

Pleurothallis graciliscapa *C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.*

Herba epiphytica, caespitosa, pro sectione pusilla. Rhizoma repens ut videtur. Caules pergraciles, suberecti vel paulo flexuosi, apice unifoliati. Folium late patens, ovatum vel oblongo-ovatum, basi valde cordatum, saepissime acuminatum. Inflorescentiae abbreviatae, fasciculatae, uniflorae. Flores perparvi, bilabiati. Sepalum dorsale elliptico-ovatum vel oblongo-ovatum, concavum, trinervium. Sepala lateralina in laminam late ovatam profunde concavam connata. Petala linearia, leviter falcato-decurva, margine leviter erosa. Labellum oblongo-ovatum, valde carnosum, apice minute acutum vel apiculatum, basi cordatum, trinervium. Columna abbreviata.

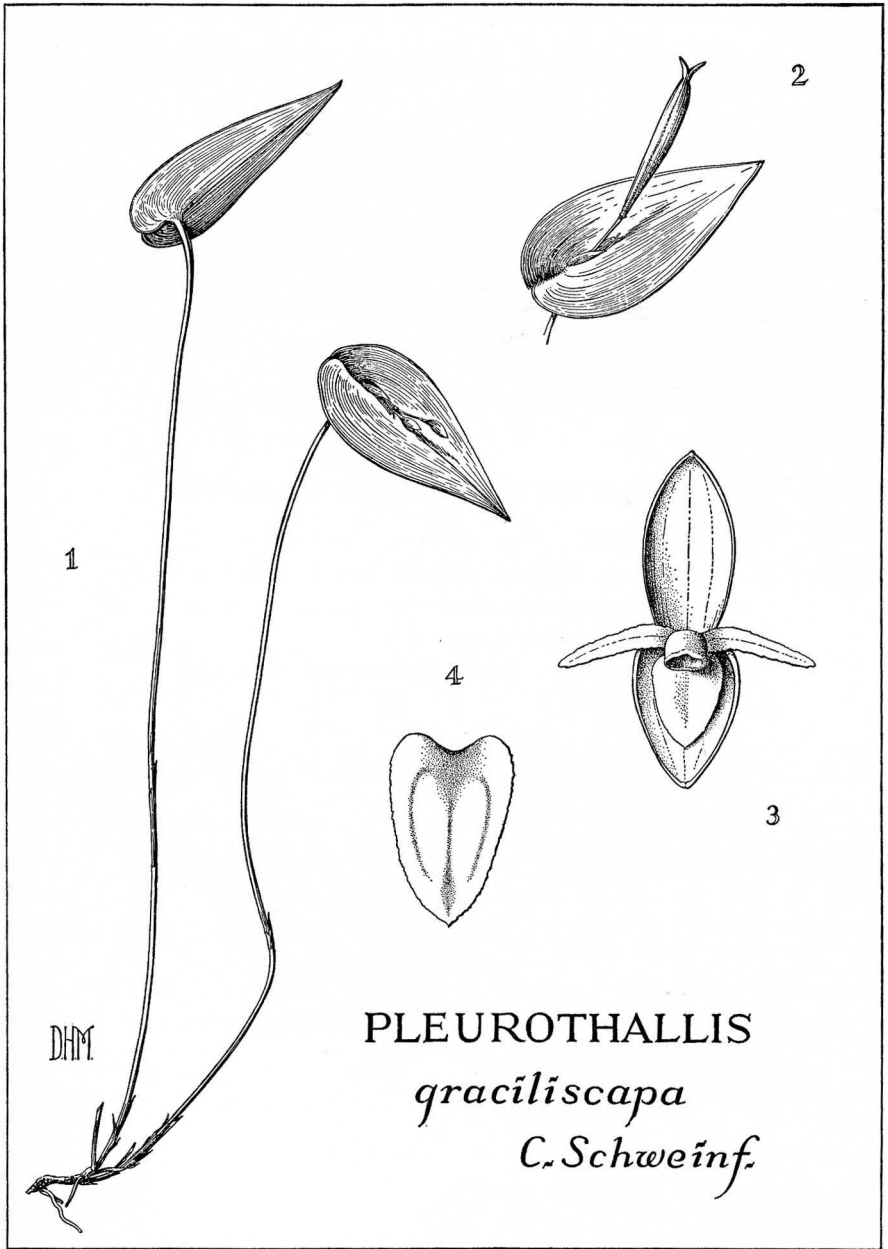
Plant epiphytic, caespitose, up to 15.5 cm. high. Rhizome apparently creeping (only a fragment remains). Roots fibrous, filiform, glabrous. Stems very slender, about 4–13.2 cm. long, erect to irregularly flexuous, furnished at the base with one or two long close, tubular, evanescent sheaths and with a similar longer one below the middle. Leaf solitary, sessile, commonly horizontally spreading, ovate or oblong-ovate, deeply cordate at base (when mature), acute or acuminate with a minutely tri-denticulate apex, 2.8–4 cm. long from the apex to the tip of the basal auricles, 1.1–1.7 cm. wide, chartaceous in the dried specimen. Inflorescences abbreviated, 1-flowered, about five or less. Flowers very small, bilabi-

ate, pale yellow. Sepals ringent, glabrous. Dorsal sepal elliptic-ovate or oblong-ovate, concave, obtuse or subacute, 3-nerved, 4–4.2 mm. long, 2–2.2 mm. wide. Lateral sepals entirely connate into a broadly ovate or round-ovate lamina which is deeply concave, 4-nerved, 3–3.9 mm. long and about 2.3 mm. or less wide when expanded. Petals linear, widespreading, lightly falcate-decurved, obtuse or subacute, 1-nerved, with irregular or minutely erose margins, about 2.6 mm. long and 0.5 mm. wide at the base. Lip oblong-ovate, very fleshy, minutely acute or apiculate, cordate at base, minutely erose, 3-nerved with the termination of the mid-nerve dilated and prominent beneath, about 2.1–2.6 mm. long from a basal auricle to the apex and 1.4–1.6 mm. wide at the base. Column stout, abbreviated, characteristic of the genus.

This little species is allied to *Pleurothallis juninensis* Schltr., but is much smaller throughout and lacks the prominently narrowed sepals of that concept. It suggests *P. magnipetala* C. Schweinf. (see below), but has horizontally spreading leaves and relatively smaller and minutely erose petals.

HUÁNUCO: Tingo María, epiphyte at 670 meters altitude, October 29, 1948, *J. B. Carpenter 103* (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 65447).

SAN MARTÍN: on cliffs on top of slope east of Tingo María, at 625–1100 meters altitude, October 30, 1949–February 19, 1950, *H. A. Allard 20820*.



PLEUROTHALLIS
graciliscapa
C. Schweinf.