

10. **RESTREPIA EPHIPIUM** Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

ETIMOLOGIA: Del griego *ephippion*, “una silla de montar”, en referencia al sinsépalo con las márgenes dobladas hacia abajo.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek *ephippion*, “a saddle,” referring to the synsepal with deflexed sides.

Planta mediocris, pedunculo folio ovato longiore, flore mediocris, synsepal infra medium striato supra medium maculato lateribus deflexis, petalis supra basim cum processu capilliformi, labello oblongo-subpandurato retuso integro distinguitur.

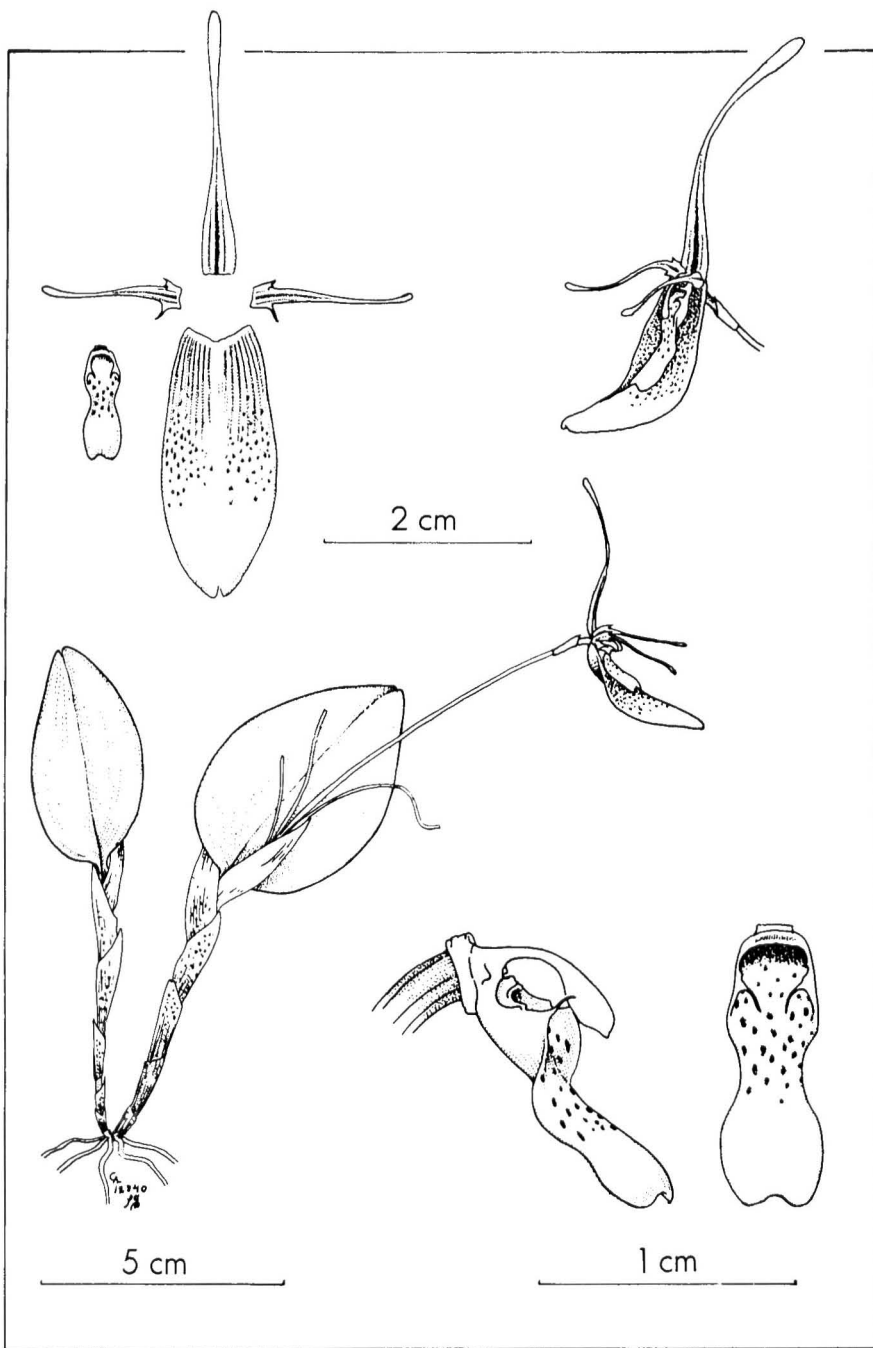
Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. **Ramicauls** erect, 3-14 cm long, enclosed by 6-8 thin, whitish, loose, compressed, imbricating

sheaths, the lower sheaths lightly dotted with black. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, ovate, subacute to obtuse, 4-7 cm long, 2.5-3.5 cm wide, the base rounded, contracted into a twisted petiole 0.5 cm long. **Inflorescence** a solitary flower, produced successively in a fascicle up the back of the leaf; peduncle slender, 6-9 cm long; floral bract thin, tubular, 6-7 mm long; pedicel stout, 3 mm long, with a short filament; ovary 4-5 mm long; **sepals** membranous, the dorsal sepal free, erect, translucent white, with the midvein red-purple, narrowly ovate below the middle, attenuated above the middle with the apex clavate-thickened, 26 mm long, 3.75 mm wide above the base, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate to near the apex into an elliptical lamina, shallowly concave at the base, with the sides deflexed above the middle, rose, striped with purple below the middle, with small rose-purple spots above the middle disappearing at the apex, 26 mm long, 11.5 mm wide expanded, 14-veined, the apex obtuse, minutely bifid; **petals** membranous, translucent, with the midvein and margins suffused with purple, narrowly linear-ovate, with a distinct, acute process on either side above the base, attenuated above the middle with the apex clavate-thickened, 15 mm long, 2 mm wide above the base; **lip** light rose below the middle with rose spots, yellow above the middle with rose spots, subpandurate, 10.5 mm long, 4 mm wide, the epichile ovate, longitudinally convex, retuse, entire (microscopically cellular), the hypochile subquadrate, concave with thin, erect margins, each side with a short, capillary, uncinat processes, the disc the base rounded, connected to the column-foot by a broad, thick, rigid, cylindrical neck; **column** white, slender, clavate, 5 mm long, the base pedestal-like with a pair of obtuse calli.

ECUADOR: Prov. of Imbabura: epiphytic in wet forest south of Lita, alt. ca. 1200 m, collected Jan. 1987 by C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Hirtz et al., flowered in cultivation by A. & P. Jesup in Bristol, CT, 26 Apr. 1987, *C. Luer 12840* (Holotype: MO).

Aunque superficialmente no es particularmente notable, una poco usual combinación de características menores colocan esta especie aparte. Es de tamaño promedio con largos pedúnculos y flores de tamaño promedio. El sinsépalo elíptico, ligeramente cóncavo y rayado de morado arriba de la base, está manchado de morado en las márgenes deflexas arriba de la mitad. Las márgenes se curvan hacia abajo creando una cuña central longitudinal o ángulo de cerca de 90° a lo largo del cual descansa el labelo. Este es glabro, manchado y oblongo-subpandurado con un ápice retuso que encaja como una silla de montar sobre el ángulo longitudinal central del sinsépalo. Un proceso capilar más bien prominente se observa cerca de la base de los pétalos.

Although superficially not particularly remarkable, an unusual combination of minor features sets this species apart. It is of average size with long



Restrepia ephippium Luer & Hirtz

peduncles and the flowers are of average size. The elliptical synsepal, slightly concave and striped with purple above the base, is spotted with purple on deflexed sides above the middle. The sides are deflexed to create a longitudinal, central wedge or angle of about 90° along which the lip rests. The lip is spotted, glabrous and oblong-subpandurate with a retuse apex that fits like a saddle over the longitudinal, midline angle of the synsepal. Rather prominent capillary processes are present near the bases of the petals.