Lepanthes papilio Luer & Vásquez, sp. nov.

Planta parva, folio anguste ovato racemo congesto disticho duplolongiore, floribus parvis vivide coloratis, sepalis ovatis, petalis grandibus transverse oblongis bilobis, labelli laminis obovatis, appendice grandi loriformi pubescenti.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems slender, erect, 3-6 cm long, enclosed by 5-6 microscopically scabrous lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, narrowly ovate, acute, 2-3 cm long, 0.7-0.8 cm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole 1.5 mm long. Inflorescence a congested, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme up to 7 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle 8-10 mm long; floral bract 0.75 mm long, minutely muriculate; pedicel 1.25 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; sepals yellow-orange, glabrous, ovate, subacute, the dorsal sepal 3 mm long, 2 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals connate 1 mm, 2.25 mm long, 2.5 mm long, 1.25 mm long, 3 mm wide, the upper lobe oblong, subtruncate, the lower lobe obtusely triangular, smaller; lip bright rose, cellular-pubescent, the blades obovate, convex, 1.33 mm long, the ends rounded, the connectives narrow, the body narrow, verrucose, connate to the base of the lip, the appendix large, pubescent, flaplike, concave, hinged from the sinus; column 1.33 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

Etymology: From the Latin *papilio*, "a butterfly," in allusion to the proportionately large pair of colorful petals flanking the colorful lip. Type: BOLIVIA: COCHABAMBA: Prov. of Chapare: epiphytic in cloud forest between Cochabamba and Villa Tunari, alt. 1900 m, 26 Nov. 1978, C. Luer, F. Fuchs et al. 3532 (Holotype: SEL).

This narrowly-leaved species with short racemes is distinguished by the small, brightly colored flowers. The petals are proportionately very large, resembling the wings of a butterfly. The appendix of the lip is large, flaplike and pubescent.