

Lepanthes setos Luer, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris, foliis crassis ellipticis breviter acuminatis inflorescentia longioribus, racemo congesto disticho, sepalo dorsali synsepaloque late ovatis, petalis grandis, lobis triangularibus pubescentibus, labelli laminis ellipticis pubescentibus, appendice ligulata convexa cum parte apicali concava,

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems slender, erect to horizontal or pendent, 2.5-8 cm long, enclosed by 4-6 close, minutely scabrous lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect to drooping, thickly coriaceous, more or less concave, often coppery in color, more or less suffused with purple beneath, elliptical, 2.5-4.5 cm long, 1-2.7 cm wide, the apex shortly acuminate, acute, the base cuneate into a petiole 2-3 mm long. Inflorescence a congested, distichous raceme up to 8 mm long, borne on top of the leaf by a filiform peduncle 10-12 mm long; floral bract and pedicel each 1 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; sepals yellow to tan, the dorsal sepal broadly ovate, obtuse, 3 mm long, 2.25 mm wide, the lateral sepals connate 1.5 mm into a broadly ovate lamina 2.75 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, the apices acute; petals orange, long-ciliate and pubescent, transversely bilobed, 1.3 mm long, 4.25 mm wide, 3-veined, the lobes subequal, triangular, acute; lip bright rose to purple, the blades narrowly elliptical, 2.2 mm long, long-ciliate and pubescent, the ends narrowly rounded, the connectives short, broadly cuneate, connected to the column above the base, the appendix in the sinus, pubescent, ligulate, 0.6 mm long, convex, with a concave apical segment with a bilobulate apex; column 2 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

Etymology: From the Greek setos, "a moth," in reference to the large pubescent petals.

Type: Panama: Prov. of Chiriqui: epiphytief in scrubby trees near Volcan, alt. 1350 m, 7. Dec. 1983, C. Luer, J. Luer & H. Butcher 9279 (Holotype: SEL); "La Cordillera" near Volcan, alt. 1300 m, 9 Dec. 1983, C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Maduro & H. Butcher 9311 (SEL); Rio Chiriqui west of Volcan, alt. 1500 m, 12 Sept. 1976, C. Luer & H. Butcher 1203 (SEL); dry creek bed, llanos del Volcan, alt. 1500 m, 14 Sept. 1976, C. Luer & H. Butcher 1224 (SEL).

This species is essentially indistinguishable from L. psyche with which it grows sympatrically. The sepals and appendix of the lip are also amazingly similar, but the lobes of the petals of L. setos are acute and long-pubescent without a lateral tooth, and the blades of the lip are also long-pubescent and not agglutinated over the column.