

Lepanthes lynniana Luer, sp. nov.

Fig. 317.

Ety.: Named for Lynn O'Shaughnessy of Howell, MI, who cultivates this species, and submitted it for identification.

Species haec *L. ciliari* Luer & Hirtz affinis, sed sepalis reflexis duplomajoribus proportione angustioribus, lateralibus semiconnatis, petalis minutis reniformibus, et labello crasso hippocrepiiformi differt.

Plant small to medium in size for the subgenus *Brachycladium*, epiphytic, pendent, the rhizome 3 mm long between ramicauls, enclosed by 1 loose, long-ciliate sheath, roots slender along the rhizome. Ramicauls 1 mm long, enclosed by 1 infundibular, long-ciliate sheath. **Leaf** pendent, distichous, thickly coriaceous, glabrous, ovate, 4-5 mm long, 4-5.5 mm wide, the base rounded, contracted into a petiole ca. 0.25 mm long. **Inflorescence** a single or a distant, successively 2-flowered raceme, borne by a slender, ascending peduncle 4-6 mm long; floral bracts 1 mm long; pedicels 2-2.5 mm long; ovary 1 mm long, spiculate; **sepals** purple, reflexed, the dorsal sepal ovate, obtuse, pubescent within, 3.5 mm long, 3.2 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals elliptical-ovate, oblique, subacute, apiculate, 3.5 mm long, connate 1.5 mm, 3.5 mm wide together, 2-veined; **petals** reniform, pubescent, 0.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, the lobes equal, obtuse; **lip** pubescent, long-ciliate, bilobed-hippocrepiiform, 1.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the apex broadly rounded, the basal lobes obtuse embracing the column, the body broad, connate to the base of the column; **column** terete, 1.5 mm long, the anther and stigma apical.

ECUADOR: Without collection data, obtained from José Portilla, cultivated in Howell, MI, flowered Jan. 2001 by Lynn O'Shaughnessy OO689 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 19462.

This species is distinguished by the small habit with ovate, glabrous leaves, and short, ascending, successively two-flowered racemes. Except for being twice larger, the flowers are very similar to those of *L. ciliaris*. The sepals of *L. ciliaris* are broader, with the dorsal broader than long, and the lateral sepals are free and diverging. The sepals of *L. lynniana* are proportionately narrower and reflexed, and the laterals are semiconnate. The petals of both species are small, those of *L. ciliaris* being twice longer and lunate in shape. The lips of both species are "horse shoe-shaped."

Fig. 315. *Lepanthes inaequisepala*

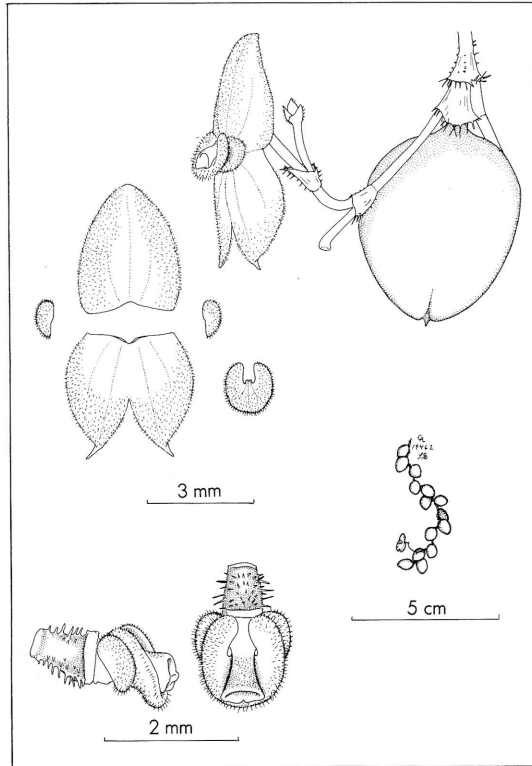


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