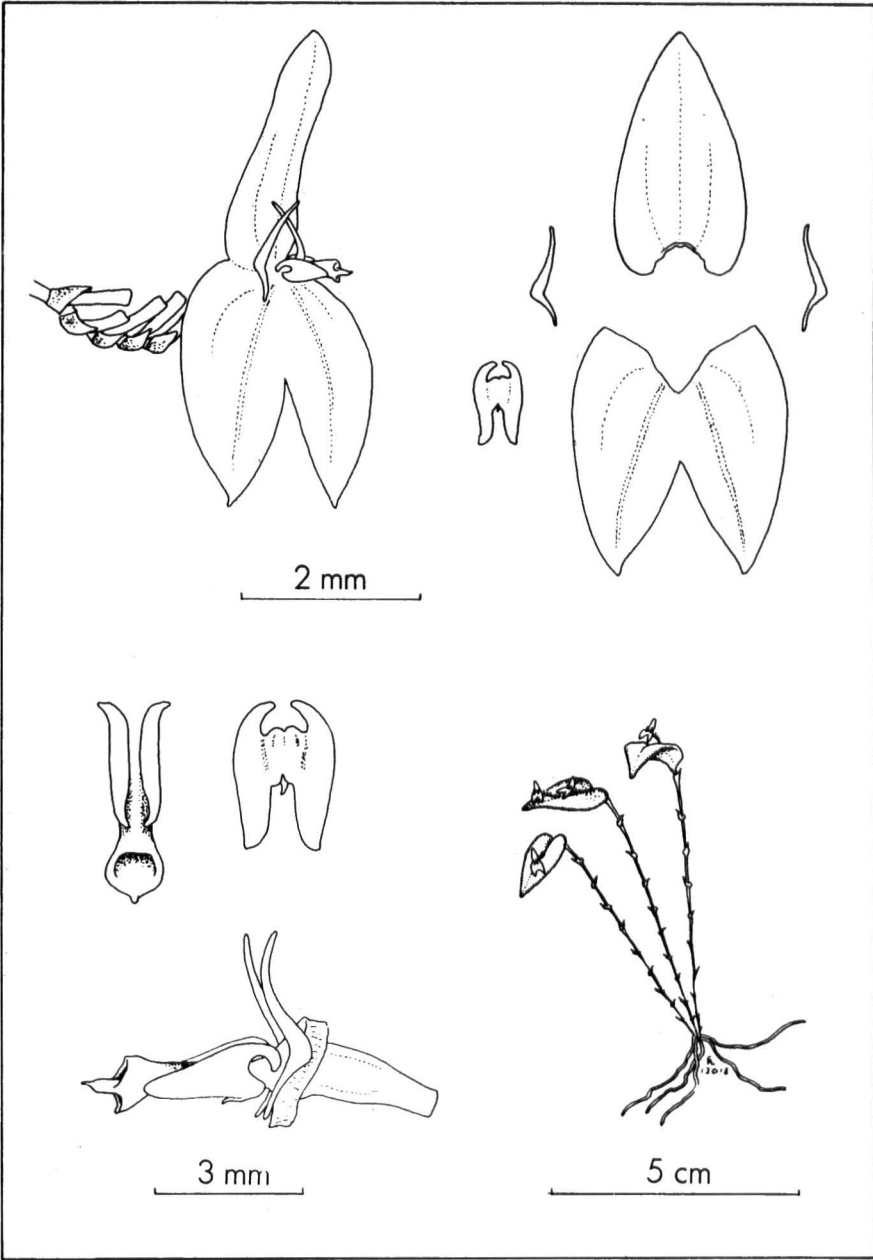


*Lepanthes nematodes* Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta parva caespitosa, inflorescentia racemosa brevi congestissima folium ovatum patentem superjecta, sepalis ovatis integris, petalis transverse bilobatis, lobis filamentosis, labello bilobato columna brevior, lobis oblongis basi uncinatis, appendice minuta membranacea.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, slender, 2.5-6.5 cm long, enclosed by 8-9 microscopically ciliate-scabrous, lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf spreading, coriaceous, ovate, acute, 18-22 mm long, 7-9 mm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole 1-2 mm long. Inflorescence a congested, successively several-flowered raceme up to 7 mm long, borne on the dorsum of the leaf by a slender peduncle 3-10 mm long; floral bracts 0.4 mm long; pedicels 0.6 mm long; ovary 0.75 mm long; sepals light yellow, carinate, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, with the sides revolute, 2.6 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.3 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, acute, 2.6 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, connate 1



*Lepanthes nematodes* Luer & Escobar

mm; petals yellow, glabrous, transversely bilobed, filamentous, 0.2 mm long, 1.2 mm wide, the upper lobe longer; lip yellow, glabrous, bilobed, the lobes oblong with obtuse apices and uncinata bases, 0.8 mm long, embracing the column, the body broad, connate to the base of the column, the sinus with a minute, oblong, membranous appendix; column erect, cylindrical-clavate, 1 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma apical.

Etymology: From the Greek *nematodes*, "filamentous" referring to the threadlike petals.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Risaralda: Munic. of Pueblo Rico, La Linea, alt. ca. 2200 m, collected by E. Valencia, 16 Feb. 1985, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas 6 Apr. 1988, *C. Luer 13018* (Holotype: MO, Isotype: JAUM).

This little species is characterized by minute, yellow flowers borne on top of a small, horizontal leaf; entire, ovate sepals; tiny, filamentous petals; and an erect, cylindrical column embraced by the lobes of a shorter lip.