



R. echo Luer & R. Escobar

ORQUIDEOLOGIA 20 (2), 1996

9. **RESTREPIA ECHO** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

ETIMOLOGIA: Nombrada por la ninfa Eco, sugiriendo un eco, tanto de *R. aristulifera* como de *R. muscifera*.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for the nymph Echo, suggesting an echoing of both *R. aristulifera* and *R. muscifera*.

Species haec *R. musciferæ* (Lindl.) Rchb.f. ex Lindl. similis, sed ramicaulium vaginis totis dense punctatis, petalis minime clavatis ad basim minute denticulatis, labello proportione brevior, hypochilii marginibus denticulatis differt.

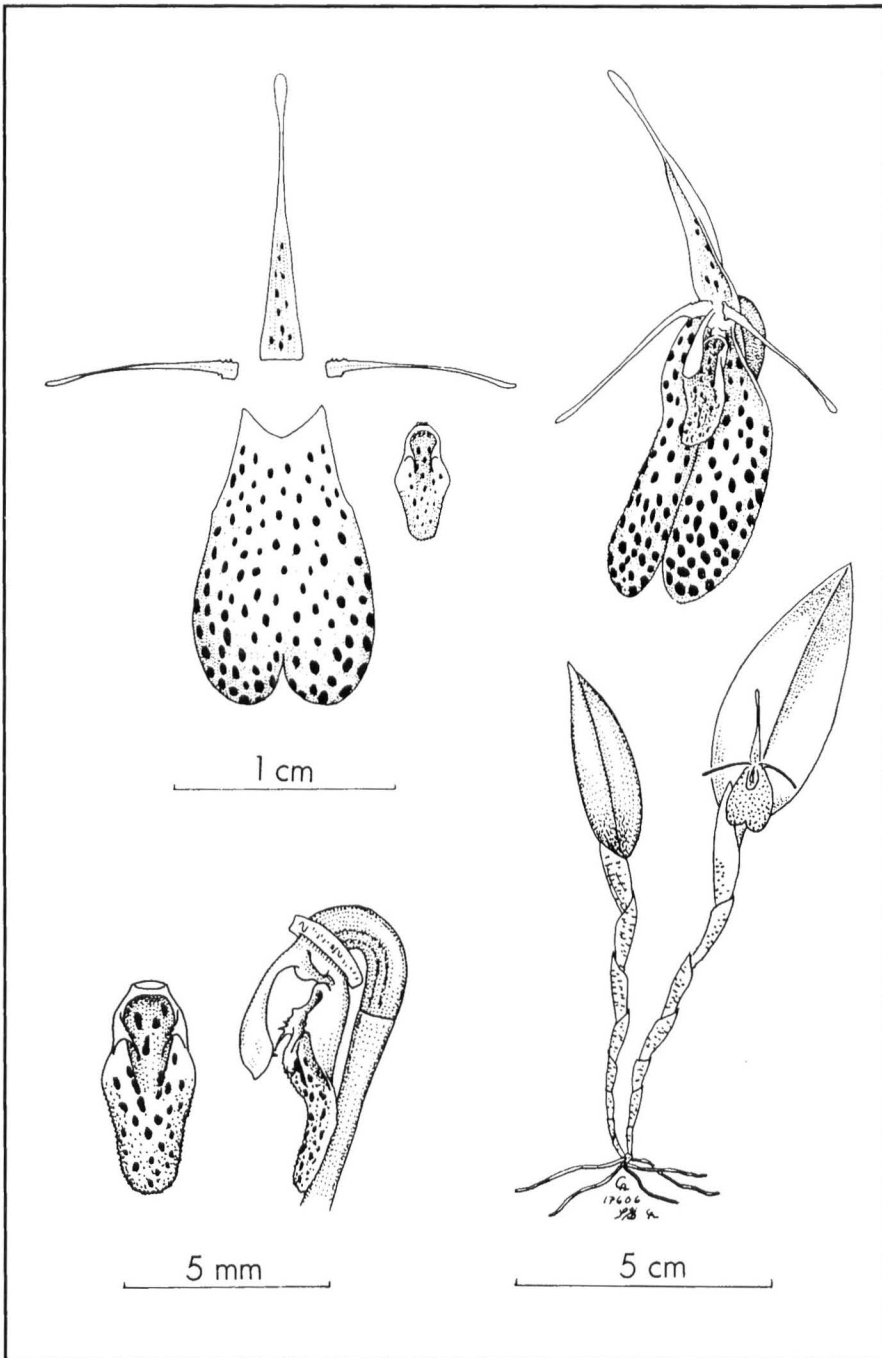
Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. **Ramicauls** erect, 5-10 cm long, enclosed by 6-9 thin, whitish, loose, compressed, densely spotted, more or less imbricating sheaths. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, suffused with purple beneath, ovate, acute, 4-6 cm long, 1.5-3 cm wide, the base broadly cuneate or rounded, contracted into a twisted petiole 4-5 mm long. **Inflorescence** a solitary flower, produced successively in a fascicle low along the back of the leaf; peduncle slender, 7-12 mm long; floral bract thin, tubular, 5 mm long; pedicel 5 mm long, with a short filament; ovary purple, arcuate, 3 mm long; **sepals** membranous, the dorsal sepal free, erect, translucent white, minutely spotted with red-purple, narrowly triangular

below the middle, attenuated above the middle with the apex clavate-thickened, 13 mm long, 2 mm wide above the base, 5-veined, the lateral sepals connate to near the apex into an obovate, minutely bifid lamina, shallowly concave toward the base, convex above the base, white or rosy white, diffusely spotted with purple, 11-13 mm long, 8-9 mm wide expanded, the apices rounded; **petals** translucent, narrowly linear, dilated toward the base with the margins microscopically denticulate, attenuated above the middle with the apex minimally clavate-thickened, 10 mm long, 0.2 mm wide, 0.8 mm wide at base; **lip** rosy white, diffusely dotted with purple, elliptical, rounded at the apex, 4.5-5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the epichile microscopically verrucose, the hypochile concave with thin, erect margins, each side denticulate a capillary, uncinatate processes, the disc with a pair of low carinae extending forward from the base of the processes onto the epichile, the base rounded, connected to the column-foot by a broad, rigid, cylindrical neck; **column** white, slender, clavate, 3 mm long, the base pedestal-like with a pair of obtuse calli.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Antioquia: Munic. of Urrao, collected by E. Valencia, Sept. 1992, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 23 May 1995, *R. Escobar 6001* (Holotype: JAUM; Isotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 17606; Urrao, alt. 2000 m, collected by E. Valencia, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 9 May 1993, *C. Luer 16700* (MO); Santo Domingo, alt. 1900-2000 m, collected by R. Escobar, C. Luer & E. Valencia, 18 Sept. 1986, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 9 May 1993, *C. Luer 16702* (MO); without locality, collected by J. Kuhn, cultivated by Ann Jesup #21, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 9 May 1993, *C. Luer 16703* (MO).

Esta especie está muy cercanamente relacionada con el número de formas agrupadas en *R. muscifera*. Aunque las manchas en las vainas de los ramicales no deben ser consideradas como consistentes en una especie, todas las vainas de los ejemplares conocidos de *R. echo* están densamente manchadas, mientras que solamente las más bajas de la cercanamente aliada *R. muscifer* lo están ligeramente. *Restrepia echo* se encuentra totalmente dentro de la distribución de *R. muscifera*, pero las poblaciones permanecen separadas.

Como en *R. muscifera*, unos pedúnculos cortos portan la flor contra el reverso de la base de la hoja, con el ovario fuertemente arqueado, en tal forma que la flor queda mirando hacia abajo. El sépalo dorsal está engrosado en el ápice, pero los pétalos están engrosados apenas en una forma mínima. Hacia la base de los pétalos los márgenes están diminuta y diversamente dentadas. Las márgenes son enteras en todos los ejemplares de *R. muscifera* que se han examinado. El sinsépalo es obovado y está difusamente cubierto de pequeñas manchas.



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El labelo es elíptico y proporcionalmente corto, menos de la mitad de la longitud del sinsépalo en posición natural. Como en *R. muscifera*, el epiquilo es diminutamente verrucoso y redondeado en el ápice. Las márgenes a ambos lados del hipoquilo de *R. echo* están diminutamente denticuladas en adición al pequeñísimo par de filamentos capilares que se curvan hacia adelante. Las vainas densamente manchadas de los ramicaules, los pétalos denticulados y las márgenes del hipoquilo son similares a las de *R. aristulifera*.

This species is very closely related to the number of forms grouped together in *R. muscifera*. Although spots on the sheaths of ramicauls may not be considered to be consistent in a species, all the sheaths of known specimens of *R. echo* are densely spotted, while only the lowermost sheaths of the closely allied *R. muscifera* are lightly dotted. *Restrepia echo* is found entirely within the distribution of *R. muscifera*, but populations remain separate.

Similar to *R. muscifera*, short peduncles bear the flower against the back of the base of the leaf with the ovary acutely arcuate so that the flower faces outward. The dorsal sepal is clavate, but the petals are barely minimally clubbed. Toward the base of the petals the margins are minutely and variously toothed. The margins are entire in all specimens of *R. muscifera* examined. The synsepal is obovate and diffusely covered by small spots.

The lip is elliptical and proportionately short, less than half the length of the synsepal in the natural position. As in *R. muscifera*, the epichile is minutely verrucose and rounded at the apex. The margins of both sides of the hypochile of *R. echo* are minutely denticulate in addition to the pair of minute, hairlike processes that curves forward. The densely spotted sheaths of the ramicauls and the denticulate petals and margins of the hypochile are similar to those of *R. aristulifera*.