

Pleurothallis radula Luer, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris vel grandis epiphytica vel terrestris caespitosa caulibus secundariis erectis gracilibus teretibus, folio deflexo vel horizontali anguste ovato-cordato, spathe erecta, flore solitario successivo luteo, sepalo dorsali synsepaloque ovato acuto petalis reflexis ellipticis acutis serratis, labello crasso ovato subacuto valde verrucoso.

Plant medium in size to large, caespitose, epiphytic to terrestrial; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems erect, slender, terete, unifoliate, 6-50 cm long, with a long, close, tubular sheath below the middle and 2 others near the base. Mature leaf deflexed to more or less horizontal, coriaceous, narrowly ovate, 8-19 cm long, 2.8-6.2 cm wide, the apex acute, tridentulate, the base sessile, deeply cordate; immature leaf erect, narrowly elliptical-ovate, to 8 cm long, 2.5 cm wide, acuminate, the base cuneate, shortly petiolate. Inflorescence a single, successive, yellow flower produced from an erect spathe 14-27 mm long, concealing peduncle, pedicel and floral bract, from the base of the leaf; floral bract 5 mm long; pedicel ca. 15 mm long; ovary 4 mm long; dorsal sepal erect, ovate, acute, 14 mm long, 6.4 mm wide, 3-veined, the margins revolute; lateral sepals connate into an ovate, acute lamina 14 mm long, 8.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, the margins serrate; lip thick, ovate, 5 mm long, 3 mm wide, subacute, the upper surface diffusely and markedly verrucose, the glenion well demarcated; column stout, 2 mm long, 2 mm wide with a foot 2 mm long.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *radula*, "a rasp," in allusion to the markedly verrucose lip.

TYPE: COSTA RICA: CARTAGO: terrestrial in cloud forest near San Cristobal, alt. ca. 1900 m, 22 Sept 1979, C. Luer, J. Luer & K. S. Walter 4251 (HOLOTYPE: SEL); without locality, L. Glicenstein s.n., cult. by P. Jesup, Bristol, Ct., flowered in cult. 1 Dec. 1977, C. Luer 2247 (SEL).

DISTRIBUTION : Costa Rica.

This species is characterized by the deflexed, narrowly cordate leaf, an erect spathe, and a succession of widely spread, yellow flowers with reflexed, serrated petals and an extremely verrucose lip.