

**Pleurothallis imago** Luer, sp. nov.

Figure 36.

Habitu et floribus *P. excavatae* Schltr. et *P. concaviflorae* C. Schweinf. similis, sed foliis latioribus et floribus flavidis brunneo punctatis amplitudine intermediis differt.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems suberect to horizontal, slender, terete, 2.5-7 cm long, with 1-2 basal, tubular sheaths, monophyllous. Leaf thick, coriaceous, shiny, broadly elliptical, obtuse, tridentate, the base rounded, sessile, 2.5-4 cm long, 1.5-2.5 cm wide. Inflorescence a solitary flower borne in succession from a slender spathe about 1 cm long at the base of the leaf; flower yellowish, flecked with purple or brown, nonresupinate; floral bract tubular, 4-5 mm long; pedicel 5-7 mm long; ovary 4 mm long; middle sepal fleshy, scabrous internally, broadly elliptical, subacute, 4.5-6 mm long, 3.25-4 mm wide, 3-nerved, lightly carinate; lateral sepals united into a deeply concave synsepal, broadly ovate, obtuse, 4.5-5 mm long, 5-6 mm expanded; petals fleshy, subcarinate, oblong, the apex abruptly acute and incurved, 2 mm long, 0.75 mm wide; lip ovate, deeply concave, 3-3.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, the apex abruptly acuminate, the base broadly affixed to the column-base, with slender basal auricles surrounding the column, disc with a converging pair of smooth lamellae behind the concavity; column stout, 1 mm long, with an indistinct foot.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *imago*, "likeness, a copy," in allusion to the similarity of the species to *P. excavata* Schltr. and *P. concaviflora* C. Schweinf.

TYPE: PANAMA: PANAMA: epiphytic along the Altos de Pacora road, alt. 650 m, 4 March 1976, C. Luer, J. Luer, R. L. Dressler & P. Taylor 732 (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Panama.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED: PANAMA: PANAMA: epiphytic on Cerro Jefe, alt. 1000 m, 17 Dec. 1974, R. L. Dressler 4888 (SEL); same area, F. L. Stevenson 1-476-5 (SEL); COCLE: cloud forest above El Valle, 15 Aug. 1971, H. Wiehler 71297a (SEL).

*Pleurothallis imago* is one of three very closely allied species. I erroneously lumped the three together in SELBYANA 1:200, 1975. The first of them to be described was *P. excavata* Schltr. from near San Ramon, Costa Rica. It is characterized by narrow leaves (5-6.7 cm long, 1.1-1.3 cm wide) and relatively large, deep purple flowers (dorsal sepal nearly 8 mm long, lip 4 mm long). It is not yet known to occur outside Costa Rica.

Schweinfurth described *P. concaviflora* also from near San Ramon, Costa Rica. It is distinguished by longer stems, shorter leaves (to 3.5 cm long), and smaller flowers (dorsal sepal 4 mm long, lip 2.5 mm long). It occurs also in western Panama.

*Pleurothallis imago* from eastern Panama, mistakenly identified as *P. excavata* in SELBYANA 1:200, may be identified by the wider leaves and intermediate-sized, yellowish flowers dotted with purple-brown. The caption for SELBYANA 1:201 should read: Figure 36. PLEUROTHALLIS IMAGO Luer.