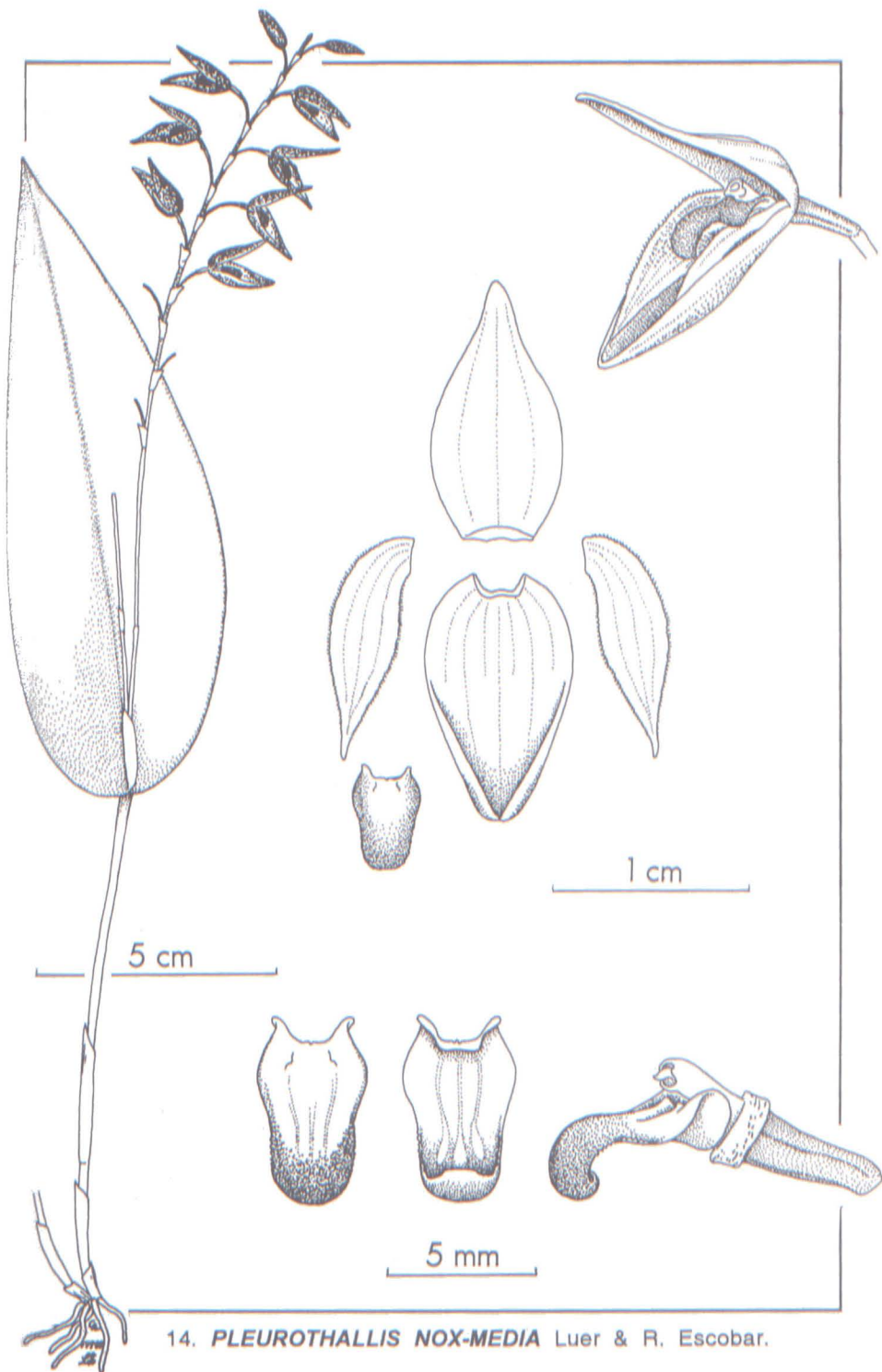


14. **PLEUROTHALLIS NOX-MEDIA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Species haec *Pleurothallis rowleei* Ames affinis, sed habitu crassiore, floribus majoribus et labello oblongo convexo apice recurvato distinguitur.



14. *PLEUROTHALLIS NOX-MEDIA* Luer & R. Escobar.

TYPE: COLOMBIA: Antioquia: Carmen de Viboral, alt. 2000 m, collected by Edwin Granada, flowered in cult. by Francisco Villegas at Orquifollajes, near Guarne, 9 July 1996, C. Luer 17987 (Holotype: MO).

ETIMOLOGÍA: Del latín *nox-media* (medianoche), por el color oscuro de las flores.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *nox-media*, "midnight", in allusion to the dark color of the flowers.

Plant medium in size to large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls stout, erect, 10-12 cm long, with a close, tubular sheath below the middle and 2-3 others at the base. Leaf erect, coriaceous, ovate, acute, 12-14 cm long, 5-5.5 cm wide, the base sessile, rounded or subcordate. Inflorescence an erect, to arching, lax, distichous, simultaneously few-to several-flowered raceme, 12-16 cm long including the peduncle 6-9 cm long, borne from a slender spathe 1.7 cm long, at the base of the leaf; floral bracts infundibular, 6 mm long below, 3 mm long above; pedicels 6-8 mm long; ovary 4-5 mm long; sepals deep purple, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, concave, 15 mm long, 8 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate, obtuse synsepal, 14.5 mm long, 9 mm wide, 6-veined, with the margins above the middle incurved; petals deep purple, oblong-sigmoid, oblique, acute, minutely lacerate, 13 mm long, 4 mm wide, held within the margins of the synsepal; lip deep purple, oblong, convex, 6 mm long, 4 mm wide, the apex broadly rounded and recurved, the margins above the middle minutely lacerate, with erect, rounded, basal angles, the disc with a pair of small, conical calli above the base, hinged to the base of the column; column purple, semiterete, 3 mm long, the anther and bilobed stigma apical, the foot rudimentary.

Esta pariente grande de la ampliamente distribuida *P. rowleei* parece ser rara en el Departamento de Antioquia, lugar de su procedencia y de su primera y única recolección. *Pleurothallis nox-media* se caracteriza por ramicales robustos; hojas cordato-ovadas, grandes, sésiles; y un racimo más largo de flores relativamente grandes, de color morado-negrusco. Los pétalos, fimbriados, permanecen dentro de las márgenes incurvadas del sinsépalo. El labelo es oblongo-convexo, con el ápice redondeado, recurvado.