

timinoribus triangularis, labello bilaminato, laminis ellipticis, connectivis cuneatis, appendice subnulla pubescenti.

Plant small to medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. **Ramicauls** erect, slender, 4-5.5 cm long, enclosed by 4-6 closely appressed, microscopically ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, purple, elliptical, acute, 2.5-4.5 cm long, 1.2-1.6 cm wide, with the base cuneate into a petiole 2 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively many-flowered raceme up to 15 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a slender peduncle 15 mm long; floral bracts 1.5 mm long, echinate; pedicels 2 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; **sepals** rosy white, minutely denticulate, the dorsal sepal broadly ovate, obtuse, acuminate, 4.5 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals oblong, acute, oblique, diverging, 4.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, 2-veined, connate 0.5 mm; **petals** white with the margins of the upper lobe dark red, microscopically pubescent, transversely bilobed, the upper lobe ovate, obtuse, white with a dark red edge, 2.25 mm long, 1.6 mm, the lower lobe triangular, 0.6 mm long, 0.6 mm wide; **lip** yellow-white, ciliate, bilaminate, the blades elliptical, slightly concave, with the apices acute, 1.2 mm long, the connectives broadly cuneate and the body broad, connate to the base of the column, the sinus obtuse with the appendix very small, ovoid, pubescent; **column** comparatively large, 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal and the stigma apical.

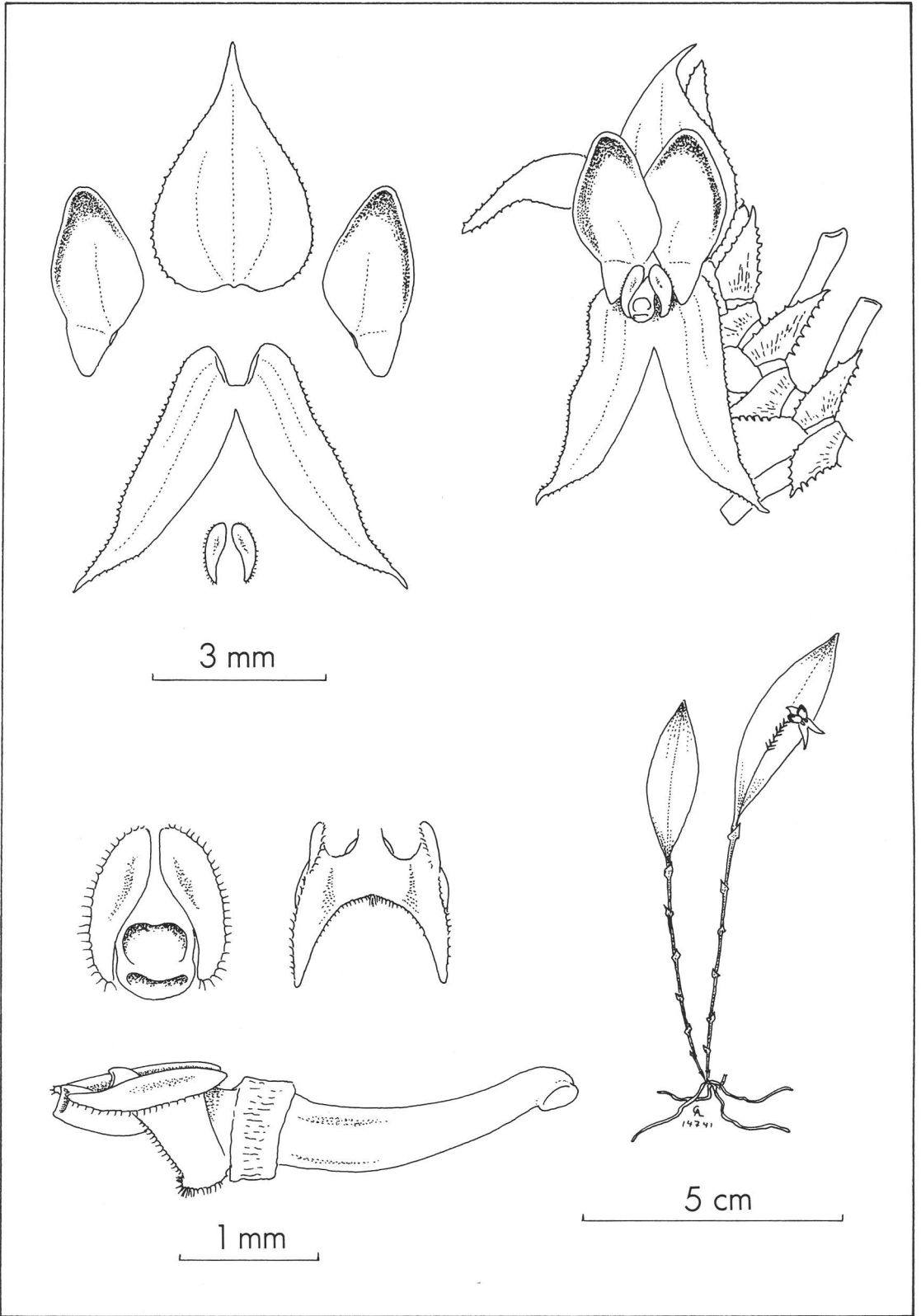
ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek *otopetalon*, "an earlike petal," referring to the large upper lobe of the petals.

TYPE: PANAMA: Prov. of Chiriquí: collected by Andreas Maduro, without locality, flowered in cultivation by J & L Orchids, Easton, Connecticut, 5 May 1990, *C. Luer 14741* (Holotype: MO).

This species is distinguished by the purple, elliptical leaves longer than the inflorescence; a congested, distichous raceme; minutely denticulate sepals with the dorsal sepal broadly ovate and acuminate, and with the laterals nearly free and diverging; and especially the petals with a large, earlike upper lobe and a much smaller lower lobe.

***Lepanthes otopetala* Luer, sp. nov.**

Planta mediocris caespitosa, inflorescentia racemosa congesta disticha folio elliptico purpureo brevior, sepalis minute denticulatis, sepalo dorsali late ovato acuminato, sepalis lateralibus oblongis acutis divergentibus, petalis transverse bilobis, lobo superiore magno ovato obtuso, lobo inferiore mul-



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