

Masdevallia anomala Luer & Sijm, sp. nov.

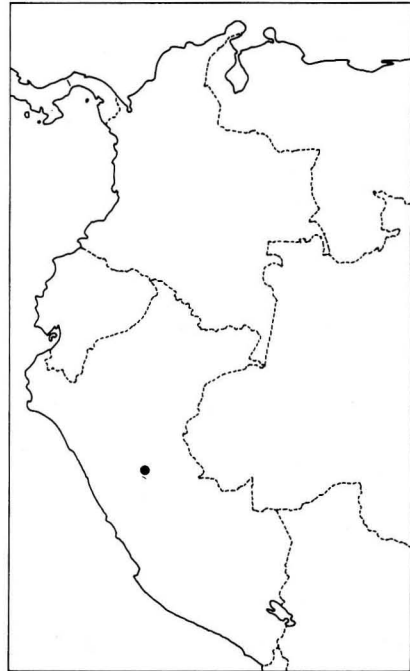
Ety.: From the Latin *anomalus*, "deviating from the usual," referring to the combination of morphological features.

Planta mediocris, pedunculo tereti unifloro, sepalorum caudibus supra medium encrassatis, petalis oblongis subcallosis, et labello illis subgen. *Polyanthae* similis.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls stout, blackish, erect, ca. 1 cm long, enclosed by a loose, tubular sheath and another at the base. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, 9 cm long including a black petiole ca. 2.5 cm long, the blade narrowly elliptical, subacute, 1.2 cm wide, gradually narrowed below into the petiole. **Inflorescence** a single flower, borne by an erect or suberect, terete peduncle, 9 cm long, with a bract near the base, from low on the ramicaul; floral bract tubular, oblique, 13 mm long; pedicel 7 mm long; ovary 8-9 mm long; **sepals** color?, glabrous, the dorsal sepal obovate, 17 mm long, 11 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 10 mm to form a cylindrical tube, the free portion broadly triangular, subacute, contracted into a forwardly directed, slender tail, thickened toward the apex, 15 mm long, the lateral sepals oblong, 20 mm long, 10 mm wide, 3-veined, connate 7 mm, the free portions triangular, acute, contracted into slender tails similar to that of the dorsal sepal; **petals** white, oblong, 7.5 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, the apex obtuse-subtruncate, minutely short-apiculate, with a low, longitudinal, callus along the lower margin above the lower third, and with an indistinct callus within the upper margin; **lip** oblong, 10.5 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, with a pair of longitudinal carinae from low folds near the middle, the epichile oblong, with the sides narrowly revolute, the margins of the apex fimbriate tip, the hypochile oblong, shallowly concave between suberect, rounded, basal angles or lobes, the base subtruncate, cleft, thickened and hinged beneath; **column** stout, semiterete, 8 mm long, the foot equally long with a distinct, incurved extension.

PERU: **Huánuco**: near Tingo Maria, alt. ca. 1500 m, 1993, A.P. Sijm et al. s.n. (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 20170.

This species, a recent collection in central Peru by Ton Sijm, exhibits an unusual combination of physical features. The narrow, coriaceous leaf is borne by a black stem, not unusual among many subdivisions of the genus. The single-flowered peduncle is terete and as long as the leaf. The flower is typical of section *Polyanthae* with callous but "toothless" petals, and a lip with marginal folds near the middle, and with fimbriate margins above the middle. The peduncle and petals also suggest section *Reichenbachiana*, a Central American taxon with a member in adjacent Colombia. It is superficially similar to some members of section *Coriaceae*.



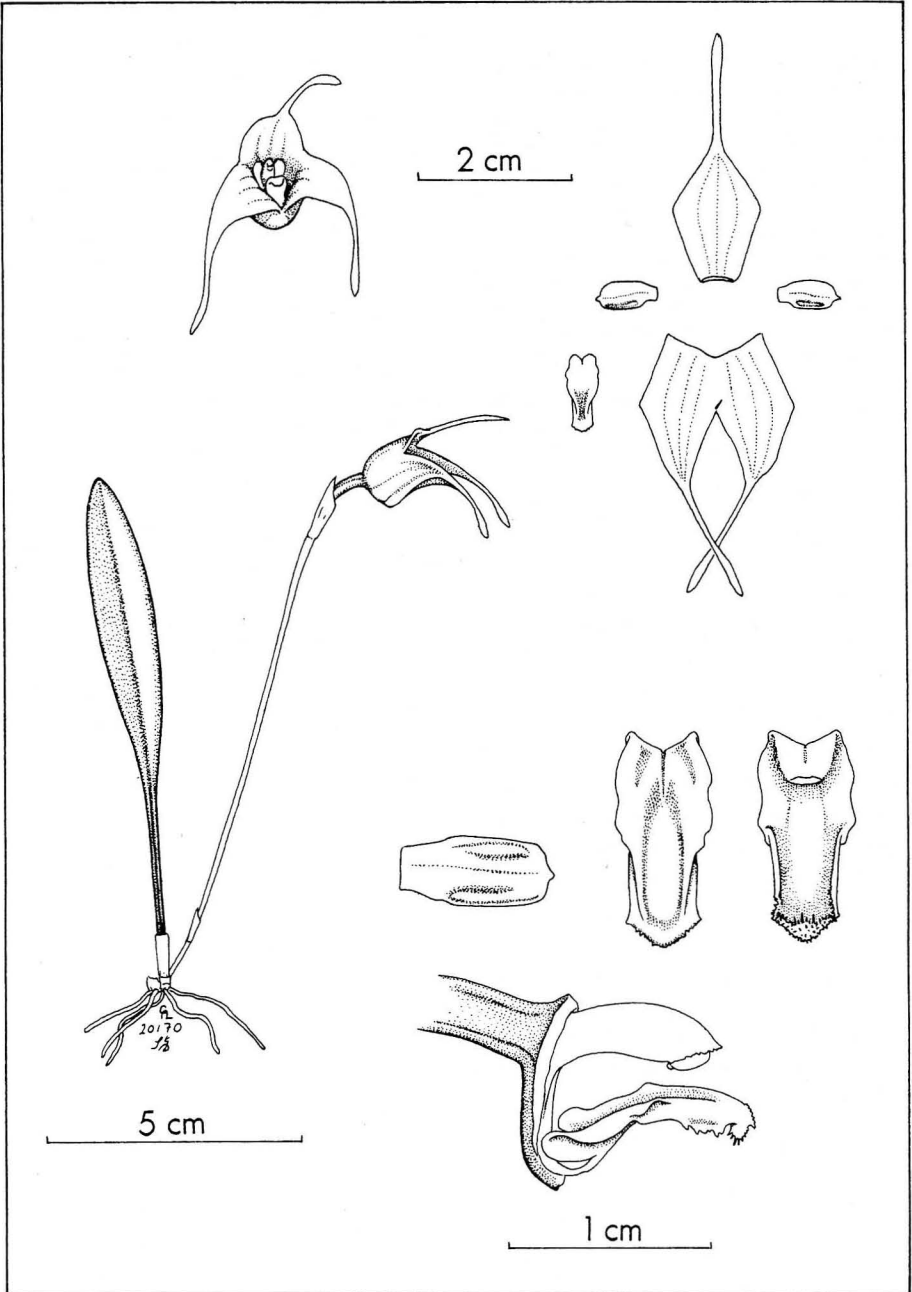


Plate 654. *Masdevallia anomala*