

Lepanthes pan Luer & Dalström, sp. nov.

Fig. 178.

Ety.: Named for *Pan*, the mythological Greek king of the satyrs, because of the long-ciliate sheaths of the ramicauls and pubescent sepals and petals.

Planta mediocris caespitosa, ramicaulis vaginis cum ostiis late dilatatis longiciliatis, inflorescentia racemosa congesta disticha folio orbiculatis breviori, sepalis ovatis subacutis lateralibus pubescentibus, petalis transverse lobatis, lobo superiore microscopice pubescentibus cum lobo apicali interiore, lobo inferiore oblongo longipubescenti, labello hemisphaerico apice breviter inciso apicibus apiculatis cum lobulo inter eos minuto triangulari, lobis lunatis marginibus incrassatis.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls stout, erect, 8-10 cm long, enclosed by 10-15 long-ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths, with long-ciliate, markedly dilated ostia. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, orbicular, with the rounded apex contracted into a short acuminate portion, 4-4.5 cm long, 2.7-3 cm wide, the base rounded contracted into a petiole 3-4 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively many-flowered raceme, up to 1 cm long, borne behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle 18-20 mm long; floral bracts sparsely long-ciliate, oblique, acute, 1.5 mm long; pedicels 2.5 mm long; ovary 4-4.5 mm long; **sepals** peach colored, ovate, subacute, entire, the dorsal sepal 4 mm long, 3 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals pubescent, oblique, 4 mm long, 2 mm wide, 2-veined, connate 1.5 mm; **petals** red, transversely bilobed, 1 mm long, 3.25 mm wide, the upper lobe microscopically pubescent, oblong, obliquely truncate, with a lobule at the inner, apical corner, the lower lobe oblong, narrowly obtuse, long-pubescent on the outer half; **lip** red, microscopically pubescent, semicircular, 1.5 mm long, 2.75 mm wide expanded, the rounded apex shallowly cleft, forming 2 lobes that clasp the column, with the obtuse apices apiculate and in apposition, with a minute, triangular lobule (appendix) between, the broadly rounded margins thickened, the base connate to the base of the column; **column** 1.5 mm long, with the anther and stigma apical.

Imbabura: Los Cedros Reserve, wet forest near Río Los Cedros, alt. 1200-1300 m, 24 Mar. 1996, S. Dalström, S. Ingram & K. Ingram-Ferrell 2200 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 17914.

This species is apparently endemic in northwestern Ecuador. It is distinguished by the long-ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths with markedly dilated, long-ciliate ostia. The leaves are suborbicular with shortly acuminate apices. The congested racemes are borne by peduncles shorter peduncles. The sepals are subacute with the laterals pubescent. The upper lobes of the petals overlap with a lobule on the inner margin of the apex similar to that seen in *L. tachirensis*. The oblong lower lobe is long-pubescent. The lip is hemispherical with the rounded sides with thickened margins embracing the column. The apex is shallowly cleft with the apiculate apices in apposition. In the narrow space between the apices a small triangular lobe, the appendix, is present.

229

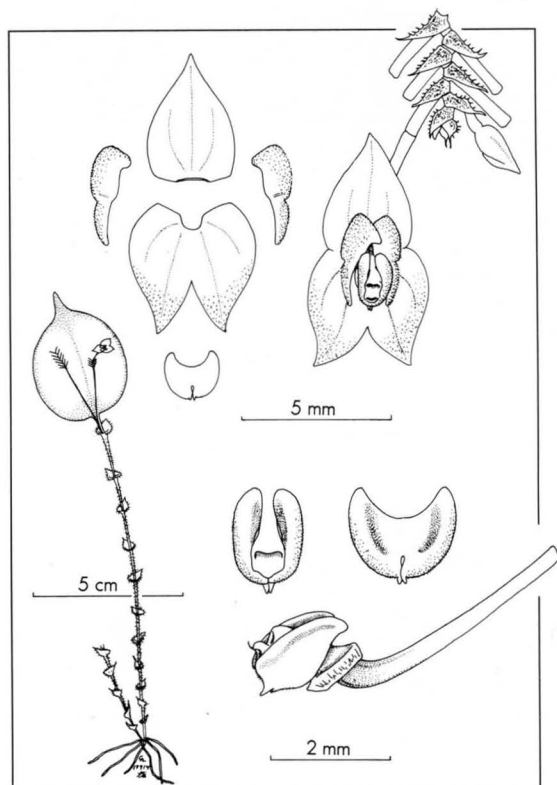


Fig. 178. *Lepanthes pan*