

Pleurothallis odobeniceps Luer, sp. nov.

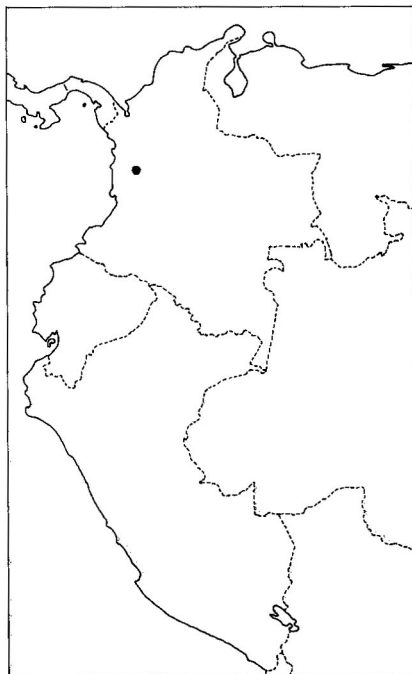
Ety.: From the Latin *odobeniceps*, "walrus-headed," referring to the shape of the lip.

Species haec *P. anthraci* Luer & Escobar similis, sed labello minute papilloso oblongo subtruncato leviter retuso cum lobis basalibus long-uncinatis differt.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender, densely fasciculate. **Rami-**cauls erect, slender, sharply ancipitous, 6-11 cm long, up to 1.5 mm deep at the leaf, with a tubular bract above the base and 2-3 sheaths at the base. **Leaf** coriaceous, suberect to spreading, ovate, acute, 3.5-5.5 cm long, 1.3-2.3 cm wide, the base rounded, shallowly cordate, sessile. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of solitary, successive flowers borne from a reclining spathe 3-4 mm long at the base of the leaf; peduncles 10-12 mm long; floral bract 6 mm long; pedicel 15 mm long; ovary 4 mm long; **sepals** fleshy, light purple, mottled with dark purple, glabrous, the dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, acute, lightly acuminate above the middle, concave below the middle, 9 mm long, 3 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into a narrowly ovate, narrowly subtruncate-retuse, concave synsepal, 9 mm long, 3 mm wide, 4-veined; **petals** semiterete, light purple, cellular-glandular, linear-subulate, acute, 8.5 mm long, 0.75 mm wide; **lip** dark purple, densely short-pubescent above the middle, fleshy, oblong, 2.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, the apex subtruncate, lightly retuse, the base with a pair of membranous, narrowly uncinata, forwardly curved lobes, 1.5 mm long, the base subtruncate, concave to accommodate the bulbous apex of the column-foot; **column** suffused with purple, semiterete, longitudinally winged, 1 mm long, the anther subapical, the stigma ventral, the foot short with a small, free, bulbous apex.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Chocó: epiphytic in wet forest between Salgar and El Dauro, alt. 2280 m, 29 Sept. 1987, *J. L. Zarucchi, A. E. Brant & J. Betancur 5950* (Holotype: MO), *C. Luer* illustr. 14371.

Vegetatively this species is very similar to most of the other species of the subgenus, particularly similar to *P. anthrax*, but the lips of the two species are different. The lip of *P. odobeniceps* is thick, minutely pubescent, and oblong with a broad, obscurely bilobed apex. From the base a pair of long, slender, membranous lobes curve forward like the tusks of a microscopic walrus.



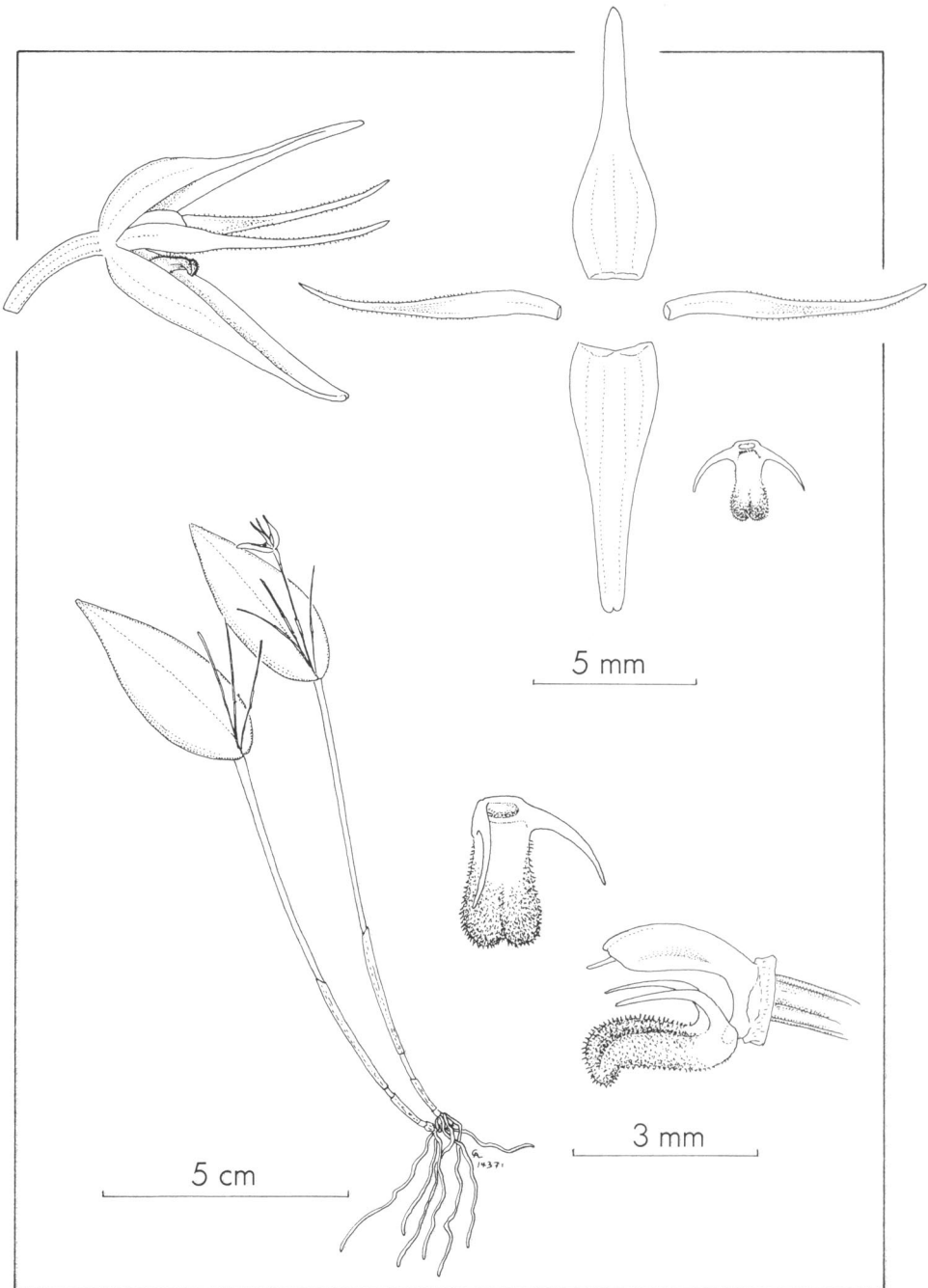


Plate 17. *Pleurothallis odobeniceps* Lucr