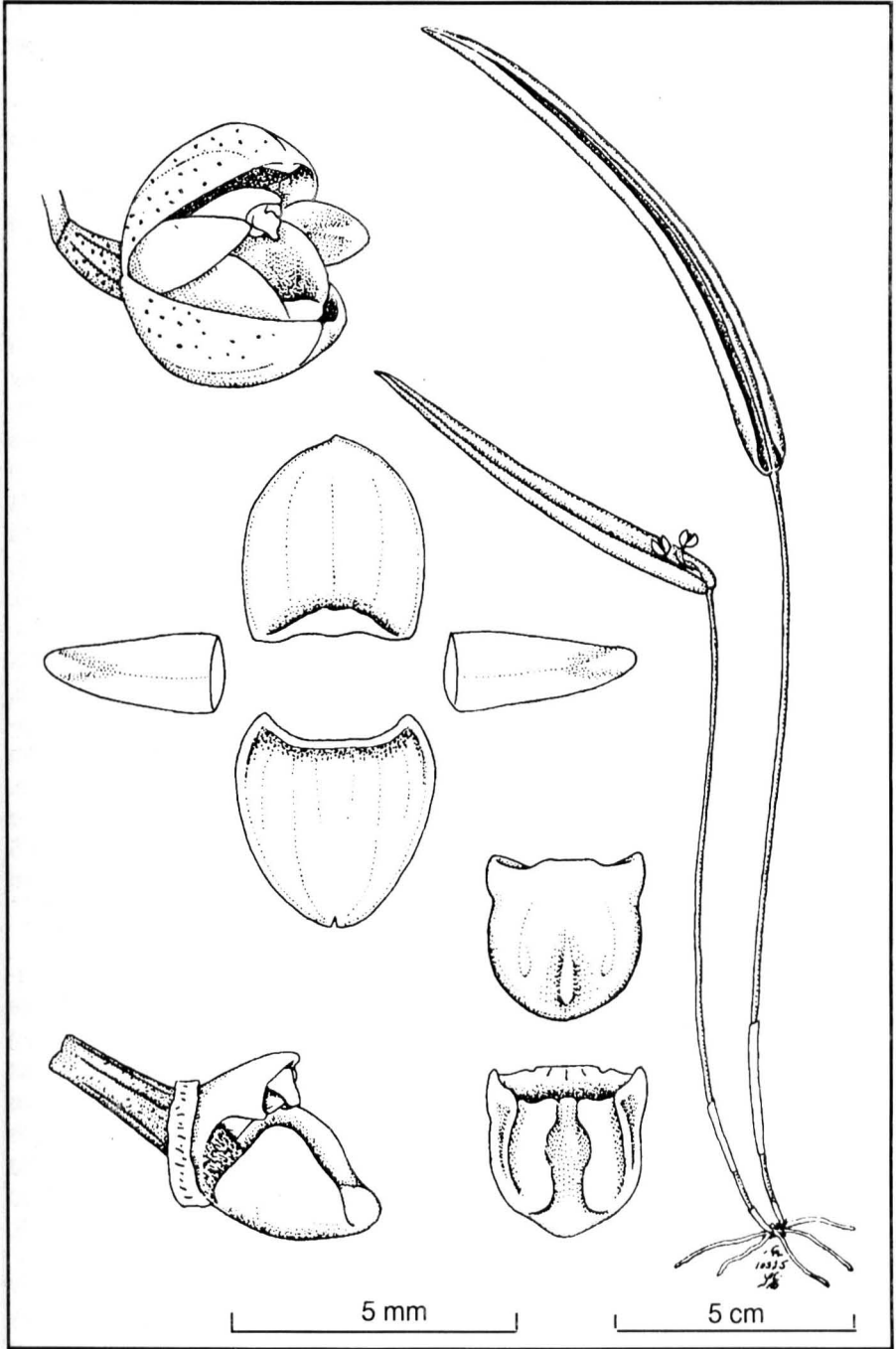


4. **PLEUROTHALLIS CALAMIFOLIA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Species haec *P. subtili* C.Schweinf. persimilis, sed petalis incrassatis et labello non-verrucoso basi transverse concavo non-deflexo distinguitur.



PLEUROTHALLIS CALAMIFOLIA Luer & R. Escobar

TYPE: Colombia: Dept. of Norte de Santander: epiphytic in cloud forest, Alto de Santa Inés, alt. 2100 m, 13 May 1984, C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar & E. Valencia 10325 (Holotype: MO).

ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *calamifolius*, "con hojas en forma de caña", en alusión a las hojas esbeltas, en forma de tubo.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *calamifolius*, "with reed-like leaves," referring to the slender, tube-like leaves.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 10-20 cm long, with a close, tubular sheath below the middle and 2 other sheaths at the base. **Leaf** erect to suberect, coriaceous, narrowly linear with revolute sides, acute, 9-16 cm long, 5-8 mm wide without expanding the sides, the base sessile, shallowly cordate. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of successive, single, suborbicular flowers, subtended by a spathe 5-8 mm long; peduncles 2-3 mm long, concealed within the sheath; floral bracts infundibular, 5 mm long; pedicels 4-5 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; **sepals** dull green, fleshy, glabrous, the dorsal sepal broadly ovate, deeply concave, with the apex rounded, 3.5 mm long, 3 mm wide unexpanded, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into a deeply concave, broadly ovate, obtuse synsepal, 4 mm long, 3.5 mm wide unexpanded, 4- to 6-veined; **petals** green, fleshy, especially at the apex, ovate-triangular, narrowly obtuse, entire, 3.25 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** thick, green, broadly ovoid-subquadrate, with the margins erect, obtuse at the apex, 3 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the disc microscopically cellular-glandular, broadly and shallowly sulcate, the base broadly truncate, with an obscure glenion, transversely concave on the end, hinged to the column-foot; **column** terete, 2 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the foot thick, convex, long-pubescent, with the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

Esta especie, conocida de la Cordillera Oriental de Colombia, está cercanamente emparentada con *P. subtilis* la que se encuentra en la adyacente Venezuela occidental. Las especies son indiferenciables vegetativamente y ambas presentan flores globulares muy pequeñas, en la base de unas hojas largas, angostas, con márgenes revolutas. *Pleurothallis calamifolia* se distingue por los pétalos gruesos, especialmente en el ápice obtuso. Los pétalos de *P. subtilis* son delgados y agudos. El labelo de *P. calamifolia* no es verrucoso y es proporcionalmente más grande y ampliamente cóncavo en el ápice, el cual no es agudamente deflexo como lo es el de *P. subtilis*.

This species, known from the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia, is closely allied to *P. subtilis* found nearby in adjacent, western Venezuela. They are indistinguishable vegetatively, and both bear very small, globular flowers at the base of the long, narrow leaf with revolute sides. *Pleurothallis cala-*

mifolia is distinguished by the thick petals, especially at the obtuse apex. The petals of *P. subtilis* are thin and acute. The lip of *P. calamifolia* is proportionately larger, non-verrucose, and broadly concave on the end that is not sharply deflexed as it is in *P. subtilis*.