

Pleurothallis londonoi Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named in honor of R. Londoño, co-collector of this species.

Inter species subgeneris *Ancipitia* habitu grande, sepalis mediocribus carnosis, petalis crassis acutis, labello ovato crasso apice argute compresso.

Plant medium in size to large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls stout, erect, compressed above the middle, 10-20 cm long, 3-4 mm deep at the leaf, with a tubular sheath below the middle and 2-3 sheaths at the base. **Leaf** rigid, thickly coriaceous, suberect to spreading, narrowly ovate, acute, 6-10 cm long, 2-3 cm wide, the base sessile, rounded to subcordate. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of single, successive flowers borne from a reclining spathe 5-6 mm long, at the base of the leaf; peduncle slender, suberect, 5 mm long; floral bract tubular, 6 mm long; pedicel 10 mm long; ovary 5 mm long; **sepals** yellow with purple spots, fleshy, glabrous, concave, the dorsal sepal narrowly ovate-triangular, acute, 8 mm long, 3 mm wide, the lateral sepals completely connate into a synsepal similar to the dorsal sepal, 7.5 mm long, 4 mm wide; **petals** thick, narrowly ovate, acute, microscopically erose, 7 mm long, 2.3 mm wide; **lip** thick, ovate, acute, 4.5 mm long, 1.4 mm wide, shallowly channeled centrally, the apex laterally compressed with the margin sharp, oblique, the base subtruncate, concave on the end, hinged below to the base of the thick column; **column** thick, semiterete, 3 mm long, the anther and stigma subapical, the base of the column thickened.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Antioquia: Urao, Páramo de Frontino, El Río en Bosque, alt. 3150 m, 7 Jan. 1984, R. Londoño, B. Garcia & G. Galeanas 83 (Holotype: HUA); C. Luer illustr. 17993.

This species is known only from the original collection made in 1984 by R. Londoño and companions in a high páramo in the Western Cordillera of Colombia. Vegetatively it is large for the subgenus *Ancipitia*, but the fleshy, purple-spotted, bilabiate flowers are average in size. The concave dorsal sepal and synsepal are similar; the thick, ovate petals are nearly as large; and the lip is thick and ovate, laterally compressed at the apex with an oblique margin like the prow of a ship.

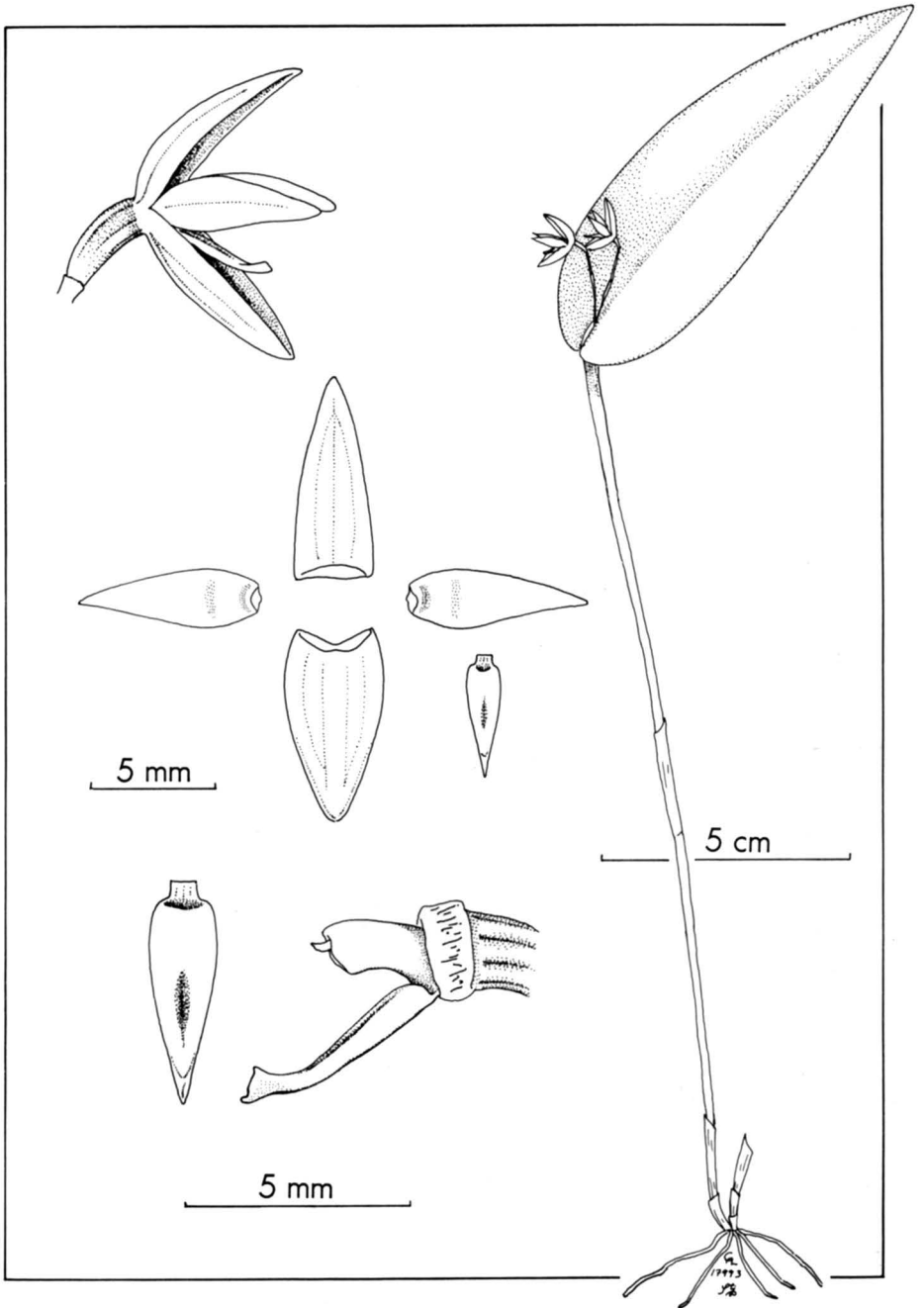


Plate 24. *Pleurothallis londonii* Luer