



PLEUROTHALLIS DEPRESSA
Luer & R. Escobar

9. **PLEUROTHALLIS DEPRESSA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Inter species sectionis *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* species haec flore plano ad folium cordatum patentem depresso distinguitur.

TYPE: Colombia: Dept. of Chocó: Carmen de Atrato, alt. ca. 1800 m, collected by E. Valencia, May 1983, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 23 May 1995, *C. Luer 17569* (Holotype: MO).

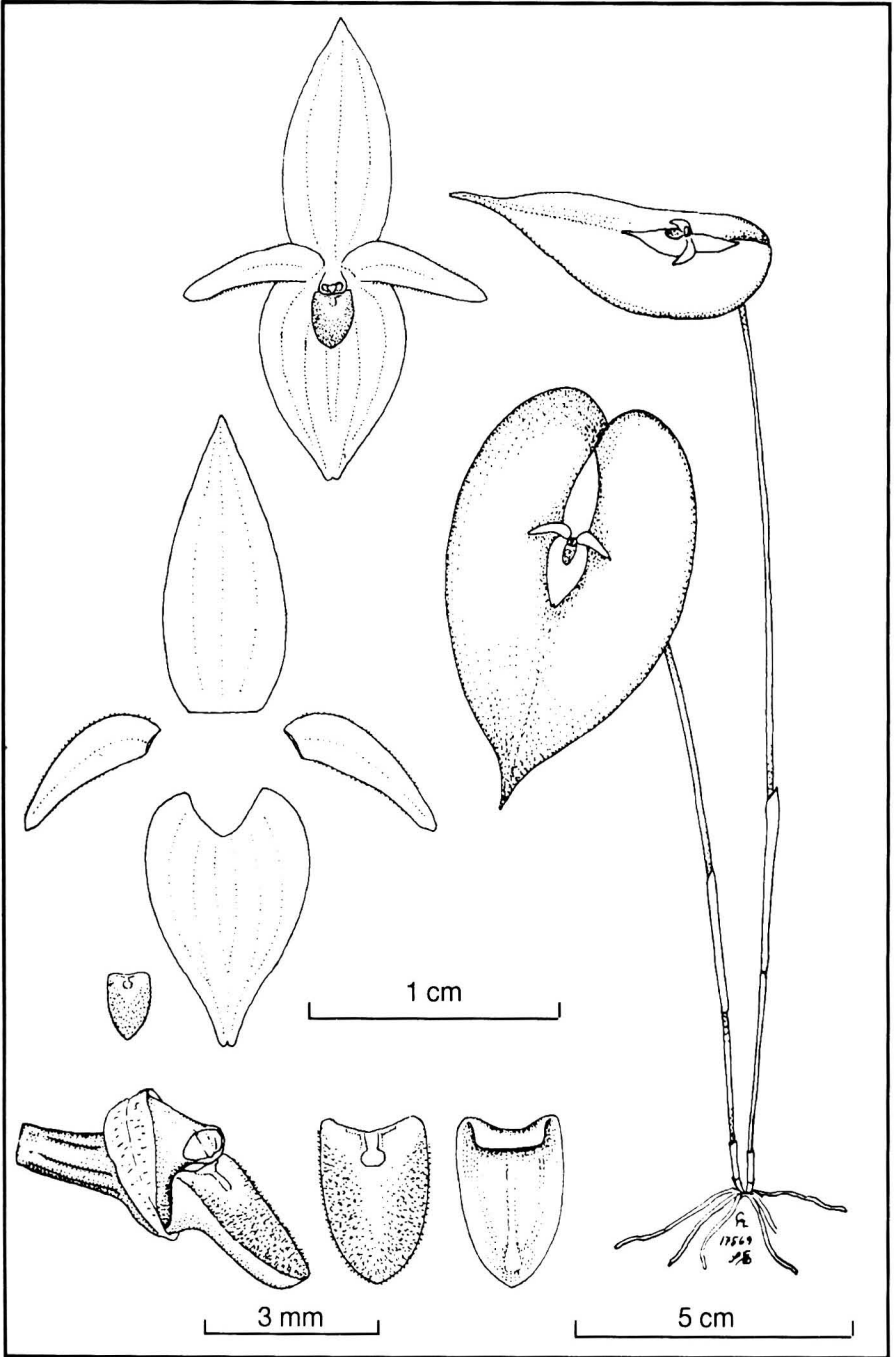
ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *depressus*, "comprimido, plano" en referencia a la posición de la flor sobre la hoja.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *depressus*, "pressed down, flat," referring to the position of the flower upon the leaf.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots, slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 8-14 cm long, with a slender, tubular sheath below the middle and 2-3 others at the base. **Leaf** spreading, coriaceous, broadly cordate, obtuse, shortly acuminate, 6-7.5 cm long including the basal lobes 1-1.5 cm deep, 3.5-4.5 cm wide, base sessile. **Inflorescence** a single flower produced successively from a reclining spathe 7-8 mm long at the base of the leaf, with the flower widely spread, appressed against the surface of the leaf; floral bract thin, 5 mm long; pedicel 5 mm long; ovary 2 mm long; **sepals** translucent pale yellow, glabrous, the dorsal sepal flat, ovate, acute, 13 mm long, 5.5 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into a flat, ovate, acute synsepal, 11 mm long, 7.5 mm wide, 6-veined; **petals** yellow, narrowly ovate-subfalcate, acute, 7.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** yellow, ovate, obtuse, thick, 3 mm long, 2 mm wide, the disc densely short-pubescent, with a small glenion, the base shortly deflexed, connected to the obsolescent column-foot; **column** stout, semiterete, 1.5 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, the foot thick, obsolescent, the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

Vegetativamente esta especie es semejante a muchas de la sección *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* con hojas patentes, ampliamente cordiformes, cortamente acuminadas. Más característica es la flor solitaria, plana, que se presenta aplastada contra la superficie de la hoja. Los sépalos son translúcidos, de color amarillo pálido, y el ovado labelo, proporcionalmente pequeño, es densamente corto-pubescente.

Vegetatively this species is similar to many of the species of section *Macrophyllae-Fasciculata* with spreading, broadly cordate, shortly acuminate leaves. Most distinctive is the solitary, flat flower that is borne flat against the surface of the leaf. The sepals are translucent pale yellow, and the proportionately small, ovate lip is densely short-pubescent.



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