

2. **PLEUROTHALLIS ASCERA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

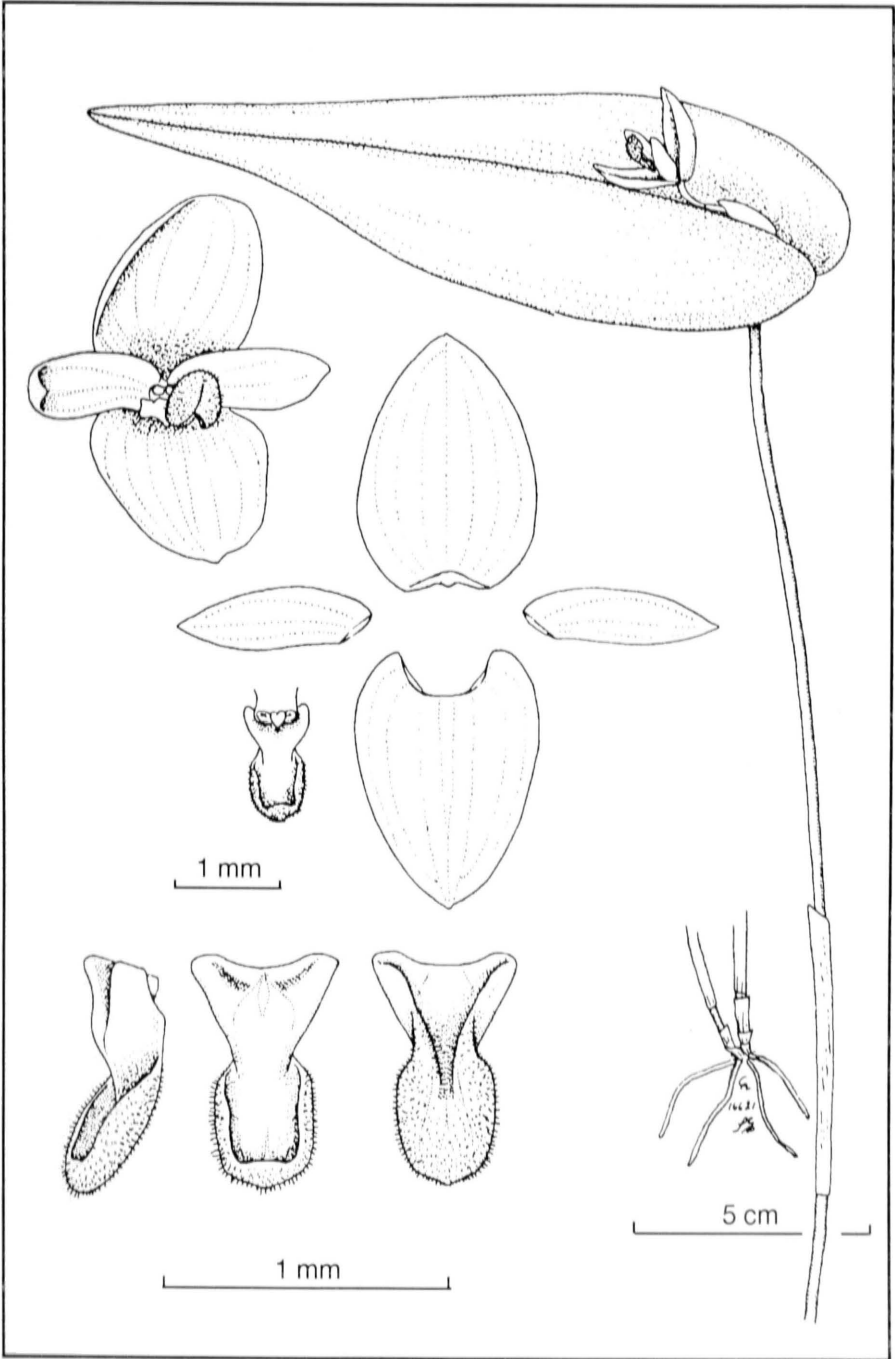
Inter species sectionis *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* habitu grande, sepalis glabris obtusis multinervis, petalis latis trinervis et labelli lateribus supra medium involutis dense pubescentibus differt.

TYPE: Colombia: Dept. of Valle del Cauca: Balcanes, alt. ca. 1800 m, collected by E. Valencia, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 15 Dec. 1992, *R. Escobar 5052* (Holotype: JAUM; Isotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 16621.

ETIMOLOGIA: Del griego *askera*, "un zapato forrado de pieles", en alusión al pubescente labelo en forma de zapato.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek *askera*, "a fur-lined shoe," in allusion to the pubescent, shoelike lip.

Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls relatively stout, erect, 20-47 cm long, with a close, tubular sheath on the lower third and 2 other sheaths at the base. **Leaf** spreading, coriaceous, ovate, acute, slightly acuminate, 16-18 cm long, 7-8.5 cm wide, the base sessile, deeply



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cordate. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of successive, single flowers, subtended by a spathe 1-1.5 cm long; peduncles 1-2 mm long, concealed within the sheath; floral bracts thin, tubular, 10 mm long; pedicels 11 mm long, also concealed within the spathe; ovary 8 mm long; flowers red; **sepals** glabrous, the dorsal sepal broadly ovate, obtuse, 15-20 mm long, 12-14 mm wide, 7-veined, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate, obtuse lamina, 15-20 mm long, 12-14 mm wide, 8-veined; **petals** oblong, acute, entire, 10-15 mm long, 4-5 mm wide, 3-veined; **lip** red, white at the base, panduriform, 9.5 mm long, 3-5.5 mm wide, with the margins above the narrowed middle incurved, densely short-pubescent, with the margins below the narrowed middle recurved, the disc with a narrow glenion above the base, the base hastate-truncate, hinged on the end to the column-foot; **column** stout, 2 mm long, 3 mm wide, the foot thick, the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

El labelo de esta especie es único en la sección *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae*. El hábito no es significativamente diferente al de muchas de las otras especies grandes del grupo. Las flores son grandes con sépalos multivenados, obtusos y pétalos divergentes, anchos, con tres venas. El labelo, pandurado, permanece erecto en el centro. Angostado arriba de la mitad, presenta márgenes pubescentes e involutas, creando así un epiquilo cóncavo. Abajo de la mitad las márgenes son revolutas. La base es ampliamente alabardada y articulada al pie de la columna.

The lip of this species is unique among the *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae*. The large habit is not remarkably different from that of many of the other large species of the section. The flowers are large with obtuse, multiveined sepals, and broad, three-veined, diverging petals. The pandurate lip stands erect at the center. Above the narrowed middle the margins are pubescent and involute to create a concave epichile. Below the narrowed middle the margins are revolute. The base is broadly hastate and hinged to the column-foot.