

***Lepanthes jayandella* Luer, sp. nov.**

Fig. 136.

Ety.: Named for J & L Orchids where the species is cultivated.

Species haec *L. thylaci* Luer & Hirtz similis, sed sepalis latioribus, labelli laminis apicibus angustioribus et appendice subnulla differt.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 10-16 mm long, enclosed by 4-5 minutely ciliate lepanthiiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, ovate, subacute, 12-17 mm long, 5-12 mm wide, the base broadly cuneate, contracted into a petiole 2 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme to ca. 5 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle 10 mm long; floral bract 1.5 mm long; pedicel 1.5 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** rosy tan, glabrous, ovate, slightly acuminate, acute, slightly concave, the dorsal sepal 3 mm long, 1.8 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals 3 mm long, 1.4 mm wide, connate 0.5 mm; **petals** yellow with the tips of both lobes purple-brown, minutely pubescent, transversely bilobed, the lobes oblong, narrowly obtuse, opposite, 0.4 mm long, 2.4 mm wide, the upper lobe slightly larger than the lower lobe; **lip** orange, purple-brown toward the base, bilaminar, the laminae microscopically pubescent, narrowly ovate-oblong with narrowly obtuse apices, 1.5 mm long, the connectives broadly cuneate, the body broad, connate to the base of the column, the sinus obtuse with the appendix reduced to a minute hair; **column** slender, clavate, 1 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma apical.

Without locality, probably collected by Cordelia Head or Marguerite Webb, flowered in cultivation by J & L Orchids, Easton, CT, 12 Mar. 1994, *C. Luer 17129* (Holotype: MO).

This small species has been in cultivation at J & L Orchids for several years. It was collected in Ecuador, but unfortunately, the label was lost. It grows well, many divisions of the plant having been made. It is identified by the minute habit with the short raceme bearing a colorful flower behind the ovate leaves. The sepals are rosy tan and acute; the lobes of the yellow petals are oblong with purple tips; the blades of the lip are narrowly ovate; and the appendix is merely a minute, cellular process.

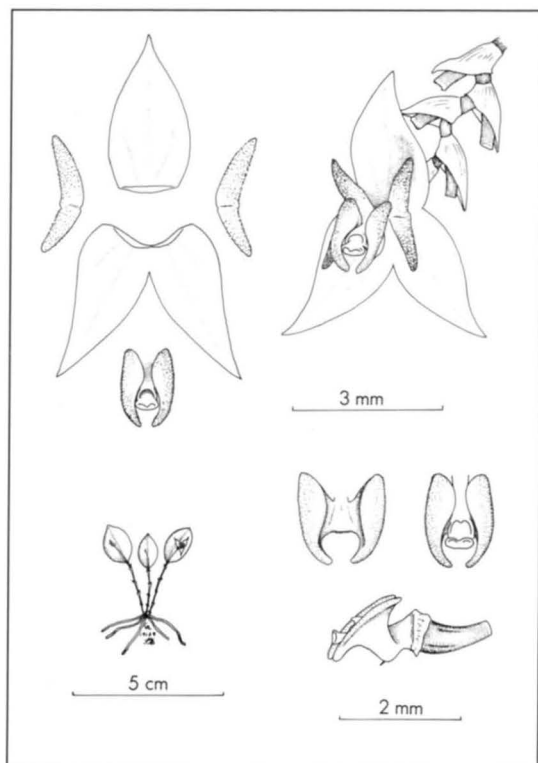


Fig. 136. *Lepanthes jayandella*