

***Lepanthes poasensis*** Luer, *sp. nov.* TYPE: COSTA RICA. Heredia, Volcán Poás, ca. 1867, A. Endres 11 (Holotype: W). Fig. 19.

Planta mediocris grandisve, racemo congesto disticho folio elliptico brevior, sepalis late ovatis obtusis, petalis transverse bilobis, lobis triangularibus obtusis lobo superiore leviter majore, labelli laminis ovatis concavis ciliatis, appendice subnulla et ovario longissimo.

**Plant** medium in size to large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 2–10 cm long, enclosed by 5–9 black, tightly appressed, glabrous to microscopically ciliate-scarious, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, suffused with purple beneath, elliptical, acute, slightly acuminate, 3.5–4.5 cm long, 1.4–1.8 cm wide, the base cuneate, contracted into a 2–3 mm long petiole. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively many-flowered raceme up to 8 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a slender peduncle 10–22 mm long; floral bracts 1.5 mm long, lightly muriculate; pedicels 3 mm long; ovary 4 mm long; **sepals** yellow, glabrous, broadly ovate, obtuse, slightly shortly acuminate, the dorsal sepal 3.75 mm long, 3.25 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals, oblique, diverging, 3.75 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, connate 1 mm; **petals** yellow, marked with red, microscopically pubescent, transversely, bilobed, 1 mm long, 3 mm wide, 3-veined, the lobes triangular, with the apices narrowly obtuse, the lower lobe slightly smaller; **lip** red, bilaminate, the blades minutely ovate, concave, ciliate, rounded at the base, acute at the apex, 1 mm long, the connectives obliquely cuneate, the body connate to the column above the base, the sinus obtuse, the appendix external, minute; **column** terete, 1.25 mm long, the anther and stigma apical.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for Volcán Poás where the species was discovered.

PARATYPE: COSTA RICA. Volcán Poás, alt. 2000 m, 20 June 1981, C. Luer & A. Luer 6338 (SEL).

This species, apparently endemic on the slopes of Volcán Poás, was collected, illustrated and described by Endres about 1867. It was collected again in 1981. To my knowledge, there are no other collections. Vegetatively, it is similar to the variable *L. disticha*-complex with tightly fitting, blackish lepanthiform sheaths. The inflorescence is similarly a congested, distichous raceme, but the long pedicels and even longer ovary are distinctive. Together, they are 7 mm long. The sepals are broadly ovate and slightly shortly acuminate. The petals are broadly triangular, those of Endres' collection acute, those of the recent collection obtuse. The blades of the lip are ovate, concave and ciliate.

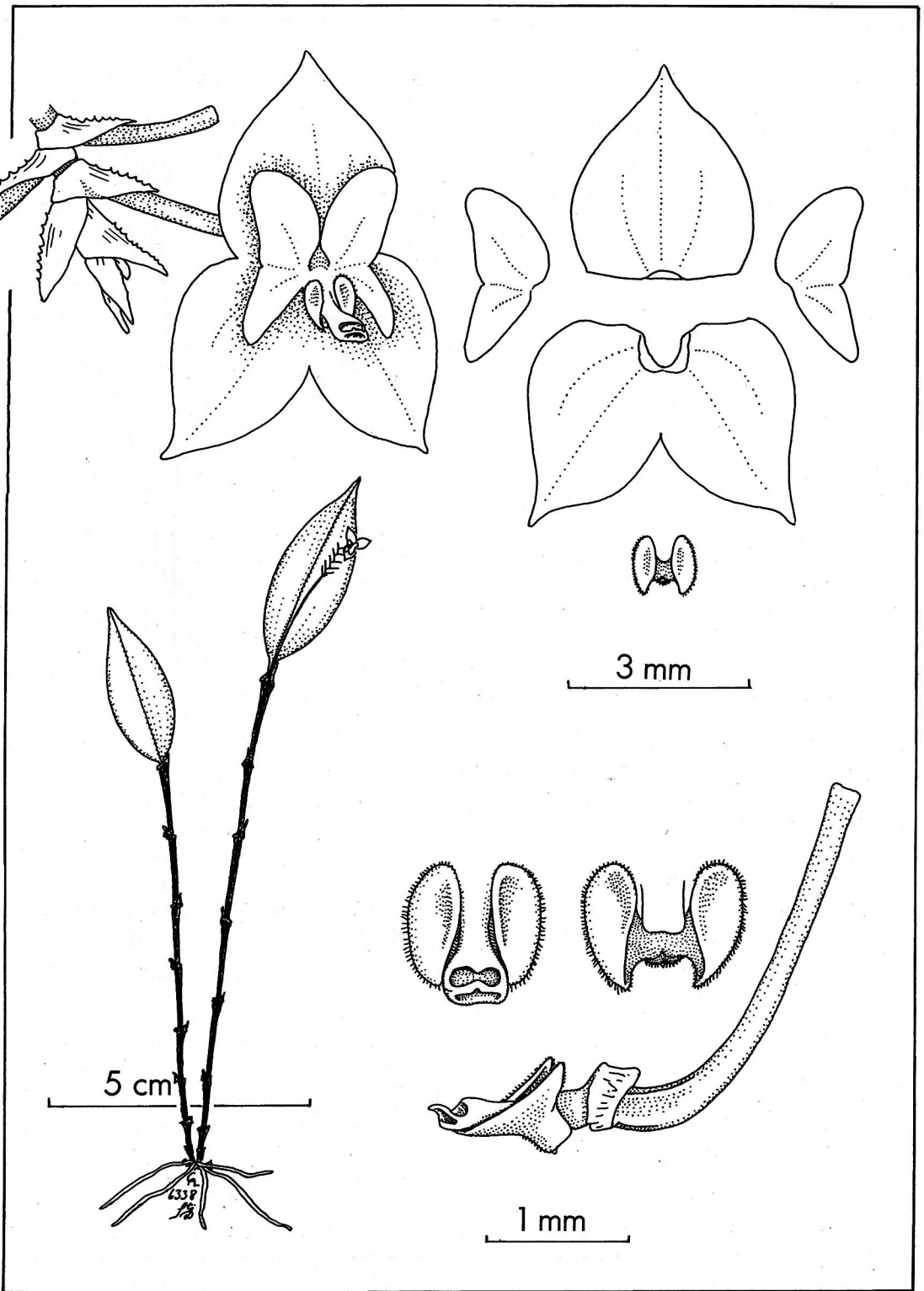


Fig. 19. *Lepanthes poisensis* Luer.