

6. **PLEUROTHALLIS CONSTRICTA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

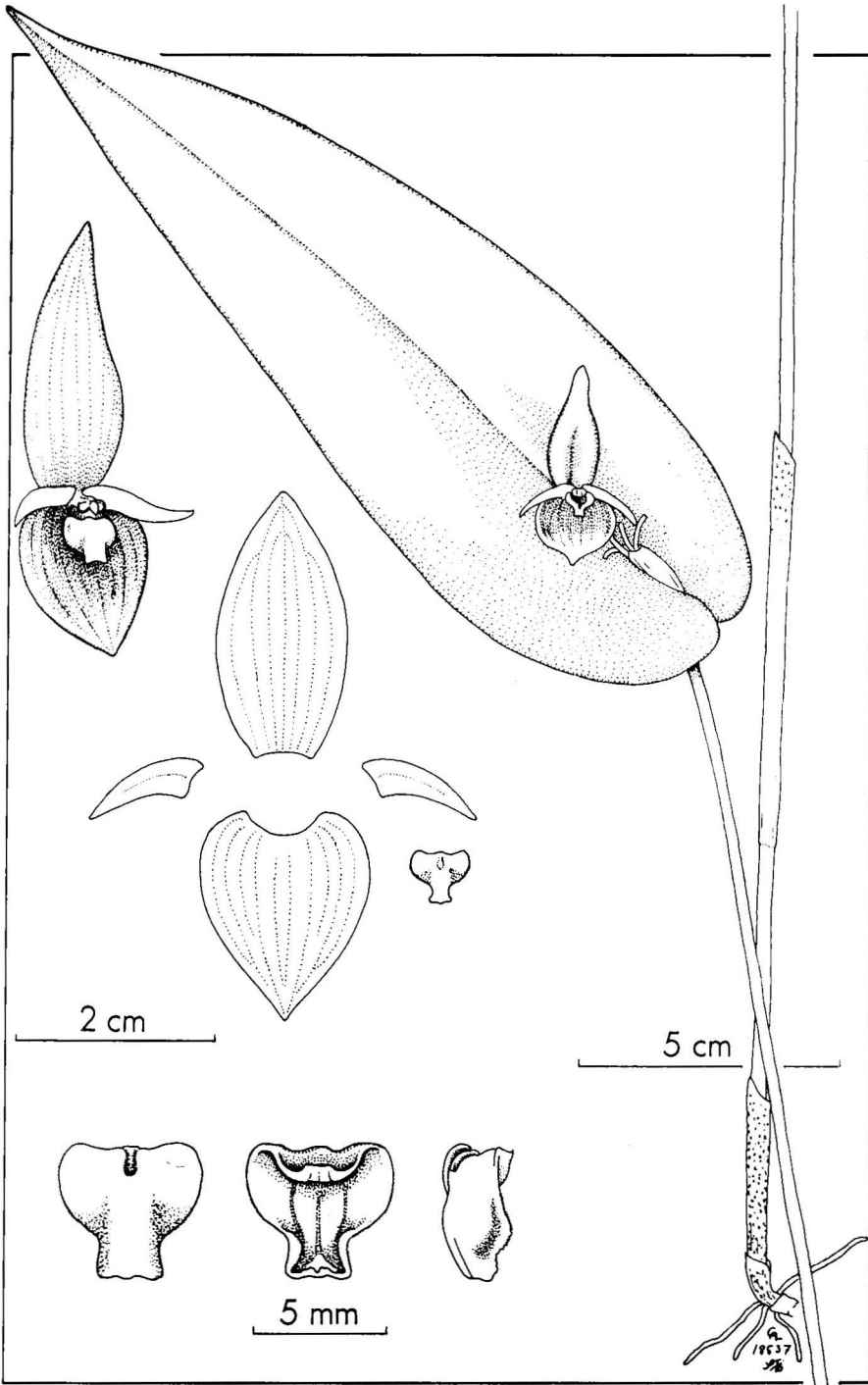
Inter species sectionis *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* folio grandi oblongo acuto, flore grandi, sepalo dorsali ovatis acutis multinervis, petalis laevis acutis, labello parvo late ovato supra medium constricto apice truncato distinguitur.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Santander: Virolín, El Taladro, alt. 2000 m, collected by E. Valencia, May 1992, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, Feb. 1993, R. Escobar 5297 (Holotype: JAUM, Isotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 18537.

ETIMOLOGÍA: Del latín *constrictus* (constricto), en alusión al labelo.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *constrictus*, "constricted," referring to the labellum.

Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots coarse. Ramicauls stout, erect, 35-40 cm long, with a tubular sheath below the middle and 2 other sheaths at the base. **Leaf** suberect to spreading, coriaceous, oblong-



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ovate, acute, attenuate, 18-19 cm long, 5-5.5 cm wide, the base sessile, deeply cordate. **Inflorescence** a successive, single flower, borne from a reclining spathe 2-2.5 cm long at the base of the leaf; peduncles ca. 5 mm long within the spathe; floral bracts thin, tubular, ca. 15 mm long; pedicels 25 mm long; ovary 6-7 mm long; **sepals** microscopically cellular-ciliate, the dorsal sepal yellow, suffused with red at the base, elliptical-ovate, subacute, 25 mm long, 13 mm wide, 7-veined, the lateral sepals red, connate into an ovate, concave, subacute synsepal, 20 mm long, 16 mm wide, 10-veined; **petals** red, narrowly triangular, acute, oblique, glabrous, entire, 12 mm long, 2.5 mm wide at the base; **lip** dark red, broadly ovate, 5 mm long, 5.5 mm wide, constricted above the middle with decurved margins, the apex truncate with the tip decurved with a tubercle beneath, the disc convex with a small glenion at the base, the base broadly truncate, concave on the end, hinged to the column-foot; **column** stout, 2 mm long, 2.75 mm broad, the foot thick, 1 mm long, with the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

La especie parece ser endémica de la Cordillera Oriental de Colombia. Se distingue más fácilmente por su hábito grande, de hojas largamente cordatas, agudas, con una flor grande. El sépalo dorsal mide 25 mm de largo y tiene siete nervios; los pétalos son subfalcados y lisos, parecidos a los de *P. canidentis*. El rasgo más distintivo es el labelo: comparativamente pequeño, anchamente ovado, constricto arriba del centro, con los bordes decurvados y el ápice truncado.

This species, apparently endemic in the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia, is most easily distinguished by the large habit with acute, long-cordate leaves and a large flower. The dorsal sepal is 25 millimeters long with seven veins, and the petals are subfalcate and smooth similar to those of *P. canidentis*. The most distinctive lip is comparatively small, broadly ovate, constricted above the middle with decurved margins, and a truncate apex.