

Lepanthes longipedicellata C. Schweinfurth sp.
nov.

Herba parva, caespitosa, saxicola. Caules tenues, pluriarticulati, vaginis hispidis tubulatis cum ostio ovato arcissime obtecti. Folium unicum, ellipticum vel oblongo-ellipticum, plusminusve breviter petiolatum, subtus plusminusve purpureum. Inflorescentiae saepissime plures, quam folium longiores, laxe pluriflorae. Flores perparvi, cum pedicello longo. Sepala late patentia, membranacea. Sepalum dorsale elliptico-ovatum cum parte anteriore caudato-acuminata et recurva, trinervium. Sepala lateralibus anguste triangulari-lanceolata, sensim longe acuminata, uninervia, dorso conspicue papillosa. Petala transverse bilobata; lobi perangusti. Labellum generis, trilobatum; lobi laterales comparate magni, dolabriformes; lobus medius minutus, pubescens.

Plant small, caespitose, up to 10.5 cm. tall. Roots fibrous, numerous, relatively stout, apparently thicker than the stems. Stems slender, up to 7 cm. high, entirely concealed by several close, tubular, hispid sheaths which terminate in an ovate marginate hispid mouth. Leaves solitary and erect at the apex of the stem, elliptic to oblong-elliptic, more or less acute with a minutely tridenticulate apex, cuneate-narrowed to a short petiole, green above and more or less purple beneath, up to 3.5 cm. long including the petiole and 1.3 cm. wide, sometimes slightly oblique. Inflorescences one to seven, axillary, suberect to diffuse, generally distinctly surpassing the leaf in maturity, loosely several- (up to 12-) flowered; pedicels spreading-ascending, much surpassing the subtending infundibuliform bract which is just below the emergence of the pedicel. Flowers very small, membranaceous, with widely spreading sepals. Dorsal sepal elliptic-ovate with caudate-acuminate recurved apex, cucullate, 3-nerved, the mid-nerve being carinate without, about 6 mm. long and 2 mm. wide when expanded. Lateral sepals narrowly triangular-lanceolate, gradually long-acuminate, gently recurved above, shortly connate at the base, 1-nerved, conspicuously long-papillose and unicarinate without, about 7 mm. long in natural position and 1.3 mm. wide near the base. Petals much smaller than the sepals, transversely bilobed, about 0.3 mm. long and 3.1 mm. wide; posterior lobe lanceolate-linear, obtuse or subacute; anterior lobe triangular-linear, slightly smaller than the posterior lobe. Lip very small, adnate to the column above the middle, 3-lobed, about 1.5 mm. long and 2.2 mm. wide near the base in natural position; lateral lobes dolabriform with a truncate and thickened outer margin and a slender incurved apex; mid-lobe minute, pubescent. Column about 1.8 mm. high.

This species is outwardly similar to *Lepanthes alticola*

C. Schweinf. and to *L. pubicaulis* C. Schweinf. It differs from the former in having prominently hispid stems and an elongate pedicellate ovary, and from the latter in its loosely flowered inflorescence which more or less surpasses the leaf.

PUNO: Prov. of Carabaya, Ollachea (abajo), at 2500 meters altitude, below cliffs, December 30, 1947, *C. Vargas 6939* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 64895).

LEPANTHES
longipedicellata
C. Schweinf.

