

*PLEUROTHALLIS simulans* L. O. Williams, sp. nov. (pl. 33, figs. 8–10). Herbae epiphyticae, caespitosae, parvae, usque ad 10 cm. altae. Caules secundarii graciles, foliis subaequales vel paulo longiores. Folia ligulata vel elliptico-oblancheolata, obtusa, coriacea, submarginata. Inflorescentia uniflora vel fasciculata et pauciflora, quam folia brevior. Sepalum dorsale lanceolatum, acuminatum, trinervium. Sepala lateralia usque ad apicem connata, lanceolata, acuminata. Petala late elliptica vel subrhombica, acuta vel acuminata, uninervia, fere usque ad basim lacerato-ciliata. Labellum integrum, subcordatum, acuminatum, trinervium, margine anteriore plusminusve serrulatum; discus callo carinato ornatus.

Small epiphytic, caespitose herbs up to 10 cm. tall. Secondary stems 2.5–6 cm. long, slender, usually a little longer than the leaves, with one or two sheathing bracts at the base. Leaves 3–5 cm. long, 5–8 mm. broad, ligulate to elliptic-oblancheolate, obtuse, coriaceous, submarginate. Inflorescence 1-flowered or a few-flowered fascicle, much exceeded by the subtending leaf, subtending bract lanceolate, apiculate. Dorsal sepal about 10 mm. long and 3.5–4 mm. broad, lanceolate, acuminate, 3-nerved. Lateral sepals connate to their apices, about 10 mm. long and together 4.5–5 mm. broad, broadly lanceolate, acuminate, each half with only two prominent nerves. Petals 5–6 mm. long and 2–2.5 mm. broad, broadly elliptic to subrhombic, acute or acuminate, 1-nerved, lacerate-ciliate nearly to the base. Lip 3–3.5 mm. long and 2–2.5 mm. broad, simple, subcordate in outline, acuminate, 3-nerved, the anterior margin somewhat serrulate, the disc covered by a thick callus simulating that found in species of *Stelis*, the callus with an anterior rim, an inconspicuous depression toward its apex and sharply declined to the attachment of the lip. Column very short and dilated at the

apex; stigmas apparently confluent.—COCLÉ: epiphyte, north rim of El Valle, flowers maroon, July 9, 1939, *Allen 1912* (Herb. Missouri Bot. Gard., TYPE).

*Pleurothallis simulans* is not allied to any other known species of Central American *Pleurothallis*. The species is particularly interesting in that the lip and the column suggest the allied genus *Stelis*. However, the species seems to belong to *Pleurothallis* as that genus is now constituted. The genera of the Pleurothallideae need critical comparative morphological study, and the present species should prove interesting when that work is done.

