

**Porroglossum hystrix** Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: From the Latin *hystrix*, "a porcupine," referring to the bristly peduncle.

Species haec *P. echidnae* (Rchb. f) Garay similis, sed floribus minoribus, sepalorum caudis brevioribus gracilioribus et labelli callo altissimo rotundato differt.

**Plant** small to medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, 1-3.5 cm long, enclosed by 2-3 loose, tubular sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, lightly verrucose, petiolate, 5-10 cm long including the petiole 1.5-4 cm long, the blade narrowly elliptical to narrowly obovate, acute, 1-1.7 cm wide, gradually narrowed below into the petiole. **Inflorescence** a congested, successively few-flowered raceme, borne by an erect, densely long-pubescent peduncle 10-17 cm long, with a bract near the middle, from low on the ramicaul; floral bracts tubular, imbricating, 4-5 mm long; pedicel 5 mm long; ovary papillose, 4-5 mm long; **sepals** green with brown veins, lightly verrucose externally, the dorsal sepal transversely obovate, 5-6 mm long, 5-7 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 3-4 mm to form a gaping cup, the apex obtuse, contracted into a slender, erect 7-10 cm long, the lateral sepals transversely ovate, oblique, 4-6 mm long, 5-7 mm wide, connate to each other for 2 mm to form a deep, obtuse mentum beneath the column-foot, the apices acute, contracted into slender tails 8-10 mm long; **petals** translucent tan with a purple midvein, oblong, 5 mm long, 1 mm wide, narrowed to the slightly dilated, rounded apex, the margins without an angle; **lip** white with the apex suffused with dark purple and the callus pink, the blade obovate-spathulate, 5-6 mm long, 3-4 mm wide, the obtuse apex minutely ciliate, with a shallow midline sulcus, the disc with a tall, thick, longitudinal callus, rounded anteriorly, above the straplike claw bent with tension around the free apex of the column-foot; **column** stout, semiterete, 3 mm long, the stout foot 8 mm long.

ECUADOR: Prov. of Morona-Santiago: Valle del Paute, alt. 2200 m, collected by A. Andreetta & M. Portilla, flowered in cultivation at Paute, 16 May 1988, *C. Luer 13384* (Holotype: MO); above Limón, alt. 1000 m, 1972, collected by W. Teague, flowered in cultivation 12 Dec. 1978, *C. Luer 3630* (SEL).

Although this species of section *Echidna* seemed to have affinities with both *P. echidna* and *P. muscosum*, in *Systematics of Porroglossum* it was included in *P. muscosum* and an illustration (Plate 16) was used to show what was believed to be an acceptable variation within *P. muscosum*. Recently, however, more living plants of this taxon have been examined, and it is now apparent that specific differences exist.

The smaller flowers with slender tails distinguish it from *P. echidna*, and the verrucose sepals separate it from *M. muscosum*. From both species it is distinguished by the tall, rounded callus of the lip.



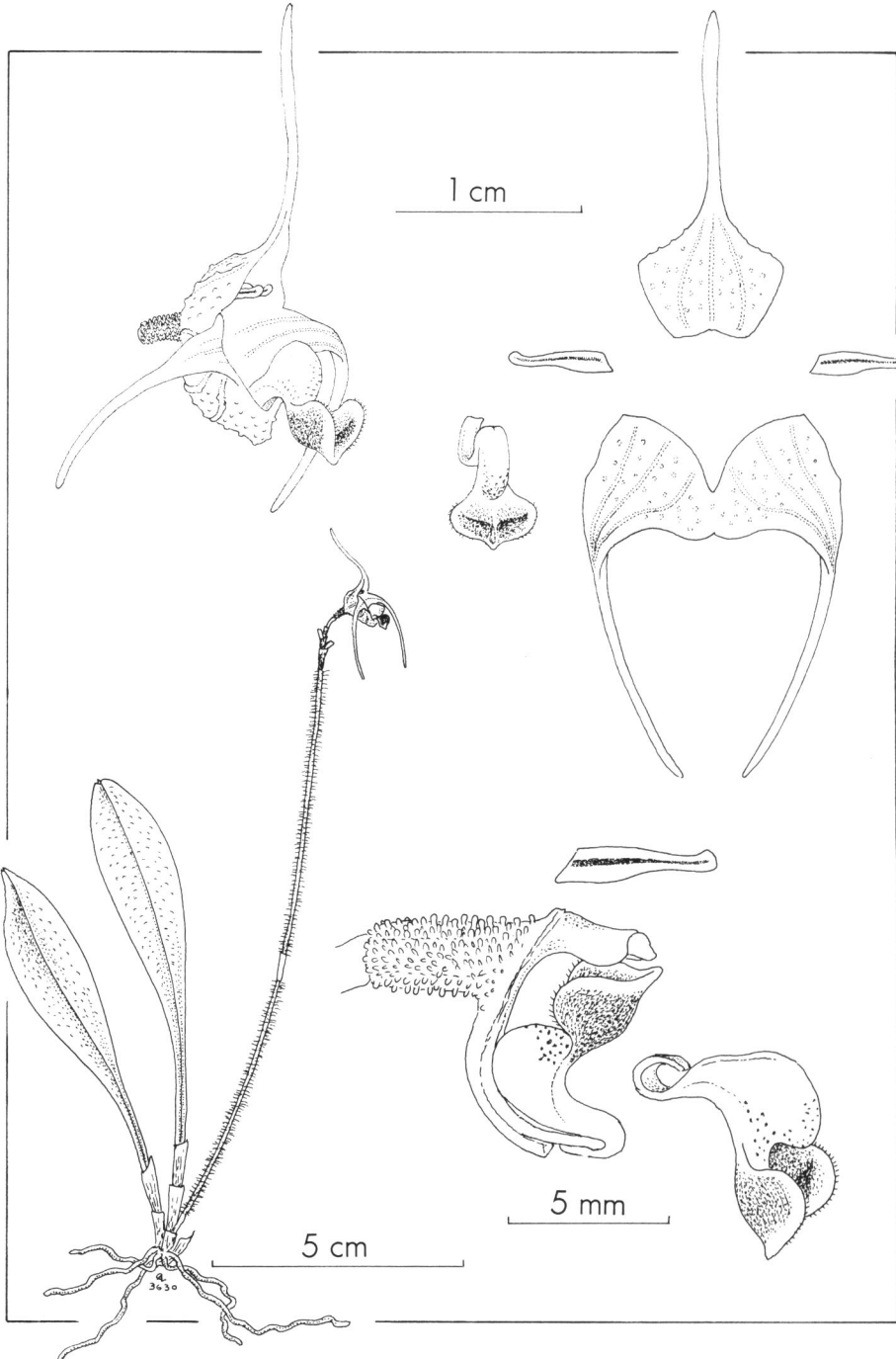


Plate 16. *Porroglossum hystrix* Luer