



***PLEUROTHALLIS PLATYPETALA*** Luer & R. Escobar

20. **PLEUROTHALLIS PLATYPETALA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Inter species sectionis *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* planta mediocris caespitosa, ramicaulibus gracilibus, folio anguste ovato acuto cordato, sepalo dorsali synsepaloque late ovatis multinervis, petalis late obovatis subacutis acuminatis denticulatis trinervis et labello ovato obtuso distinguitur.

**TYPE:** Colombia: Dept. of Putumayo: epiphytic in forest east of San Francisco, alt. 2350 m, 27 Jan. 1987, C. Luer, J. Luer, O. Ospina, R. Escobar & E. Valencia 12539 (Holotype: MO).

**ETIMOLOGIA:** Del griego *platypetalon*, "un pétalo ancho", en referencia a la forma del pétalo.

**ETYMOLOGY:** From the Greek *platypetalon*, "a broad petal," referring to the shape of the petal.

**Plant** medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, more than 12 cm long, with a close, tubular sheath on the lower quarter and 2 other sheaths at the base. **Leaf** spreading, coriaceous, narrowly ovate, acute, up to 8 cm long, 2 cm wide, the base sessile, cordate. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of successive, single flowers, borne on top of the leaf, subtended by a narrow spathe 9-10 mm long; peduncles 3-5 mm long; floral bracts tubular, 5-7 mm long; pedicels 8-10 mm long; ovary 6-7 mm long; **sepals** yellow-green, glabrous, the dorsal sepal broadly elliptical-ovate, obtuse, 12 mm long, 10 mm wide, 7-veined, the lateral sepals connate into a broadly ovate, obtuse synsepal, 11 mm long, 11 mm wide, 6-veined, cellular-glandular centrally; **petals** yellow-green, cellular-glandular, obovate, oblique, subacute, acuminate, denticulate, 10 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, 3-veined; **lip** yellow-green, cellular-glandular, with microscopically denticulate margins, oblong-ovate, 5 mm long, 4 mm wide, the apex broadly obtuse with a small callus beneath, the disc flat to slightly convex, with an oblong glenion at the base, the base subtruncate and flattened on the end, hinged to the column-foot; **column** stout, terete, 1 mm long, 3 mm wide, the foot thick, obsolescent, with the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

Esta especie de la sección *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* es aparentemente endémica en las laderas orientales de los Andes del Sur de Colombia. Se distingue por el hábito mediano con ramicaules delgados, que soportan hojas angostamente ovadas, agudas, cordiformes en la base. Las flores, de color amarillo-verdoso, son comparativamente grandes, con sépalos multivenados. Más característicos son los anchos pétalos, con tres venas, los que son cortamente acuminados. Los pétalos son similares a los de *P. cardiostola*. El labelo es promedio para la sección: oblongamente ovado, obtuso, y con una cavidad en la base.

This species of section *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* is apparently endemic on the eastern slopes of the Andes of southern Colombia. It is distinguished by the medium habit with slender ramicauls that bear narrowly ovate, acute leaves cordate at the base. The yellow-green flowers are comparatively large with broad, multiveined sepals. Most distinctive are the broad, three-veined petals that are shortly acuminate. The petals are similar to those of *P. cardiostola*. The lip is "standard" for the section: oblong-ovate, obtuse, and with a glenion at the base.