

**Pleurothallis knappii** Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named for S. Knapp who collected this species.

Species haec *P. tryssae* Luer affinis, sed habitu multimagiore, floribus niveis, et labello trilobato non ad medium deflexo differt.

**Plant** medium in size to large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots very slender. Ramicauls slender, erect to suberect, 10-22 cm long, with a thin, tubular sheath below the middle and 2 others at the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, acuminate, 8-11 cm long, 2.5-3.5 cm wide, the base cuneate, sessile. **Inflorescence** 1-3 erect, delicate, distichous, loosely and simultaneously several- to many-flowered racemes 8-12 cm long including the peduncle ca. 3 cm long, borne from a spathe 1-1.5 cm long, at the base of the leaf; floral bracts infundibular, 1.5 mm long; pedicels 1.25 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** translucent white, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, attenuate, concave in the lower third, 6 mm long, 2 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals completely connate into a concave, narrowly ovate, obtuse synsepal, 6 mm long, 2.25 mm wide; **petals** white, entire, narrowly ovate, subulate, acute, attenuate, 5.5 mm long, 0.9 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** white, trilobed, 2 mm long, 1 mm wide, 1.5 mm wide across the lateral lobes expanded, the middle lobe ovate, sharply acute, the lateral lobes on the basal third, erect, oblique, antrorse, obtuse, the disc with a pair of low, rounded calli near the middle, the base truncate, hinged to the base of the column; **column** stout, semiterete, 1.5 mm long, the anther and stigma apical, the base of the column thick.

PANAMA: **Veraguas**: Cerro Tute, Altos de Piedras, west of Santa Fe, alt. 1250-1410 m, 15 Dec. 1981, S. Knapp & K. Sytsma 2653 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 19313. **Chiriqui**: above San Felix mining road, turn-off to Escopeta, alt. 1200-1500 m, 12 Mar. 1976, T.B. Croat 33121 (MO, in fruit).

This species of *Pleurothallis* subsection *Acroniae* is apparently endemic in western Panama. It is most closely related to the Ecuadorian *P. tryssa* Luer, but it differs from the latter by a much larger habit, but with small, translucent white, delicate flowers about the same size. The leaves are erect, acuminate, and cuneate at the sessile base. One to three, usually many-flowered racemes surpass the leaf. The dorsal sepal and synsepal are narrowly obtuse while the petals are long and subulate. The lip is three-lobed with the midlobe sharply acute, and the lateral lobes obliquely erect below the middle.