

Lepanthes monilia Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Inter species sectionis *Brachycladarum* Rchb. f. species haec foliis breviter ciliatis, pedunculo brevi successivi-floro, sepalis ovatis acutis patentissimis, petalis ciliatis transverse bilobatis obtusis, labello cordato obtuso ciliato lateribus erectis columnam amplectentibus distinguitur.

Plant epiphytic, a pendent series, 30 cm or more long, of prolific, unifoliate, repant stems each 5 - 6 mm long between leaves and enclosed by long-hispid lepanthiform sheaths, rooting at nodes. Leaves prostrate, coriaceous, elliptical, 7 - 9 mm long, 5 - 7 mm wide, the margins shortly ciliate, the apex rounded, the base with a petiole ca. 1 mm long. Inflorescence a successively few-flowered raceme up to 5 mm long including the peduncle, from a node near the apex of a stem; floral bract 1 mm long, hispid; pedicel 2 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long, glabrous, 6-ribbed; sepals red-brown, glabrous, ovate, acute, 3 mm long, 2 mm wide, 3-veined, connate basally, the lateral sepals transversely spread; petals orange, ciliate, transversely bilobed, 1 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the apex broadly rounded, the lateral lobes obtuse; lip red, ciliate, cordate, 2.25 mm long, 2.25 mm wide expanded, the apex and basal lobes broadly rounded, the sides incurved, erect, embracing the column; column cylindrical, 1 mm long, the anther and stigms apical, footless.

ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *monilia* (plural de *monile*), "collares" en alusión a su hábito péndulo.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *monilia* (pl. of *monile*), "necklaces," in allusion to the pendent habit.

TYPE: COLOMBIA: Dept. of BOYACA: epiphytic in scrub forest between Duitama and Virolin, alt. 2600 m, 1 June 1982, C. Luer, R. Escobar & D. Portillo 8036 (HOLYTIPE:SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Colombia, Eastern Cordillera.

Este miembro de la sección *Brachycladae* puede identificarse por las hojas escasamente ciliadas; racimos de floescencia sucesiva, cortos, sépalos rojo-café bien abiertos, libres casi hasta sus bases; pétalos transversalmente bilobados, ciliados, naranja; y un labelo ciliado con lados redondeados abrazando la columna, obtusamente cordado, rojo

Esta especie se encontró creciendo con otras tres de esta misma sección.

This member of the section *Brachycladae* may be identified by the shortly ciliate leaves; short, successively flowered racemes; widely spread red-brown sepals free nearly to their bases; orange, ciliate, transversely bilobed petals; and a red, obtusely cordate, ciliated lip with the rounded sides embracing the column.

This species was found growing with three other species of this section.