

Lepanthes hispida Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris vel grandis, caulibus secundariis crassihispidis, racemo congesto folio acuminato brevior, sepalis attenuatis, petalis transverse bilobatis, laminis labelli oblongis obtusis pubescentibus, appendice oblonga longipubescenti.

Plant medium in size to large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots coarse. Secondary stems stout, erect, 5-15 cm long, enclosed by 7-10 coarsely ciliate lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, short- to long-acuminate, 3.5-8 cm long including the petiole 3-5 mm long, 1.5-3.8 cm wide. Inflorescence a congested, successively flowered raceme up to 15 mm long with 2-3 flowers open simultaneously, borne by a filiform peduncle up to 20 mm long behind the leaf; floral bract 2 mm long; pedicel 1 mm long; ovary 2-2.5 mm long; sepals light yellow to white, with the veins prominent externally, glabrous, ovate, acute, attenuate, the dorsal sepal 8-8.5 mm long, 2.5-3.5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for less than 1 mm, the lateral sepals connate 3-5 mm, 8 mm long, 4.25-6.5 mm wide together; petals light yellow, suffused with rose, minutely pubescent, transversely bilobed, 0.8-1.5 mm long, 3-4.25 mm wide, with a small lobule on the outer margin near the middle, the upper lobe oblong-subfalcate, acute, the lower lobe triangular; lip rose, the blades oblong with rounded ends, 1.6-2 mm long, pubescent, the connectives cuneate from below the middle, connate to the column above the base, the appendix small, oblong, long-pubescent, with a microscopic lobule at the apex within the hair; column 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *hispidus*, "covered by coarse, rigid, erect hairs," referring to the pubescence of the lepanthiform sheaths.

ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *hispidus*, "cubierto por pelos gruesos, rígidos, erectos", refiriéndose a la pubescencia de las vainas lepanthiformes.

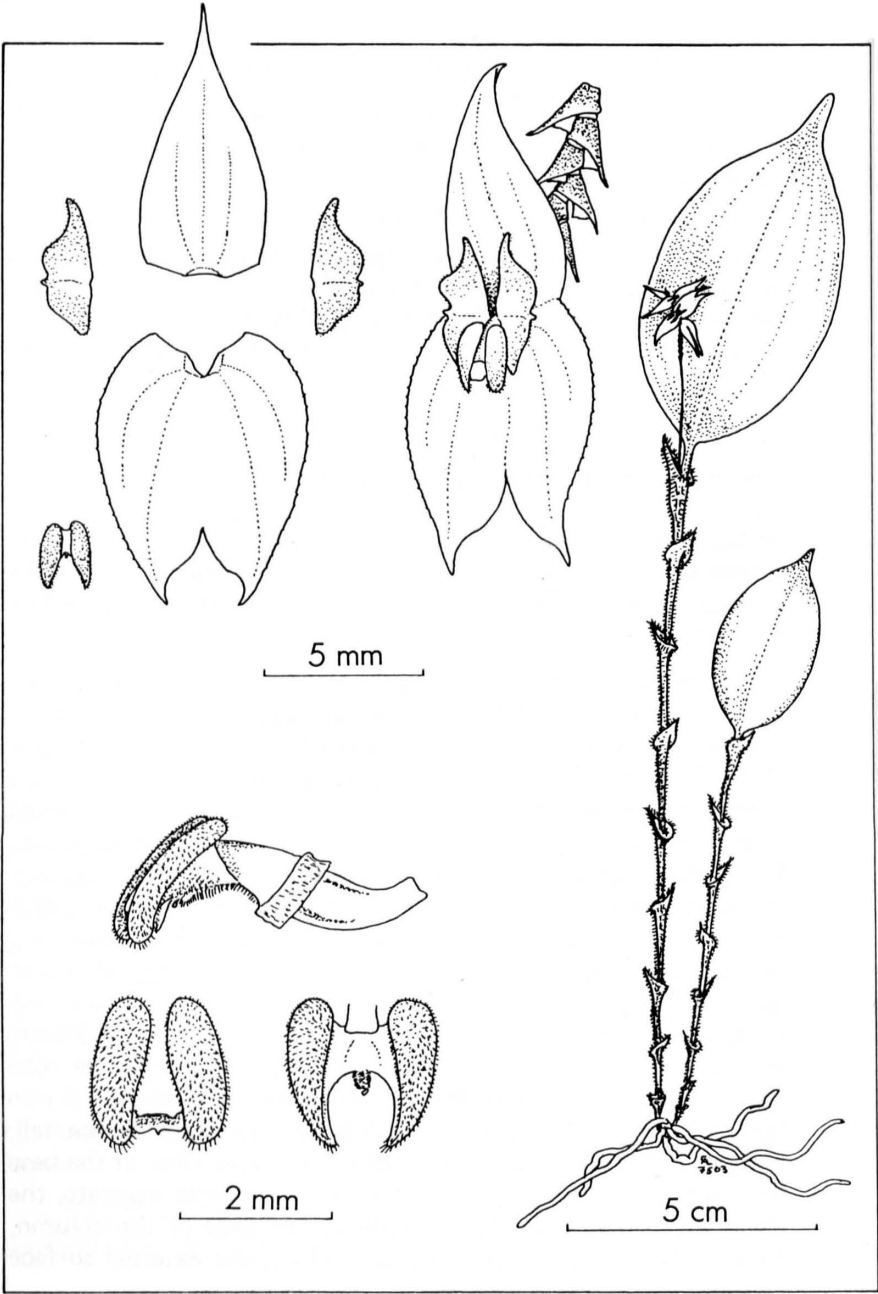
TYPE: *COLOMBIA*: TOLIMA: epiphytic in cloud forest of the southern slopes of Nevado del Tolima, alt. 2.930 m, 21 Apr. 1982,

C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar & D. Portillo 7503 (Holotype: SEL); SANTANDER DEL SUR: epiphytic in cloud forest between Santa Barbara and Guaca, alt. 2.850 m, 14 May 1982, *C. Luer & R. Escobar 7862* (SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Colombia, Central and Eastern Cordilleras.

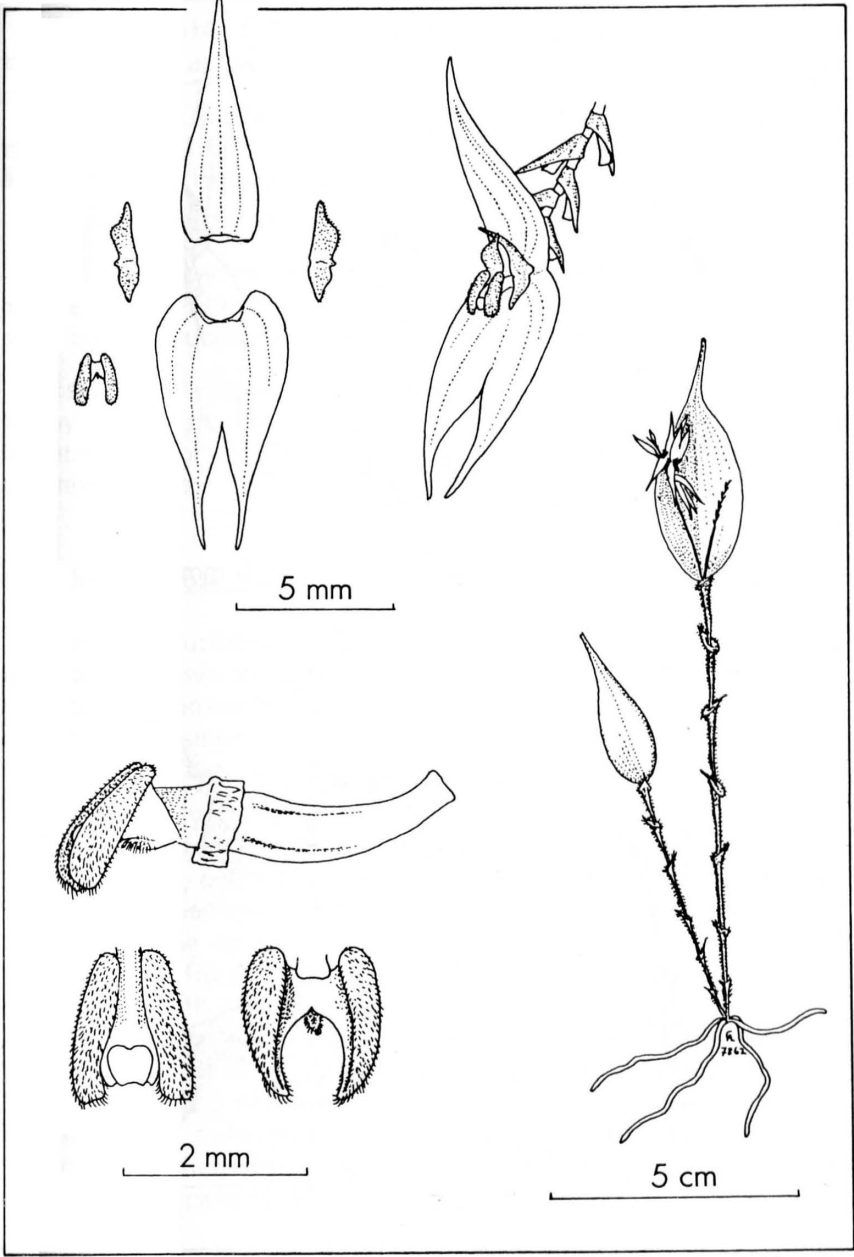
This species is remarkable for the stout secondary stems with coarsely pubescent lepanthiform sheaths. The sepals are acuminate; the petals are transversely bilobed and subfalcate; and the lip is pubescent with a long-pubescent appendix.

Esta especie es notable por los vigorosos tallos secundarios con vainas lepanthiformes gruesamente pubescentes. Los sépalos son acuminados; los pétalos son transversalmente bilobulados y subfalcados; y el labelo es pubescente con un largo apéndice también pubescente.



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Illustration: Carlyle A. Luer



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