

**Lepanthes lloënsis** Luer, sp. nov.

Planta grandis caespitosa, inflorescentia folio oblongo acuminato brevior, racemo congesto, sepalo dorsali triangulari acuto, synsepalo transverse ovato apicibus obtusis, labelli laminis lunatis convexis, appendice minutissima.

Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems erect, slender, 9-22 cm long, enclosed by 8-15 minutely scabrous lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, thinly coriaceous, ovate-oblong, acuminate, acute, 8-11 cm long, 2.2-3.4 cm wide, the base rounded or lightly cordate, abruptly contracted into a petiole 3-4 mm long. Inflorescence an extremely congested, successively flowered raceme up to 10 mm long, borne by a filiform peduncle up to 20 mm long, along the back of the leaf; floral bract 1.5 mm long; pedicel 1 mm long, ovary 1.5 mm long; sepals translucent light yellow, glabrous, the dorsal sepal triangular, acute, 8 mm long, 5.75 mm wide, connate 1.5 mm to the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, connate 4.5 mm into a transversely ovate lamina 8 mm long, 9.5 mm wide expanded, the obtuse apices distant; petals bright yellow with purple margins, transversely oblong, bilobed, 1.66 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, the upper lobe triangular with the apex rounded, the lower lobe falcate, acute; lip yellow, suffused with purple, the blades ovate-lunate, convex, 2 mm long, the apices acute, minutely ciliate, the connectives broadly cuneate, connate to the under surface of the column below the middle, the appendix a minute, slender filament from a minutely pubescent membrane in the sinus; column 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

**Etymology:** Named for the community of Lloa, near Quito, where the species was discovered.

**Type:** *ECUADOR*: PICHINCHA: epiphytic in cloud forest remnant below Lloa, alt. 2700 m, 27 Oct. 1979, *C. Luer, J. Luer & A. Hirtz 4363* (Holotype: SEL).

This large species is recognized by the short, congested raceme of rather large flowers with a broad synsepal with distant, obtuse apices. The blades of the lip are convex and the appendix is reduced to a microscopic filament.