

*Masdevallia utriculata* Luer, sp. nov.

Planta parva caespitosa, caulibus secundariis abbreviatis, foliis anguste oblongis breviter petiolatis, pedunculo tereti brevi, flore successivo carnosoluteo intus rubro verrucoso, sepalis in tubum cylindricum connatis, cauda sepali dorsalis erecta clavata compressa, sepalis lateralibus late expansis ecaudatis, petalis oblongis bicarinatis, labello oblongo apice rotundato subverrucoso basi bi-utriculato, disco supra medium cum carinis humilibus semicircularibus.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots coarse, flexuous. Secondary stems terete, unifoliate, ca. 1 cm long, enclosed by 2 tubular sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, narrowly oblong-obovate, shortly petiolate, 6-8.5 cm long including the 1-1.5 cm long petiole, 1.2-1.5 cm wide, the apex subacute, tridentate, cuneate below into the petiole. Inflorescence a contracted, few-flowered raceme of successive, rigidly fleshy flowers borne by a stout, suberect to horizontal, terete peduncle 1.5-2 cm long, with a bract near the base, from a node low on the secondary stem; floral bract 4 mm long, pedicel 7 mm long; ovary subverrucose, 3-4 mm long; dorsal sepal yellow, rectangular, 8 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 5 mm to form a cylindrical tube, the free portion broadly triangular, the obtuse apex produced into an erect, recurved, clavate, laterally compressed tail ca. 11 mm long; lateral sepals pale yellow, studded with multiple, red excrescences within, connate 15 mm into an ovate, coarsely verrucose, expanded, bifid lamina above the cylindrical basal portion with a broadly rounded mentum at the base, the apices, triangular, acute, free for 5-6 mm, the total length 20 mm, the width 15 mm spread out; petals oblong, 5.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, the apex broad, bifid, with a longitudinal carina along both margins, the upper overhanging at the apex; lip yellow, intensely marked with red-purple, oblong-obovate, 6.5 mm long, 2-3 mm wide, the apex rounded, subverrucose, the base bilobed, each lobe deeply saccate, the disc with a pair of low, semicircular folds above the middle; column semiterete, 5 mm long, the foot equally long with an incurved extension.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *utriculatus*, "with small bladders," (*uter*, *utris*, "bag, or bladder"), referring to the configuration of the base of the lip.

TYPE: PANAMA: CHIRIQUI: epiphytic in cloud forest on Cerro Pate Macho, alt. ca. 2200 m, 27 Feb. 1979, R. L. Dressler & J. Kuhn s.n. (HOLOTYPE: SEL). Illustration C. Luer 4073.

DISTRIBUTION: Western Panama.

Only a few plants of this species were discovered by Dr. Robert L. Dressler on a recent field trip with Janet Kuhn. The fleshy flower is borne from a short, horizontal peduncle. From the cylindrical sepaline tube, the red-verrucose lateral sepals expand broadly and end in a bifid, tailless lamina. The erect tail of the dorsal sepal is clavate. The lip is remarkable in the deeply saccate development of the pair of "nectaries" at the base.