



PLEUROTHALLIS MANICOSA

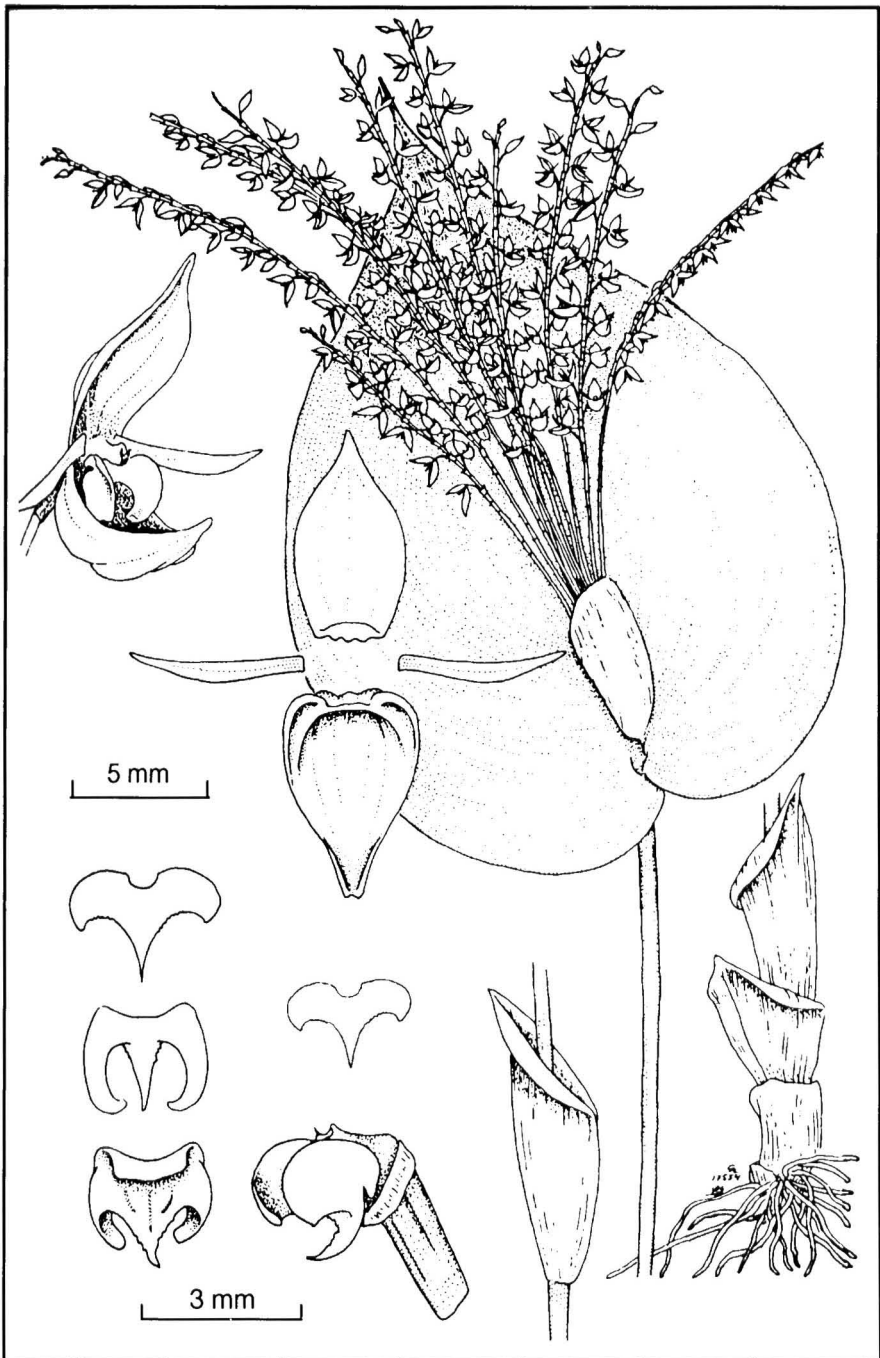
Luer & R. Escobar.

15. **PLEUROTHALLIS MANICOSA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Species haec *P. hippocrepicae* Luer & Escobar affinis, sed ramicaulium vaginis magnopere dilatatis, labelli lobis lateralibus late falcato et lobo mediano majore acuminato distinguitur.

TYPE: Colombia: Dept. of Valle del Cauca: Balcanes, alt. ca. 1800 m, collected by E. Valencia, July 1989, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 23 May 1995, C. Luer 17554 (Holotype: JAUM; Isotype: MO).

ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *manicosus*, "lleno de mangas", en referencia a las dilatadas vainas de los ramicaules.



PLEUROTHALLIS MANICOSA Luer & R. Escobar

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *manicosus*, "full of sleeves," referring to the dilated sheaths of the ramicaul.

Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots numerous, slender. Ramicauls stout, erect, 25-50 cm long, with a broad, dilated, tubular sheath near the middle and 2-3 other, broad, dilated, overlapping sheaths at the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, broadly cordate, obtuse, acuminate, 15-19 cm long including the basal lobes ca. 2 cm deep, 11-13 cm wide, base sessile. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of several (to 12), erect, simultaneous, simultaneously many-flowered racemes, 15-20 cm long including the peduncle 4-5 cm long, produced from a broad, foliaceous spathe 3-3.5 cm long at the base of the leaf; floral bracts slender, 6-7 mm long; pedicels 8-9 mm long; ovary 3 mm long; **sepals** red-purple, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, concave, acute, 7 mm long, 3 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals completely connate into a deeply concave, cymbiform, acute synsepal, 6.5 mm long, 4 mm wide unexpanded, 6-veined; **petals** red-purple, glabrous, narrowly linear, acute, 5 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, 3-veined at the base; **lip** red-purple, trilobed, 1-1.5 mm long, 5 mm wide expanded across the lobes, with the apical lobe triangular, acute, acuminate, the lateral lobes broadly falcate, incurved, encircling the column, the disc featureless, the base shortly acutely deflexed, connected to the obsolescent column-foot; **column** stout, terete, 1 mm long, the foot thick, obsolescent, the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

Aunque vegetativamente esta especie es evocadora del subgénero *Crocodelianthe* por las vainas ampliamente dilatadas y las espatas foliares grandes, las flores son típicas de aquellas de la sección *Pleurothallis*. La inflorescencia es muy similar a la de *P. aves-seriales* Luer & Escobar y *P. hippocrepica*, con varios racimos simultáneos de muchas flores producidas en fascículo. El sinsépalo es cóncavo y soporta un labelo trilobulado. El lóbulo medio es acuminado, y los laterales ampliamente falcados.

Although vegetatively this species is reminiscent of subgenus *Crocodelianthe* because of the greatly dilated sheathes and large, foliaceous spathe, the flowers of this species are typical of those of section *Pleurothallis*. The inflorescence is very similar to that of *P. aves-seriales* Luer & Escobar and *P. hippocrepica* with several simultaneous racemes of many flowers produced in a fascicle. The synsepal is concave within which the three-lobed lip is held. The middle lobe is acuminate, and the lateral lobes are broadly falcate.