

curved, deeply concave, obtuse, 3.25 mm long, 2.25 mm wide, 1-veined, with the vein thickened externally and at the apex; **lip** purple-brown, thick, ovate, deeply concave, obtuse, abruptly apiculate, 3.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, with basal angles erect, obtuse, flanking the column, the disc with a low pair of converging calli above the middle within the cavity, transversely thickened across the base, the base hinged to the base of the column; **column** stout, 1.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, the foot obsolescent, the anther, rostellum and transverse stigma apical.

**ETYMOLOGY:** From the Latin *scaphipetalus*, “with boat-shaped petals,” referring to the concave petals.

This small species of section *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* from lowland eastern Costa Rica is most closely allied to *P. excavata*. It is known only by the specimen cultivated at the Lankester Garden in Cartago. It is distinguished by wider leaves, sepals only lightly verrucose within, and concave petals and lip. The petals are basically similar to those of *P. dorothaea* Luer and *P. excavata*, but they are considerably larger, wider, and more deeply concave, more or less enclosing the lip and column. The lip is deeply concave and apiculate with basal angles that embrace the column. Within the cavity a pair of low calli converge toward the apex.

**Pleurothallis scaphipetala** Luer, *sp. nov.* **TYPE:** COSTA RICA. Limón, near Guápiles, “low altitude,” collector unknown, flowered in cultivation at the Lankester Botanical Garden, 7 Mar. 1995, *C. Luer 17371* (Holotype: CR; Isotype: MO). Fig. 26.

Species haec *P. excavatae* Schltr. affinis, sed foliis latioribus, petalis latioribus profunde concavis, labello profunde concavo bicalloso et lobis basalibus obtusis differt.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, suberect or horizontal, 4–6.5 cm long, with a loose, tubular sheath on the lower half and another 1–2 sheaths at the base. **Leaf** suberect or horizontal, rigid, thickly coriaceous, elliptical, obtuse, 3–3.5 cm long, 1.5–2.1 cm wide, the base broadly cuneate, sessile. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of successive, single, non-resupinate flowers, subtended by a spathe 10–11 mm long; peduncles 3–4 mm long, concealed within the sheath; floral bracts thin, tubular, 5–6 mm long; pedicels 5 mm long; ovary 4.5 mm long; **sepals** intensely mottled with purple-brown, fleshy, glabrous, lightly verrucose within above the middle, the middle sepal elliptical, obtuse, 7 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into a broadly ovoid, obtuse, concave synsepal, 6.5 mm long, 6.5 mm wide, 4-veined; **petals** purple-brown, elliptical, in-

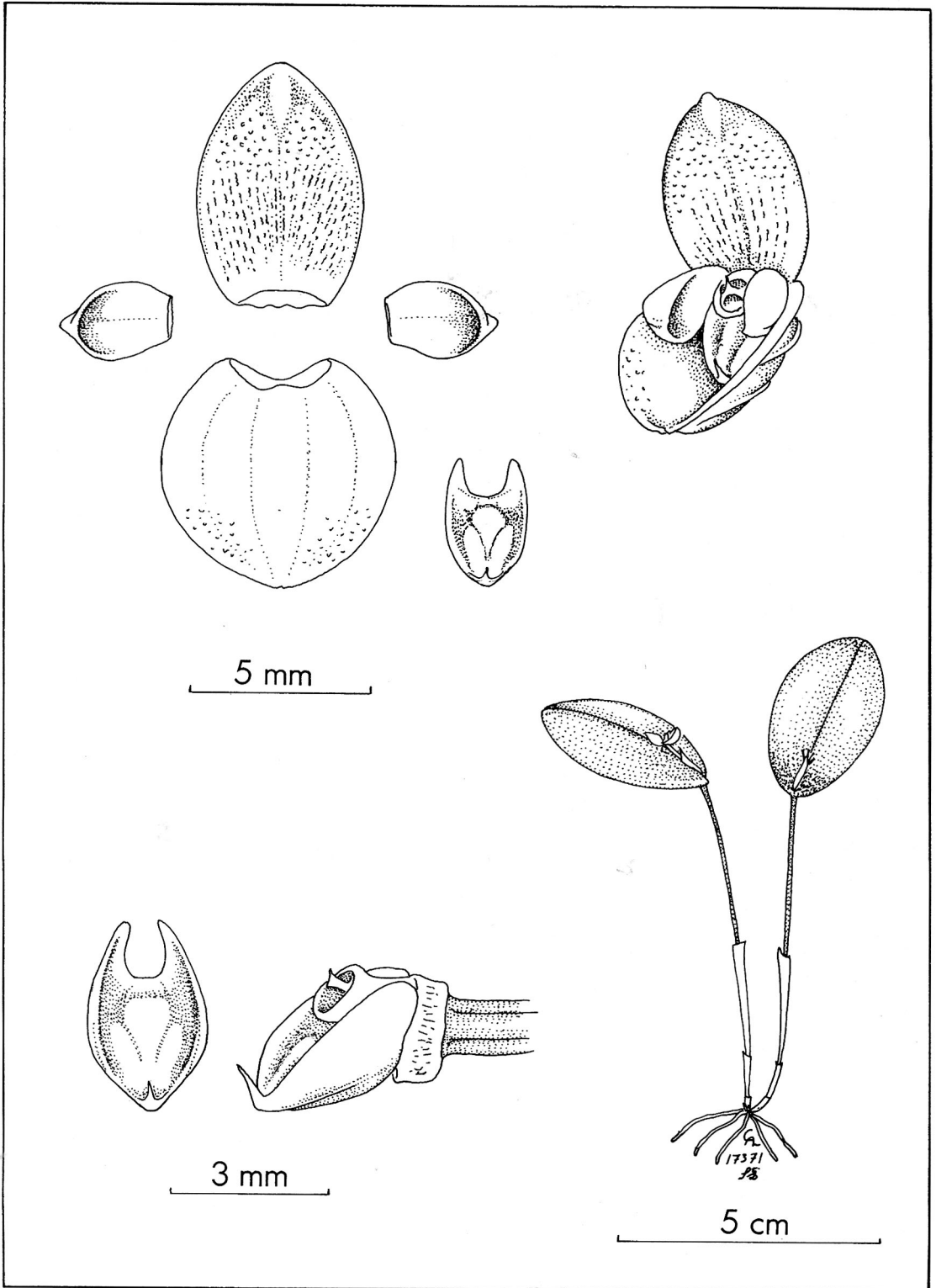


Fig. 26. *Pleurothallis scaphipetala*