

18. **MAXILLARIA SARAGURENSIS** Dodson, sp. nov.

Distinguitur floribus pusillis albis, caulibus foliaceis ante formationem pseudobulborum, et cirris in apice vaginarum et pseudobulborum, ubi prius erant bases foliorum deciduorum.

Orig. coll.: Ecuador: Loja: Loja to Cuenca, ca. km 60, new road, 2500 m, 3 February 1987, *Hirtz 3104* (RPSC holotype).

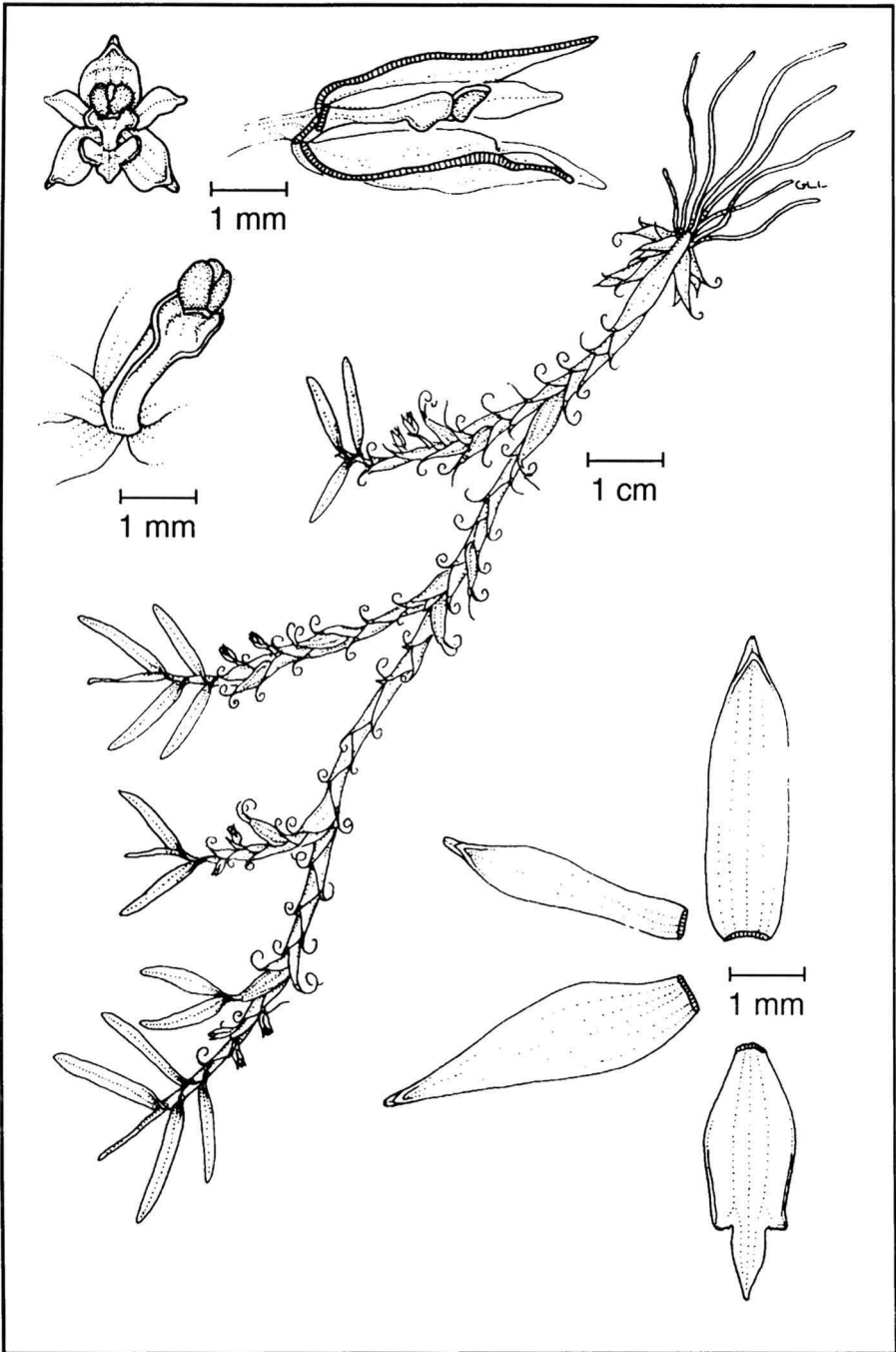
OTHER SPECIMENS SEEN: Ecuador: Loja: Santa Rosa to Loja, *Luer et al. 10690* (MO, RPSC). also occurs in Peru.

ETIMOLOGIA: Nominata pro regione in qua collecta est exemplar.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for the region from which the specimen was collected.

Plant epiphytic, pendant. Stems elongate, branched, enveloped by close distichous, imbricating sheaths, with a curled, spine-like remnant of the leaf margin on each side of the zone of dehiscence at the apex of the sheath, bearing pseudobulbs at remote intervals, branched at the base of most pseudobulbs, the branch to 4 cm long, with 5-7 distichous, equally spaced leaves which are later deciduous, forming a pseudobulb at the apex of the branch. Pseudobulbs ovate, compressed, to 1 x 0.5 cm, bifoliate at the apex. Leaves oblong, acute, apiculate, membranaceous, to 3 x 0.3 cm. Inflorescences 1-flowered, scarcely protruding from between the stem sheaths. Flowers white. sepals and petals free, parallel with the column, hardly spreading; dorsal sepal oblong, concave at the apex, to 5 x 1.3 mm; lateral sepals narrowly ovate, oblique, long-acuminate, to 5 x 1.4 mm; petals oblong-obovate, acuminate and thickened at the apex, spreading for the apical portion, to 4 x 1 mm; lip elliptical in outline when spread, 3-lobed, to 4.5 x 1.5 mm, the lateral lobes erect on each side of the column, retuse at the apex, the midlobe ovate, thin; column terete, clavate, flattened on the underside, shallowly winged on each side at the apex, base extended into a small column foot.

NOTAS: Esta especie es algo como una transición entre los géneros *Maxillaria* y *Pityphyllum*. La columna tiene un pequeño pie lo que la coloca en *Maxillaria* y los tallos están revestidos de hojas deciduas anteriores al desarrollo de un



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seudobulbo, lo cual no es el caso de *Pityphyllum*. Sus curiosos anzuelos a cada lado en el ápice de las vainas y los seudobulbos, como residuo de las márgenes de las hojas, inmediatamente distinguen la especie.

NOTES: This species is somewhat of a transition between the genera *Maxillaria* and *Pityphyllum*. It does have a small column foot which places it in *Maxillaria* and the stems are clothed with deciduous leaves prior to development of a pseudobulb which is not a feature of *Pityphyllum*. The curious hooks on each side of the apex of the sheaths and pseudobulbs, as remnants of the leaf margins, immediately distinguish the species.