

RESTREPIA ABERRANS Luer, sp. nov.

ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *aberrans*, “aberrante” en referencia a las poco usuales características florales, las que no ocurren en otra especie del género.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *aberrans*, "aberrant," referring to unusual floral features that occur in no other species of the genus.

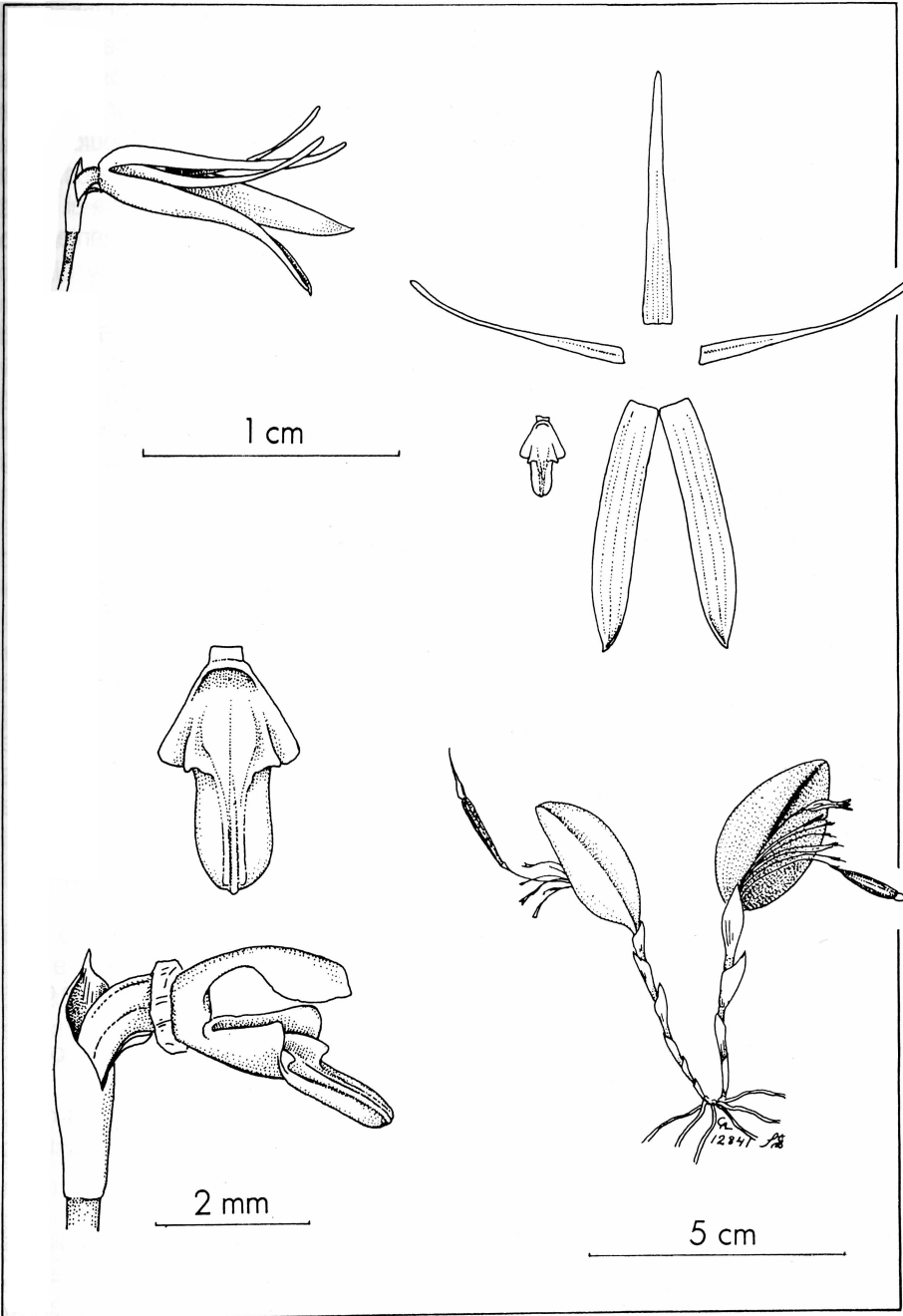
Inter species generis *Restrepiae* H.B.K., flore minimo, sepalò dorsali non-clavato, sepalis lateralibus liberis et labelli lobis basalibus obtusis disco bicalloso distinguitur.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, 1.5-3.5 cm long, enclosed by 5-6 thin, whitish, loose, oblique, acute, compressed, more or less imbricating sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, ovate, subacute, 2.5-3.5 cm long, 1.2-2 cm wide, the base cuneate or rounded, contracted into a twisted petiole 3 mm long. **Inflorescence** a solitary, light yellow, often cleistogamous flower, produced successively in a fascicle; peduncle slender, 2.5-3 cm long; floral bract thin, tubular, 3 mm long; pedicel 1.5 mm long, with a filament 1 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long; **sepals** membranous, glabrous, not wide-spreading, the dorsal sepal free, narrowly linear-triangular, the apical third terete, 10 mm long, 1.25 mm wide at the base, 5-veined, the lateral sepals free, oblong, acute, 10 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 5-veined; **petals** membranous, translucent, with a brown midvein, narrowly linear triangular, slightly thickened above the middle with the apex minimally clavate-thickened, 9 mm long, 0.75 mm wide at the base; **lip** yellow, oblong-trilobed, 3 mm long, 1 mm wide, 2 mm wide across the lateral lobes expanded, the middle lobe oblong, 3-veined, rounded at the apex, the lateral lobes erect, oblique, obtuse, below the middle, the disc with a pair of acute, erect calli just below the middle at the bases of the lateral lobes, continuing forward as low, longitudinal calli along a midline callus that terminates at the apex, the hypochile broadly concave above the subtruncate base, connected to the column-foot by a short, thick, cylindrical neck; **column** slender, clavate, 2 mm long, the base pedestal-like. The four, ovoid pollinia are free.

PANAMA: Prov. of Bocas del Toro: epiphytic in forest above Chiriquí Grande, alt. 350 m, 17 Feb. 1985, collected by C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Dressler & K. Dressler, flowered in cultivation by A. & P. Jesup in Bristol, CT., 26 April 1987, *C. Luer 10612* (Holotype: MO).

Aunque vegetativamente es similar a las otras especies pequeñas del género, las partes florales de esta especie *difieren* de todas las demás. La única planta que se conoce fue descubierta sin flores a una baja elevación cerca a la costa Atlántica de Panamá occidental. La planta fue cultivada por los Jesups en donde produjo flores por cinco años, tiempo durante el cual fue declinando en vigor para finalmente morir.

Aparentemente cleistógama, las partes florales de color amarillo pálido apenas si abren, con frecuencia nada, antes de que el ovario comience a ensancharse.



Restrepia aberrans Luer

El sépalo dorsal es angostamente linear y semiterete hacia el ápice el cual no es clavado. Los sépalos laterales son angostamente oblongos, libres y paralelos. Los pétalos son apenas ligeramente ensanchados hacia el ápice. El labelo es trilobulado, con lóbulos erectos, oblicuos, obtusos abajo de la mitad. Adyacente a ellos por dentro, el usual par de callos se ha desarrollado en unas láminas agudas y erectas. El lóbulo apical es obtuso, con tres callos adyacentes bajos. La base es similar a la de las otras especies de *Restrepia* a excepción del cuello que conecta el labelo al pie de la columna en forma de pedestal, el cual es inusualmente corto y grueso.

Although vegetatively similar to the other small species of the genus, the floral parts of this species differ from all the rest. The only plant known was discovered without flowers at a low altitude near the Atlantic coast of western Panama. The plant was cultivated by the Jesups where it produced flowers for five years during which time it was gradually declining in vigor before it died.

Apparently cleistogamous, the pale yellow floral parts barely open, frequently not at all before the ovary begins to enlarge. The dorsal sepal is narrowly linear and semiterete toward the apex, and not at all clavate. The lateral sepals are narrowly oblong, free and parallel. The petals are only barely thickened toward the apex. The lip is trilobed with erect, oblique, obtuse lobes just below the middle. Adjacent to them within, the usual pair of calli are developed into acute, erect lamellae. The apical lobe is obtuse with three low, adjacent calli. The base is similar to that of other species of *Restrepia* except that the neck connecting the lip to the pedestal-like column-foot is unusually short and thick.