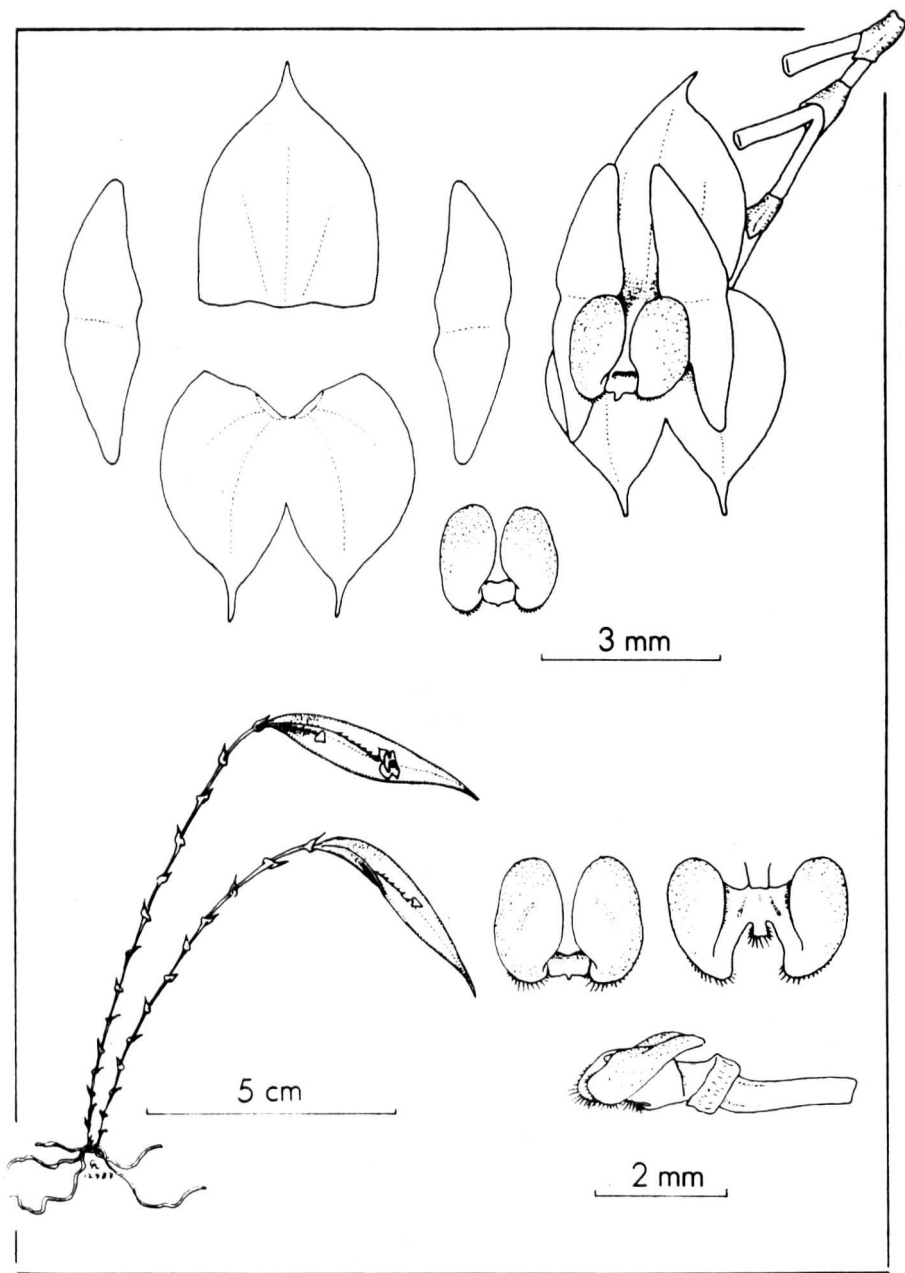


*Lepanthes planadensis* Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris caespitosa, inflorescentia racemosa secunda congesta folio patenti anguste ovato brevior, sepalis ovatis breviter acuminatis, petalis transverse bilobatis, lobis triangularibus anguste obtusis subaequalibus, labelli laminis late ellipticis, connectivis late cuneatis, corpore crasso, appendice oblonga longipubescenti.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, slender, 8-11 cm long, enclosed by 10-15 glabrous lepanthiform sheaths, the dilated ostia microscopically ciliate-scabrous. Leaf spreading, coriaceous, narrowly ovate, acute, 4-5.5 cm long, 1-1.4 cm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole 2 mm long. Inflorescence a congested, secund, successively several-flowered raceme up to 20 mm long, borne on top of the leaf by a filiform peduncle 5-20 mm long; floral bracts smooth, 1 mm long; pedicels 2 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long; sepals purple, carinate, broadly ovate, the obtuse apices shortly acuminate, the dorsal sepal 4 mm long, 3 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals oblique, 4 mm long, 2.25 mm wide, connate 1.5 mm; petals dark red-purple, transversely bilobed, glabrous (cellular-glandular), 1 mm long, 5 mm wide, the lobes triangular, narrowly obtuse, about equal in size; lip dark red-purple, glabrous (cellular pubescent), bilaminate, the blades, broadly elliptical with rounded ends, 2 mm long, the apices ciliate, the connectives



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broadly cuneate, forming a broad body, connate to the base of the column, the appendix oblong-ovoid, long-pubescent; column 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

**Etymology:** Named for the La Planada Science Center, Ricaurte, Colombia, where this species is in cultivation.

**COLOMBIA:** Dept. of Nariño: Munic. of Ricaurte, collected in the cloud forest around La Planada, alt. 1800 m, flowered in cultivation at the La Planada Science Center, 25 Jan. 1987, C. Luer 12487 (Holotype: MO).

This species seems to have affinities to several vaguely defined groups. It is recognized by the narrowly ovate, spreading leaves with a short secund raceme of successive, purple flowers lying on top. The sepals are obtuse with shortly acuminate apices; the petals are large with more or less equal, triangular lobes; the blades of the lip are broadly elliptical; and the appendix is small and long-pubescent.