Lepanthes insectiflora C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.

Herba epiphytica, pusilla. Caules caespitosi, filiformes, patentes, apice monophylli, vaginis arctis tubularibus cum ostiis ovatis ciliatis ornati. Folium ovatum vel elliptico-ovatum, erectum, apice acuminato tridentatum, basi cuneatum. Inflorescentiae singulae vel paucae, folii medium superantes. Racemi pauciflori. Bracteae extus muriculatae. Sepala triangulari-linearia, dorso alticarinata. Sepalum dorsale trinervium. Sepala lateralia uninervia. Petala transverse bilobata lobis valdissime inaequalibris; lobus posterior elongatus, angustissime triangulari-linearis; lobus anterior perparvus, ovatus. Labellum acriter bilobatum, lobis semiovatis. Columna gracilis labelli lobos superans.

Plant caespitose, spreading, very slender. Roots fibrous, flexuous, apparently pubescent. Stems filiform, about 2.6-7.5 cm. long, almost entirely invested by about six to sixteen close tubular minutely muriculate sheaths which terminate abruptly in spreading ovate mucronate ciliate mouths. Leaf solitary, erect, ovate to ellipticovate, up to 2.4 cm. long and 8 mm. wide, somewhat acuminate above with a tridenticulate apex of which the central tooth is slender and projecting, cuneate below to a subpetiolate base. Inflorescences one to five, shorter than the leaf, about 2- to 12-flowered; bracts infundibuliform, muriculate on the outer surface, about half as long as the slender pedicels. Flower membranaceous, segments spreading. Sepals triangular-linear, long-acuminate with a complicate apex. Dorsal sepal about 5 mm. long and 1 mm. wide at the base, 3-nerved through the basal third with the nerves carinate on the outer surface (the median keel is relatively high, thin and cellular-denticulate). Lateral sepals similar but narrower, 1-nerved and dorsally carinate with the keel cellulardenticulate, about 5 mm. long and 0.8 mm. wide at the base. Petals transversely bipartite with the lobes horizontal, continuous and very unequal; posterior lobe elongate, very narrowly triangular-linear, about 3.2 mm. long; anterior lobe very short, ovate, about 0.7 mm. long. Lip sharply bilobed (with the lobes semiovate, about 1 mm. long and fleshy-thickened on the lateral margins), protuberant in the sinus into a minute porrect apicule. Column slender, surpassing the lip, about 1.6 mm. long, above with a relatively large hemispherical cavity below and posterior to the clinandrium.

This species differs from Lepanthes tipulifera Reichb.f. in having rather longer stems and very unequal lobes of the petals. It appeared in a mixture with another species of Lepanthes.

Panama: Province of Chiriqui, Boquete District, Bajo Chorro, at 6000 feet altitude, epiphyte in rain forest, 2 to 4 inches high, flowers burnt orange (?), January 22, 1938 M.E. Davidson 185 (Type in Herb. Field Mus. No. 915594; Duplicate type in Herb. Ames No. 49038).