



5. *PLEUROTHALLIS CASSIDATA*

Luer & R. Escobar.

Fotografía: Rodrigo Escobar R.

Cultivo: Colomborquídeas

5. *PLEUROTHALLIS CASSIDATA* Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

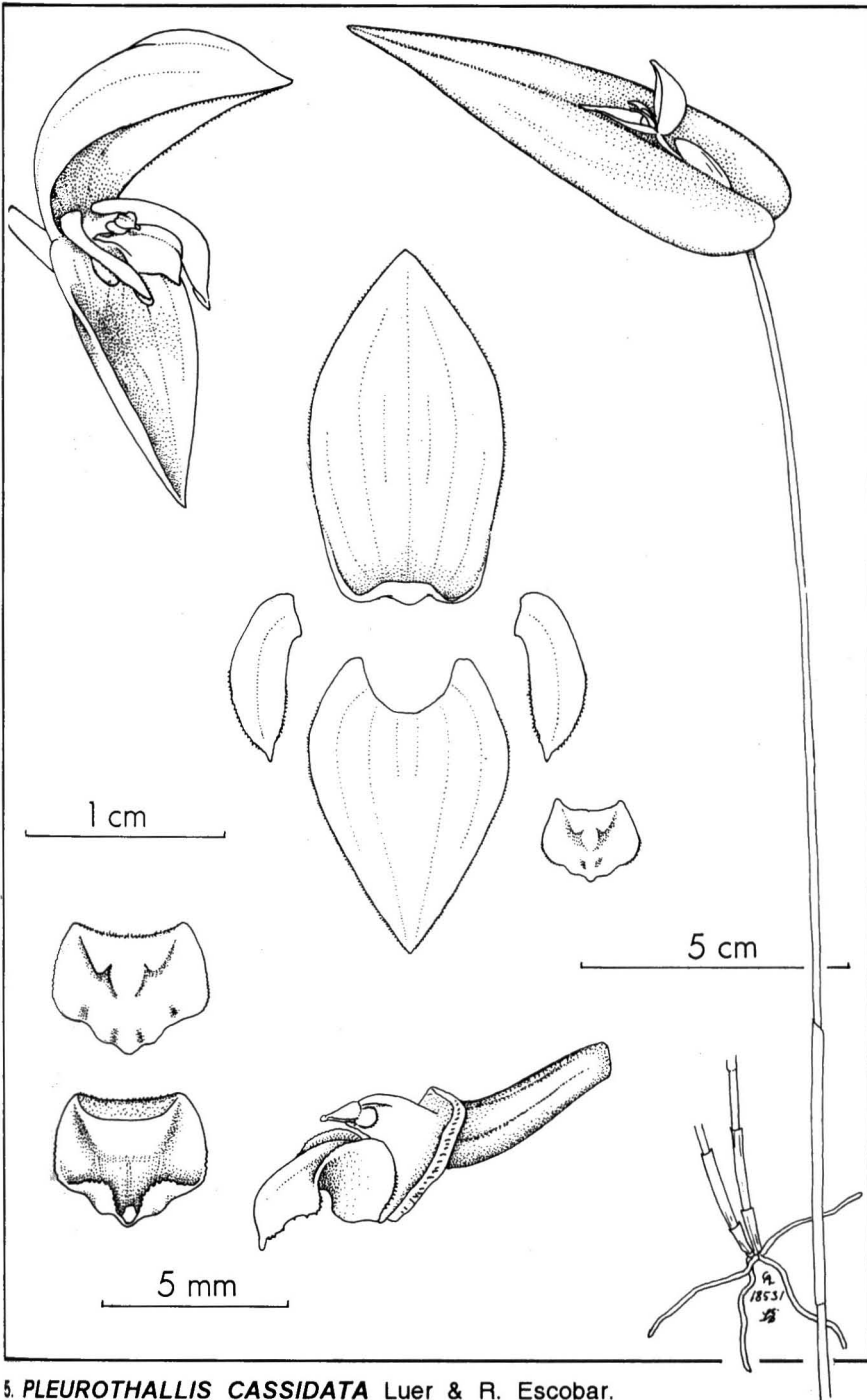
Inter species sectionis *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* folio anguste ovato acuminato, flore grandi, sepalò dorsali profunde cucullato, petalis latis obtusis minute denticulatis, et labello brevi latissimo marginibus infra apicem decurvis distinguitur.

COLOMBIA: Without collection data: flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas 26 Mar. 1997, R. Escobar 8289 (Holotype: JAUM, Isotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 18531.

ETIMOLOGÍA: Del latín *cassidatus* (con casco), en alusión al sépalò dorsal profundamente cóncavo.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *cassidatus*, "helmeted," referring to the deeply concave dorsal sepal.

Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 25-35 cm long, with a close, tubular sheath on the lower third and 2-3 other sheaths at the base. **Leaf** suberect to spreading, coriaceous, narrowly ovate, acute, 8.5-10 cm long, 2.5-3 cm wide, the base sessile, cordate, with the basal lobes ca. 1 cm deep. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of successive, single flowers, subtended by a spathe 1.5-2 cm long; peduncles less than 5 mm long, concealed within the sheath; floral bracts thin, tubular, 5 mm long; pedicels ca. 5 mm long; ovary 5 mm long; **sepals** microscopically ciliate, the dorsal sepal dull dark yellow,



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red along the veins, broadly elliptical-ovate, obtuse, deeply concave, 16 mm long, 9 mm wide unexpanded, 7-veined, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate, subacute lamina, 13 mm long, 9 mm wide, 4-veined; **petals** red, decurved, subfalcate-oblong, subacute, minutely denticulate, 7.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** erect, thick, transversely subovate, 4 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, smooth, the margins minutely fringed, the broadly rounded and erect below the middle, the sides revolute above the middle, the apex obtuse, concave beneath with a small callus beneath the tip, the disc smooth, the base densely short-pubescent and shallowly broadly concave on the end to accommodate the bulbous column-foot; **column** stout, 2 mm long, 2 mm wide, the foot thick, bulbous, pubescent, the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

La especie viene a engrosar las filas de los taxones íntimamente emparentados con *P. grandiflora*. Se caracteriza por la hoja ovadolanceolada, acuminada, la flor grande, con el sépalo dorsal profundamente cuculado, los pétalos anchos, diminutamente denticulados, y el labelo corto, ancho, grueso, con los bordes decurvados debajo del ápice.

This species joins the ranks of taxa closely related to *P. grandiflora*. It is characterized by a narrowly ovate, acuminate leaf; a large flower with a deeply cucullate dorsal sepal; broad, minutely denticulate petals; and a short, broad, thick lip with decurved margins below the apex.