Lepanthes inamoena Luer, sp. nov.

Planta parva caespitosa, racemo gracili folio ovato breviore, flore parvo flavo, sepalo dorsali et synsepalo ovatis aequalibus, petalis transverse bilobatis, labelli lobis falcatis minute ciliatis, appendice minuta acuta pubescenti.

Plant small or nearly medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems slender, erect, 3-7.5 cm long, enclosed by 6-10 close, minutely ciliate lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, narrowly ovate, acute, 2.5-4.5 cm long, 1-1.5 cm wide, the base cuneate into a 3-4 mm long petiole. Inflorescence a weak, successively flowered, subdense raceme, up to 3 cm long, erect behind the leaf, the filiform peduncle from a node near the apex of the secondary stem; floral bract 1 mm long; pedicel 0.75 mm long; ovary 0.75 mm long; sepals translucent yellow, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, 2.5 mm long, 1.75 mm wide, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate, narrowly obtuse lamina 2.25 mm long, 1.75 mm wide; petals transversely oblong bilobed, 0.75 mm long, 2 mm wide, the apices rounded, the upper lobe slightly larger than the lower; blades of the lip falcate, 1 mm long, minutely ciliate, the apices acute, the bases rounded, the connectives narrowly cuneate, the attachment near the base of the lobes, connate to the under surface of the column, the appendix a minute, pubescent apiculum in the sinus; column scarcely 1 mm long, the anther and stigma apical.

Etymology: From the Latin inamoenus, "not pretty," referring to the drab, little flower.

Type: ECUADOR: MORONA-SANTIAGO: epiphytic in tall forest near Rio Calagrás, alt. 1600 m, 19 Sept. 1980, C. Luer, J. Luer, C. H. Dodson et al. 5501 (Holotype: SEL).

Vegetatively this species is not remarkable, bordering between medium and small in size. The bilabiate, yellow flowers are among the smallest and least showy of the genus noted for its intricate flowers. The dorsal sepal and synsepal are similar and the two lobes of the petals are also similar in size and shape.