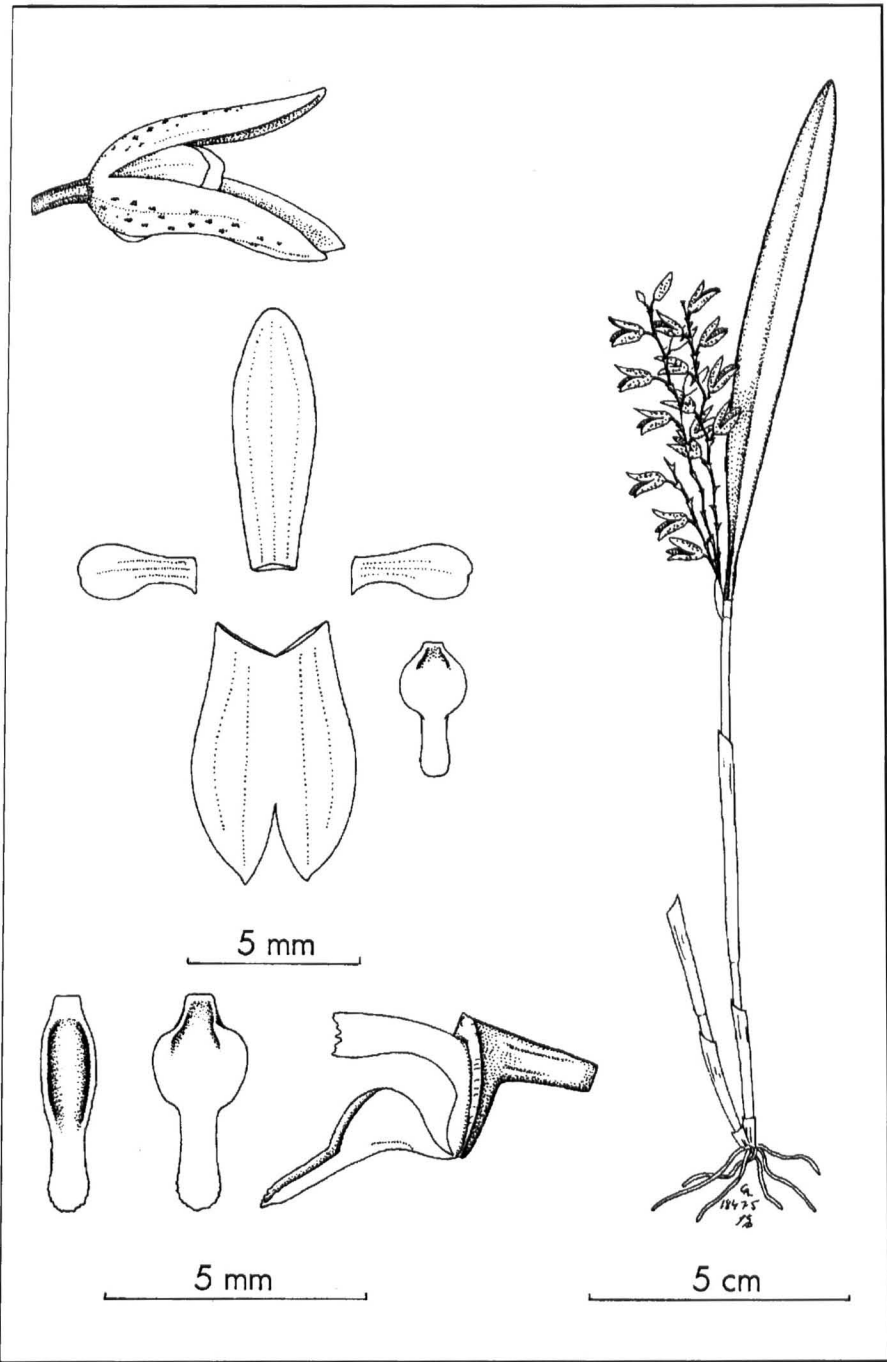


4. ***PLEUROTHALLIS ESPINALII*** Luer, sp nov.

Species haec *P. acuminatae* (H.B.K.) Lindl. affinis, sed foliis crassis angustioribus, sepalis obtusis lateralibus semiconnatis, petalis spathulatis, labello trilobato, lobis infra medium late rotundis et disco plano differt.



4. *PLEUROTHALLIS ESPINALII* Luer.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Cauca: Piendamó, alt. 2200 m, 14 Oct. 1968, *Sigifredo Espinal T. & J. E. Ramos 3041* (Holotype: CUVC), C. Luer illustr. 18475.

ETIMOLOGÍA: Dedicada a Sigifredo Espinal Tascón, fundador del herbario CUVC y co-recolector de la especie.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Sigifredo Espinal Tascón, founder of the herbarium CUVC, co-collector of this species.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 5-12 cm long, with a long, tubular sheath near the middle and at 2-3 others at the base. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, obtuse to subacute, 10-18 cm long, 1-1.2 cm wide, narrowly cuneate below into an indistinct petiole ca. 1 cm long. **Inflorescence** a loose, subsecund, simultaneously several-flowered raceme, 4-8 cm long, flowering nearly to the base, subtended by a narrow spathe ca. 1 cm long from an annulus 2 mm below the abscission layer; floral bracts tubular, 3-4 mm long; pedicels 2-3 mm long; ovary 2 mm long; **sepals** yellow with purple spots, glabrous, the dorsal sepal oblong-obovate, obtuse, 8 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate 4.5 mm into a bifid, oblong synsepal, 8 mm long, 5 mm wide, each 3-veined, the apices subacute, free 2.5 mm; **petals** translucent, spatulate, rounded at the apex, 4.75 mm long, 2.25 mm wide, incompletely 3-veined; **lip** oblong-trilobed, 4 mm long, 2 mm wide across the lobes expanded, oblong above the middle with the apex rounded, with minutely irregular margins, the sides erect and broadly rounded below the middle, the disc featureless, the base truncate, hinged to the column-foot; **column** stout, 2.5 mm long, denticulate at the apex, the foot thick, 1 mm long, the anther, rostellum and stigma ventral.

Afin a *P. acuminata* y a las especies emparentadas con ésta, *P. espinalii* se distingue por las hojas gruesas, lanceoladas, ligeramente más largas que los ramicaules. Produce varios racimos de flores simultáneas, más cortos que las hojas. Los sépalos son obtusos, manchados de morado, los laterales connatos arriba del centro, lo cual es excepcional en la sección. Los pétalos se presentan espatulados; el labelo trilobulado, con los lóbulos laterales erectos, anchamente redondeados debajo del centro, y el disco sin adorno.

This species, allied to *P. acuminata* and its relatives, is characterized by thick, narrowly elliptical leaves slightly longer than the ramicauls. A few racemes of simultaneous flowers are shorter than the leaves. The sepals are purple-spotted and obtuse with the laterals connate above

the middle, an exception in the section; the petals are spatulate; and the lip is three-lobed with erect, broadly rounded lateral lobes below the middle. The disc is featureless.