



Lepanthes talamancana Bogarín & D. Jiménez, spec. nov.

TYPE Costa Rica. Puntarenas: Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, fila montañosa frente a Cerro Utyum y río Cabagra, Reserva Biológica Dúrika, 9°18'47.97"N, 83°12'50.09"W, 2418 m, epífitas, legit Daniel Jiménez, Eugenio García et Pontus Aratoun, floreció en cultivo en el Jardín Botánico Lankester, 25 mayo 2011, D. Jiménez sub D. Bogarín 8835 (holotype, JBL).

DIAGNOSIS This species is similar to *Lepanthes stenorhyncha* Luer; however it can be recognized by the narrowly elliptic to elliptic leaves, the narrowly ovate sepals, the petals with the upper lobe oblique ovate to oblong, the lower lobe narrowly ovate to narrowly oblong, acute, falcate, glabrous, the lip with the blades ovate to oblong and the thick, oblong, pubescent appendix.

Plant epiphytic, caespitose, erect, up to 27 cm tall. Roots slender, flexuous, to 1 mm in diameter. Ramicauls slender, erect, 3.8–19.2 cm long, enclosed by 12 minutely ciliate, blackish lepanthiform sheaths, the ostia minutely ciliate, ovate, acute. Leaves coriaceous, narrowly elliptic to elliptic, acute, conduplicate, abaxially

[8] *Lepanthes talamancana* Bogarín & D. Jiménez. A — Habit. B — Flower. C — Perianth flatten. D — Lip, spread. E — Column and lip, lateral view. Drawings by D. Bogarín and D. Jiménez from the holotype.

[9] Flower morphology of *Lepanthes talamancana*. A — D. Jiménez sub Bogarín 8835. B — D. Bogarín 9778. C — D. Bogarín 9778.



cuneate, emarginate, with a short apiculus, 7.0–5.0 × 1.8–2.2 cm, the rounded base narrowing into a petiole less than 2.5 mm long. Inflorescence racemose, distichous, glabrous, successively flowered, developed beneath the leaf, shorter than leaves, up to 6 cm long, peduncle to 2.5 cm long, rachis to 4 mm long. Floral bracts ovate, acuminate, conduplicate, membranaceous, 2 mm long, muriculate. Pedicels 2 mm long, persistent. Ovary to 1.5 mm long, glabrous. Flowers with yellow sepals sometimes suffused with red, the petals with the upper lobe yellow and the margin red, the lower lobe yellow or with a red margin, the lip yellow suffused with red, the column yellow. Dorsal sepal ovate, acute, entire, connate to the lateral sepals for about 5 mm, 2.9 × 1.7 mm. Lateral sepals narrowly ovate to elliptic, acute, entire, divaricate, connate for 0.6 mm, 3.1 × 1.4 mm. Petals transversely bilobed, oblique, ciliolate, 0.9 × 3.4 mm, the lobes unequal, the upper lobe ovate to oblong, rounded, superimposed, apically folded, the lower lobe narrowly ovate to narrowly oblong, acute, falcate; lip bilobate, adnate to the column, 1.0 × 0.8 cm, the blades ovate to oblong with rounded ciliolate ends, embracing the column to 1.0 × 0.2 mm, the connectives cuneate, oblong, to 0.2 mm long, minutely pubescent, the body thick, oblong, rounded, connate to the base of the column, the appendix thick, oblong, pubescent; column cylindrical, to 1.2 mm long, the anther dorsal and the stigma subapical. Pollinia two, ovoid, basally filiform. Anther cap, triangular, cucullate.

PARATYPE Costa Rica. Límite entre Limón y Puntarenas: Talamanca-Buenos Aires, Bratsi-Potrero Grande, Parque Internacional La Amistad, Sector Altamira, sendero al Valle del Silencio, Cerro Hoffman, sobre la divisoria de aguas, 9°05'38.2"N, 82°58'37.73"W, 2553 m, bosque pluvial montano, 14

agosto 2012, D. Bogarín et al. 9778 (CR, USJ, JBL-spirit).

DISTRIBUTION Only known from the southern Cordillera de Talamanca in Costa Rica. It is probably found in western Panama as a population was found very close to the boundary.

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY Epiphytic in primary and secondary forest in montane wet forest.

ETYMOLOGY Named after the Cordillera de Talamanca between Costa Rica and Panama, where many new species of *Lepanthes* have been discovered.

PHENOLOGY Flowers through the year but mostly from May to December.

DISCUSSION This species belongs to the *Lepanthes disticha* complex characterized by the erect ramicauls with blackish, amplexent lepanthiform sheaths with narrow ostia and the coriaceous, ovate, acute to acuminate leaves. Although similar in habit to *L. stenorhyncha*, *L. talamancana* can be recognized by the narrowly elliptic leaves (rather than ovate), the narrowly ovate sepals (rather than ovate), the petals with the upper lobe oblique ovate to oblong, the lower lobe narrowly ovate to narrowly oblong, acute, falcate, glabrous (rather than the upper lobe triangular, obtuse, the lower lobe triangular, acute, pubescent), the lip with the blades ovate to oblong (rather than the lip with the narrow, incurved blades flanking the column) and the thick, oblong, pubescent appendix (rather than minute, pedunculate; Luer 1995). In habit and flower morphology, *L. talamancana* is also similar to *Lepanthes tachirensis* Foldats; however, it can be recognized mainly by the entire sepals (rather than denticulate), the upper lobe of the petals ovate to oblong, rounded (rather than oblong-subtruncate with a prominent fingerlike lobule) and the blades of the lip ovate to oblong (rather than narrowly elliptical). Another closely

allied species may be *Lepanthes eciliata* Schltr., described from western Panama (Schlechter 1913). However, it differs by the narrowly ovate to elliptic, acute, divaricate sepals (rather than ovate, slightly acuminate, not divaricate); the petals with the lobes unequal (rather than equal), the overlapping upper lobes (rather than not overlapping each other) and the falcate lower lobe (rather than straight, oblong).