

***Lepanthes panicellus* Luer & Vásquez, sp. nov.**

Planta mediocris, inflorescentia foliis ovatis acuminatis brevior, racemo congesto disticho, sepalis niveis breviter acuminatis, petalis transverse bilobis lobo inferiore breviter falcato, labelli laminis lunatis obtusis convexis sulcatis, appendice ligulata pubescenti.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems stout, erect, 6-10 cm long, enclosed by 7-9 ciliate lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, ovate, acute, acuminate, apiculate, 4-6 cm long including a petiole 3-4 mm long, 2-2.8 cm wide, the base rounded to broadly cuneate into the petiole. Inflorescence a congested, distichous, successively flowered raceme up to 8 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle up to 15 mm long; floral bract 1.5 mm long; pedicel 1 mm long; ovary 2 mm long; sepals white, glabrous, the dorsal sepal triangular, acute, shortly acuminate, 6 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 1.5 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, acute, shortly acuminate, connate 3 mm, 6 mm long, 5 mm wide together; petals white with purple margins, microscopically pubescent, transversely oblong, 1 mm long, 2.2 mm wide, the upper lobe oblong, obtuse, the lower lobe smaller, broadly falcate, obtuse; lip white, microscopically pubescent, the blades lunate, convex, with rounded ends, 1 mm long, longitudinally sulcate, the connectives broad, connate to the column below the middle by a short claw, the obtuse sinus with a short, ligulate, pubescent appendix; column 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

Etymology: From the Latin *panicellus*, "a roll, a small loaf of bread," referring to the appearance of the lobes of the lip.

Type: *BOLIVIA*: COCHABAMBA: Prov. of Chapare: epiphytic in cloud forest between Cochabamba and Villa Tunari, alt. 2500 m, 4 Feb. 1983, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Vásquez & E. Besse* 8673 (Holotype: SEL); LA PAZ: Prov. of Sud Yungas: epiphytic in cloud forest along the Rio Unduavi, alt. 2450 m, 6 Feb. 1980, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Vásquez & M. Manon* 5139 (SEL).

Although closely related to a hoard of other species with a similar habit, this species may be distinguished by the snow-white flowers with purple-bordered petals, at least in the specimens we saw, and a lip with thick, convex, sulcate lobes that resemble bread rolls. The appendix is a small, pubescent flap beneath the stigma.