

Lepanthes nebulina Luer & Vásquez, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris, racemo laxe multifloro foliis ellipticis acutis multilongiore, sepalis acuminatis, petalis transverse bilobis lobo superiore oblongo majore, labelli laminis oblongis, appendice parva gracili incurvata.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems slender, erect, 3.5-9 cm long, enclosed by 7-9 ciliate lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, 2.5-4 cm long including the petiole 2-3 mm long, 10-17 mm wide, the base cuneate into the petiole. Inflorescence a loose, subflexuous, successively several- to many-flowered raceme up to 15 cm long including the filiform peduncle, 2-3 flowers open simultaneously; floral bract 1.5 mm long, spiculate; pedicel 1 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; sepals purple to yellow suffused with purple, minutely ciliate, otherwise glabrous, ovate, acute, acuminate, the dorsal sepal concave, 7 mm long, 3.25 mm wide unexpanded, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals connate 2 mm, 7 mm long, 3.75 mm wide together; petals orange, suffused with purple or brown, transversely oblong, microscopically pubescent, 1 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, the upper lobe oblong, rounded, the lower lobe much smaller, triangular, curved, narrowly obtuse; lip red, minutely pubescent, the blades oblong with rounded ends, 1.6 mm long, the connectives broadly cuneate above the middle of the blades, connate to the column above the base, the sinus obtuse with a small, thin, slender, incurved appendix; column 1.5 mm long, the anther and stigma apical.

Etymology: From the Latin *nebulinis*, "belonging to fog," referring to the cool, wet, foggy habitat.

Type: *BOLIVIA*: COCHABAMBA: Prov. of Chapare: epiphytic in cloud forest between Cochabamba and Villa Tunari, alt. 2650 m, 9 Feb. 1980, C. Luer, J. Luer & R. Vásquez 5185 (Holotype: SEL); same area, alt. 2600 m, 26 Nov. 1978, C. Luer, F. Fuchs et al. 3494 (SEL); same area, alt. 2500 m, 4 Feb. 1983, C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Vásquez & E. Besse 8679 (SEL).

This species may be identified by the long raceme of flowers with acuminate, minutely ciliate sepals, obtuse petals, and oblong blades of the lip with a tiny, slender, incurved appendix.