform sheaths and ovate, acuminate leaves are reminiscent of those of *L. ferrelliae* Luer.

The flowers also show a close alliance, but the sepals of *L. guardiana* are minutely ciliate, with the laterals less widely diverging. The lobes of the petals are narrowed instead of broadly rounded, and the lower lobes are ciliate. The bodies of the lips of both species are thick, rounded and protuberant, but in *L. guardiana* the column protrudes far forward from the appendix instead of the column being shorter than the lip.

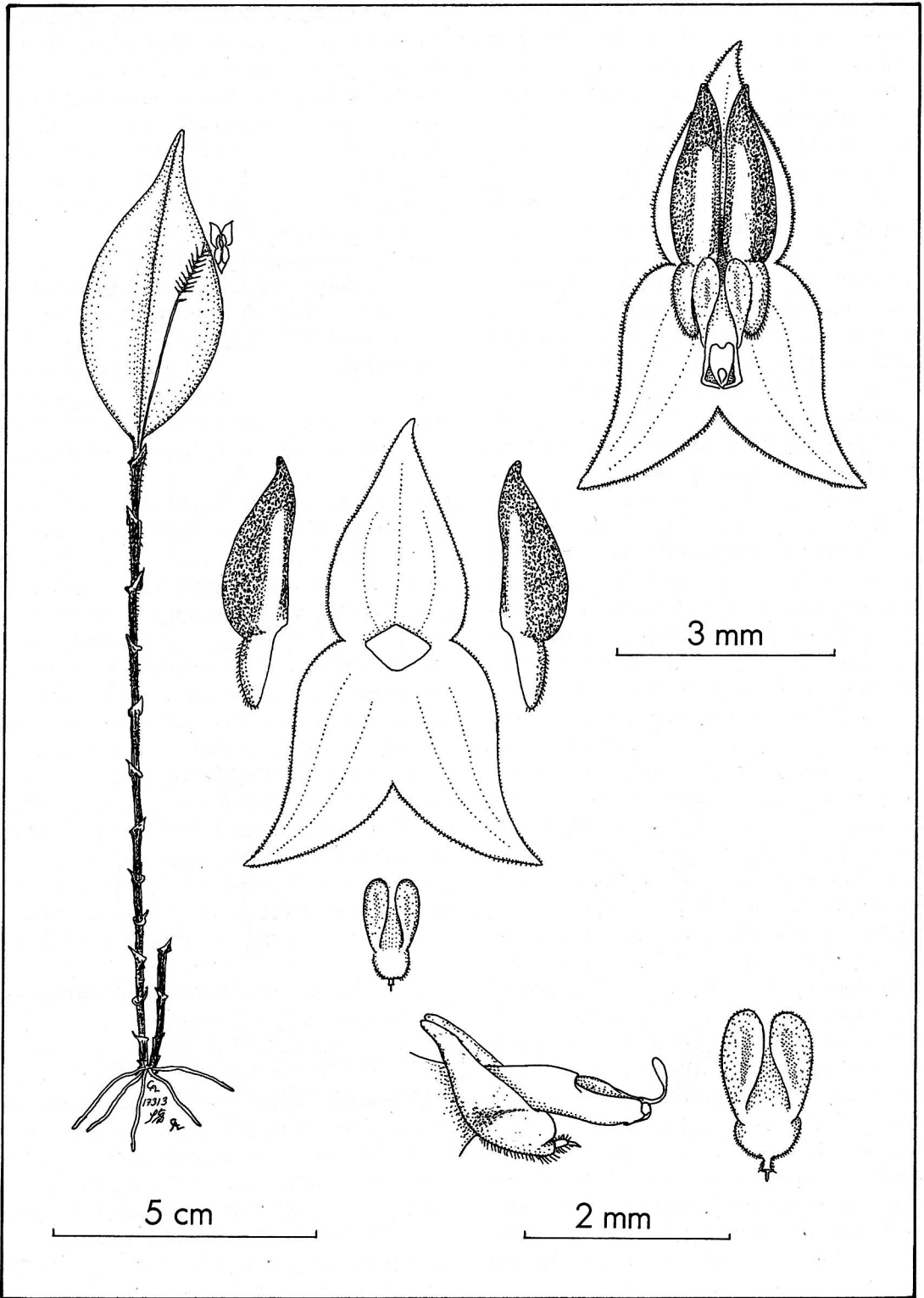


Fig. 14. *Lepanthes guardiana* Endres ex Luer.