

Pleurothallis portillae Luer, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris epiphytica subrosulata, caulibus secundariis gracilibus teretibus horizontalibus, foliis dependentibus anguste linearibus marginibus revolutis basi cordatis, flore solitario successivo rubiginoso, sepalo dorsali obovato subrotundato, synsepalo ovato obtuso, petalis lineari-ovatis, labello crasso triangulato obtuso glenio grandi.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose to shortly repent, more or less rosetted; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems suberect to horizontal, slender, terete, unifoliate, 11-21 cm long, with a close tubular sheath below the middle and 1-2 others at the base. Leaf dependent, coriaceous, narrowly linear, the sides revolute, 12-15 cm long, 1-1.1 cm wide, the acute apex tridenticulate, the base cordate, sessile. Inflorescence a fascicle of single, successive flowers from the base of the leaf, with a fugacious spathe 9-10 mm long; peduncles 1-2 mm long; floral bract 6-7 mm long; pedicel 7-8 mm long; ovary 3 mm long, brown with black dots; sepals gaping, red-brown, microscopically pubescent within, the dorsal sepal obovate, obtuse to rounded at the apex, 6.5 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, the lateral sepals united into an ovate, obtuse synsepal 4.5 mm long, 4 mm wide; petals red-brown, linear ovate, the apex narrowly acute, 5 mm long, 0.5-1 mm wide; lip red-purple, thick, triangular, 2.25 mm long, 1.6 mm wide, the apex rounded, the disc with a proportionately large glenion, the base deflexed, with a thin, articulating strap; column white, stout, 2 mm long, 1.75 mm thick, the foot shortly spiculate.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Mario Portilla of Cuenca, Ecuador, who discovered this species.

TYPE: ECUADOR: ZAMORA-CHINCHIPE: epiphytic in cloud forest along the river below the pass east of Loja, alt. ca. 2500 m, 11 Feb. 1978, C. Luer, J. Luer & M. Portilla 2529 (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Southern Ecuador.

This species is similar to *Pleurothallis lemniscifolia* Luer, but the narrow leaves are neither twisted nor as long. The small flowers of *P. portillae* are red-brown with a thick, triangular lip.