

Pleurothallis anfracta Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: From the Latin *anfractus*, "bent, or crooked," referring to the flexuous rachis.

Planta grandis, pedunculo folio longiore, rhachidi valde fractiflexa, sepalis petalisque carnosis anguste triangularibus, lamina labelli spatulata bicarinata basi bilobulata et basi unguis biauriculata.

Plant medium in size to large, terrestrial, shortly repent, the rhizomes stout, 0.5-1 cm long between ramicauls; roots coarse. Ramicauls stout, erect, 2-5 cm long, enclosed by 2-3 thin, tubular sheaths. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, elliptical, acute to subacute, 5-11 cm long, 1.5-2 cm wide, narrowed below to the subpetiolate base. **Inflorescence** a loose, distichous, markedly flexuous, successively several-flowered raceme, up to 7 cm long, borne by a slender peduncle 10-18 cm long, from the apex of the ramicaul at the base of the leaf, with a spathe ca. 5 mm long; floral bracts oblique, acute, conduplicate, 5-7 mm long; pedicel 2 mm long; ovary smooth, 6 mm long, with numerous, minute, crystalline deposits; **sepals** thick, fleshy, mottled with dark brown, narrowly triangular, acute, the dorsal sepal minutely ciliate, 19-20 mm long, 4 mm wide, connate at the base with the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals 19-20 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, carinate, sulcate within, connate 1 mm at the base, forming a small mentum; **petals** mottled in brown, minutely pubescent, narrowly ovate, narrowly acute, 11 mm long, 2 mm wide, with an ill-defined lobule on the lower margin at the base; **lip** spatulate, spotted with brown, 11 mm long, 3 mm wide above the middle, 1 mm wide below the middle, the blade longitudinally bicarinate, the distal half elliptical, obtuse, microscopically ciliate, 5.5 mm long, with a pair of minute uncinat, marginal lobules at the junction with the claw, the claw ill-defined, not decurved, 1.5 mm long, with a pair of pedunculate lobules at the base; **column** stout, winged above the middle, long-denticulate at the apex, 5 mm long, the foot stout, 2 mm long.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Tolima: terrestrial on lightly shaded slopes near Santa Ana on Río Cabrera, alt. 1500 m, 8 Jan. 1883, *F. C. Lehmann* 2388 (Holotype: G).

This species is known from only the original collection by Consul Lehmann in a remote area in Colombia in 1883. The specimen lay among his collections of "indeterminates" at Genève. The species is easily recognized by the stout ramicauls shorter than the fleshy leaves, and a tall peduncle bearing an elongate, markedly zig-zag raceme.

Lehmann described the color of the flowers as "dark black-brown." The sepals are fleshy and narrowly acute. The narrowly acute petals are barely auriculate at the base. The demarcation between the spatulate blade and the non-decurved claw of the lip is obscure, but marked by a minute pair of uncinat lobules. The claw is biauriculate at the base.



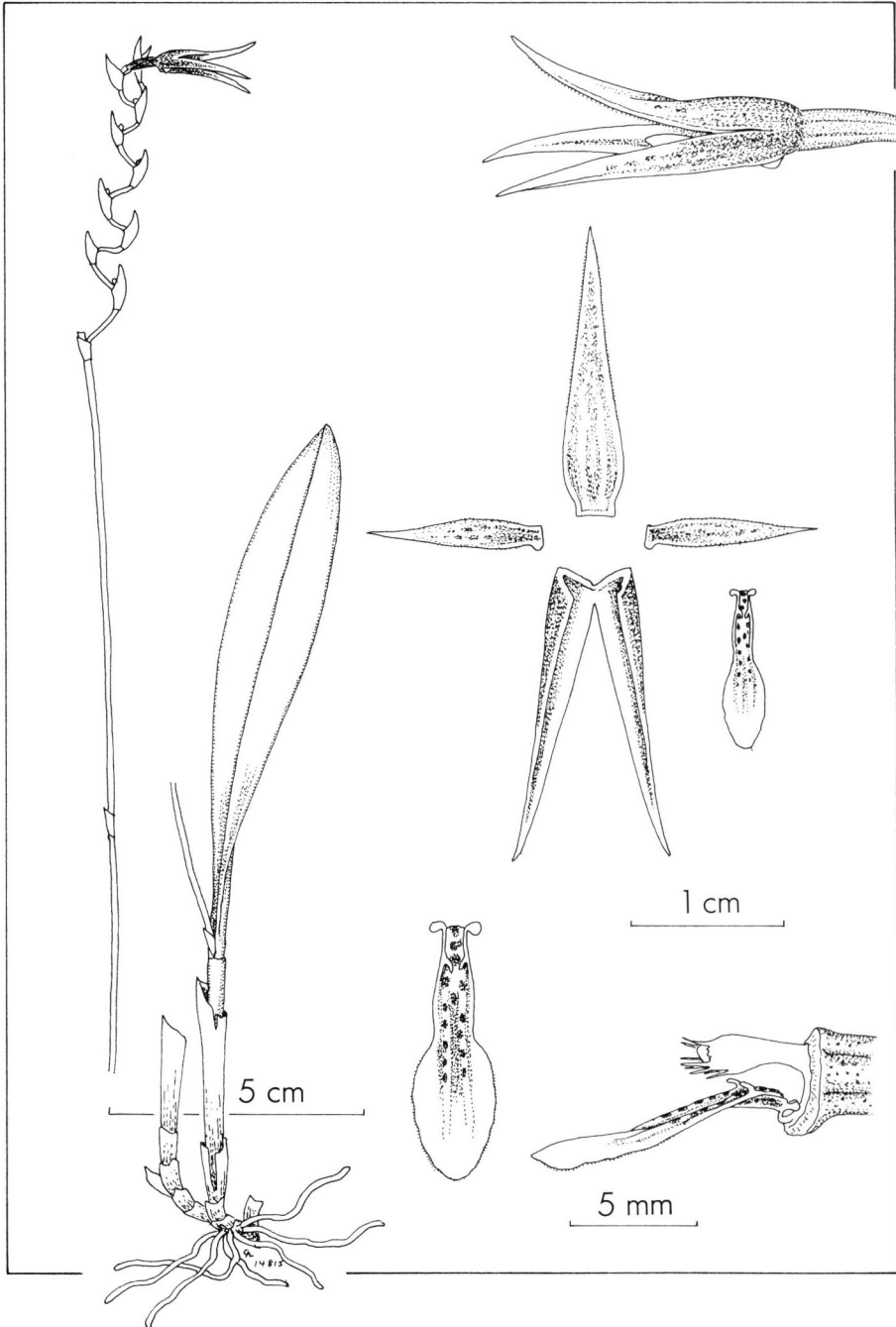


Plate 1. *Pleurothallis anfracta* Luer