

Pleurothallis uninervia Luer & Dodson, sp. nov.

Ety.: From the Latin *uninervis*, "one-nerved," referring to the sepals.

Species haec *P. divaricanti* (Barb.Rodr.) Luer affinis, sed habitu graciliore, sepalo dorsali non concavo, petalis ad apicem incrassatis et labello cordato-ovato differt,

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots numerous, slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 8-12 cm long, with a thin, tubular sheath below the middle and 2-3 others at the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, acute, 6-9 cm long, 0.6-0.9 cm wide, the base sessile, narrowly cuneate. **Inflorescence** racemose, 1-3 erect, loose, simultaneously many-flowered racemes, 6-9 cm long including the peduncle ca. 1 cm long, subtended by a slender spathe 5 mm long at the base of the leaf; floral bracts 2 mm long; pedicel 2-2.5 mm long; ovary 2 mm long; **sepals** green, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, subacute, 2 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, 1-veined, the lateral sepals completely connate into an ovate, shallowly concave, subacute synsepal, 2 mm long, 1.6 mm wide expanded, 2-veined; **petals** green, oblong, thickened at the obtuse apex, 1.25 mm long, 0.25 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** green, cordate-ovate, obtuse, lightly concave, 1.25 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, the base truncate, attached to the base of the column; **column** terete, 0.8 mm long, the anther and the stigma apical, the foot obsolescent.

ECUADOR: **Esmeraldas**: between Lita and San Lorenzo, alt. 720-850 m, 13 May 1990, C. Dodson, A. Gentry, B. Boyle & D. Rubio 18288 (Holotype: MO).

This species is one of the smallest-flowered species of the genus. The flowers are reminiscent of a species of *Platystele*. From the similar *P. divaricans*, this species is distinguished by the shallowly concave, single-veined dorsal sepal and two-veined synsepal. The petals are oblong and thickened toward the obtuse apex, and the lip is broadly cordate and shallowly concave without calli.

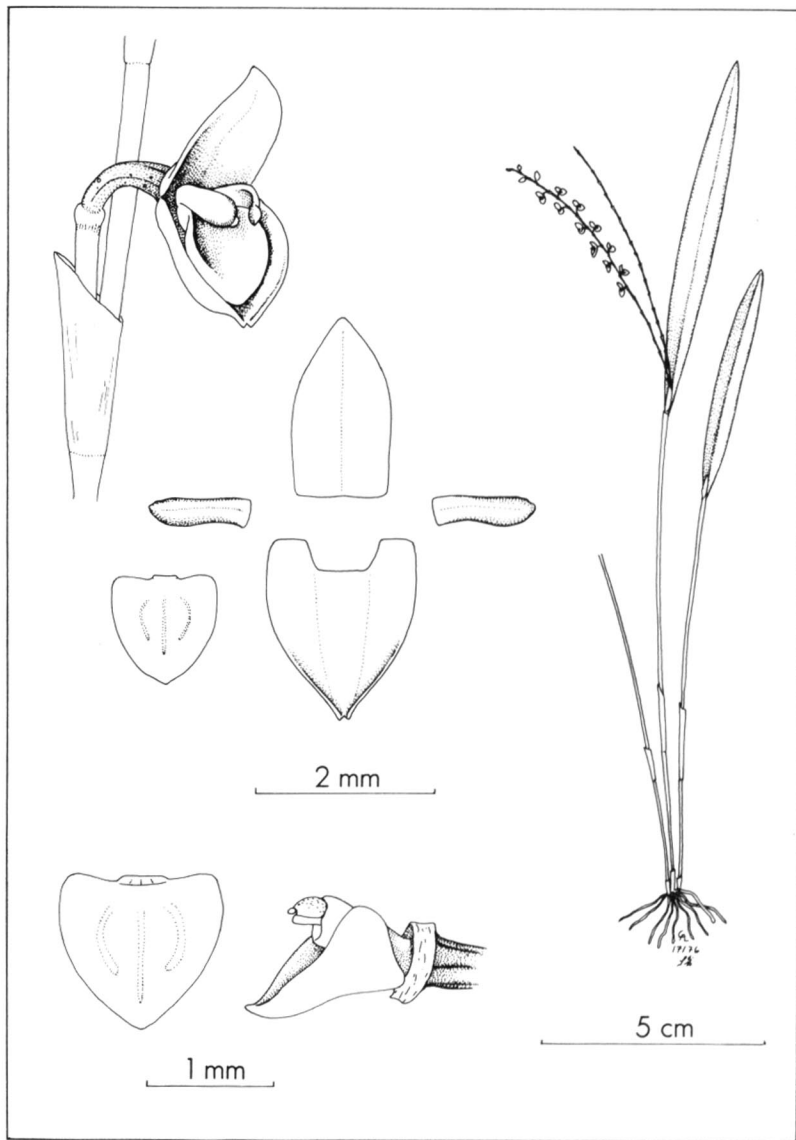


Fig. 46. *Pleurothallis uninervia*