

Masdevallia manoloi Luer & Arias, sp. nov.

Plate 33.

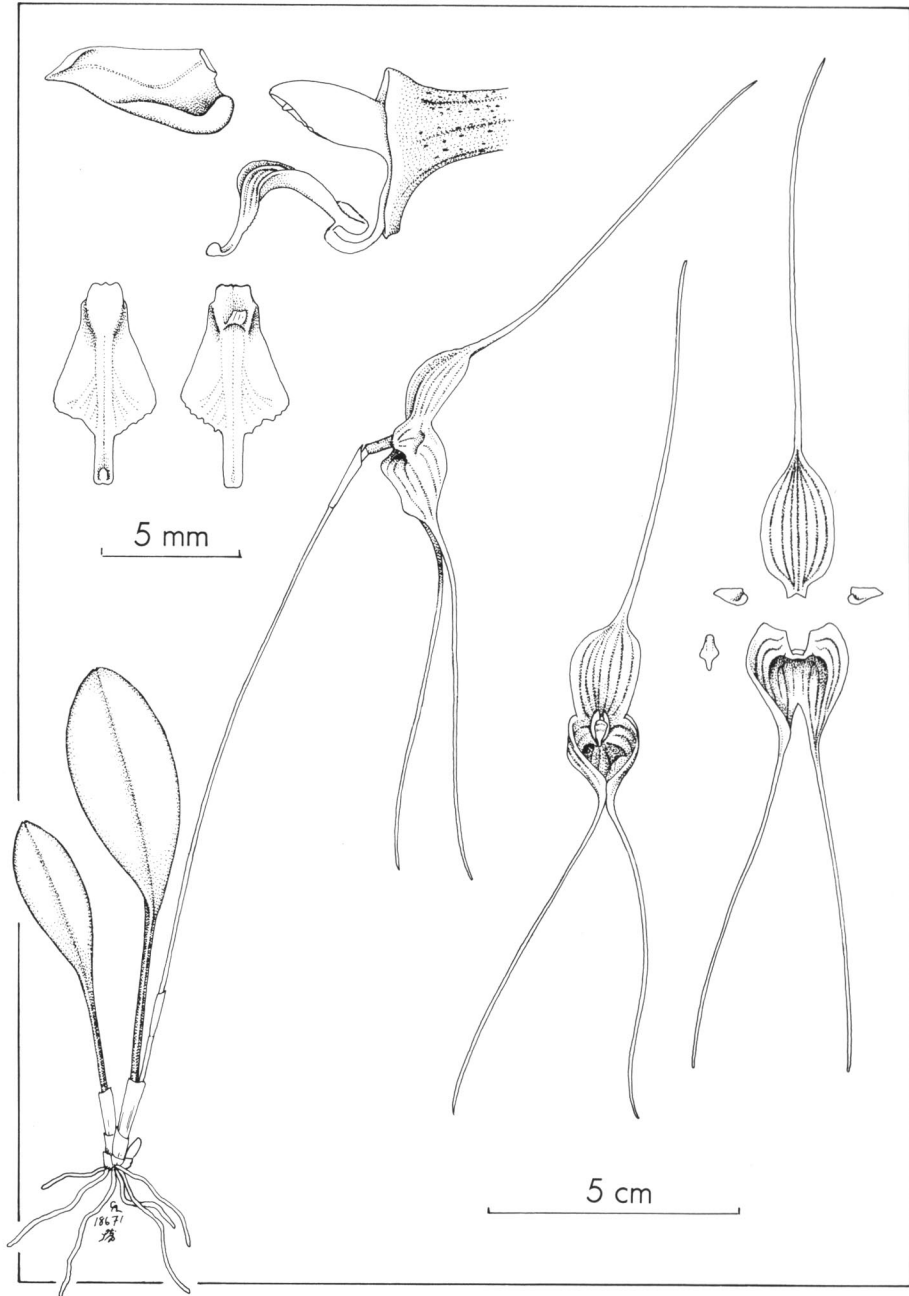
Ety.: Named for Victor Manuel Arias, "Manolo," son of Manuel Arias Silva of Lima, Peru.

Inter species *Masdevalliae* subsect. *Caudatae* sepalis longissime caudatis, lateralibus ad medium in mentum profundo connatis, lateralorum marginibus supra medium incurvis et labello apice longissime lobulato distinguitur.

Plant medium in size, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls blackish, stout, erect, 1-2 cm long, enclosed by 2-3 loose, tubular sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, long-petiolate, 5-8.5 cm long including the petiole 2-3 cm long, the blade elliptical, obtuse, 1.3-2.2 cm wide, cuneate below into the petiole. **Inflorescence** a single flower, borne by a slender, erect to suberect peduncle up to 12 cm long, with a bract near the base, from near the middle of the ramicaul; floral bract tubular, 12-15 mm long; pedicel 12-15 mm long; ovary 7 mm long; **sepals** yellow, with borders and veins blackish brown, the dorsal sepal erect, shallowly concave, 25-30 mm long, 12-14 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 5 mm to form a short, shallow, sepaline cup, the apex obtuse, contracted into a slender tail 7.5 cm long, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, 24 mm long, connate 13-14 mm into a deep cavity below the column-foot, 22 mm wide together, with the sides above the middle incurved, with the apices acute, in apposition, contracted into slender tails ca. 7 cm long; **petals** white, cartilaginous, ovate-triangular, 7 mm long, 3 mm wide, the apex acute with the upper margin incurved, the labellar margin with a thick callus ending in an incurved process extending beyond the base; **lip** subobovate, erect, arcuate, 7 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, with the margins thin, irregular above the middle, contracted in the distal quarter into a narrow lobule 1.5 mm long with a minute, rounded callus at the tip, the disc thickened toward the truncate base, hinged beneath to the column-foot; **column** thick, semiterete, 5 mm long, the foot equally long including the slender, incurved extension.

PERU: **Huánuco**: Huánuco, Acomayo, Zingo Monte, alt. 2500 m, collected by Saul Ruiz Pérez, 13 Sept. 1997, flowered in cultivation at Vivero Manuel Arias Silva, Lima, Peru, Nov. 1997, *C. Luer 18671* (Holotype: MO).

Among the species of section *Masdevallia* subsection *Caudatae*, this spectacular species is distinguished by the blackish stripes on yellow sepals with very long, slender tails. The margins above the middle of the lateral sepals are incurved with the apices in apposition. Below the middle, the lateral sepals are connate into a deep mentum below the column-foot. The petals are acute at the apex with a thick, basal process. The arcuate lip stands erect from the tip of a long, incurved column-foot to which it is loosely hinged. Above the middle, the lip is contracted with irregular margins into a narrow lobule with a minute, rounded callus.

Plate 33. *Masdevallia manoloi* Luer & Arias