

18. **RESTREPIA ROSEOLA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

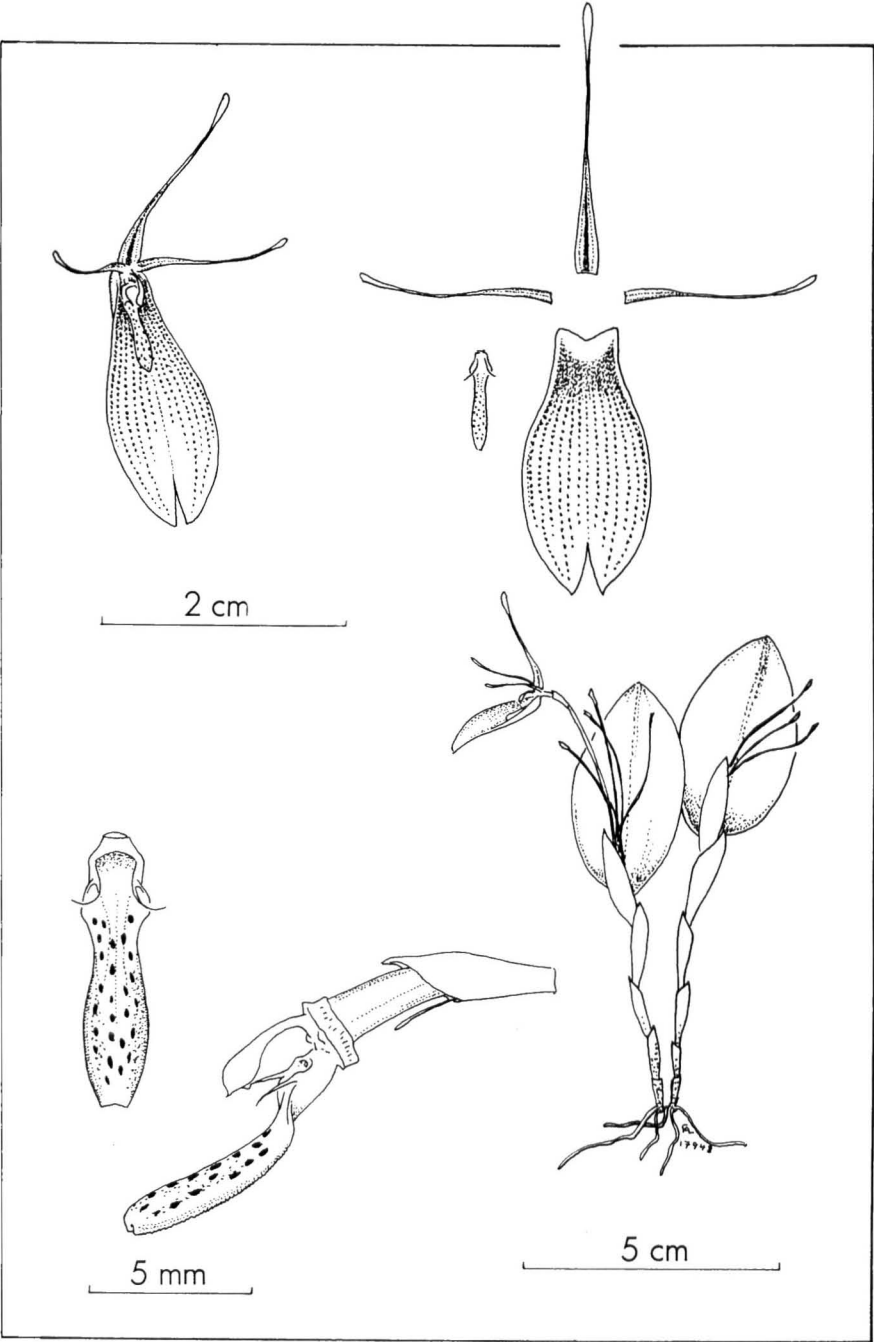
ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *roseolus*, “rosado, rosa pálido”, en alusión al color del sinsépalo.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *roseolus*, “pink, pale rose,” referring to the color of the synsepal.

Species haec *R. eleganti* Karst. similis, sed synsepalum roseolo seriatim punctato et labello longitudinaliter convexo differt.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, 3-7 cm long, enclosed by 5-6 thin, whitish, loose, compressed, imbricating sheaths, the lower sheaths sparingly spotted with black. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, suffused with purple, ovate, subacute to obtuse, 3.5-4.5 cm long, 2-2.5 cm wide, the base broadly cuneate, contracted into a twisted petiole 3-4 mm long. **Inflorescence** a solitary flower, produced successively in a fascicle up the back surface of the leaf; peduncle slender, 3.5-4 cm long; floral bract thin, tubular, 5 mm long; pedicel stout, 2.5 mm long, with a filament 2 mm long; ovary lightly sulcate, 3 mm long; **sepals** membranous, the dorsal sepal free, erect, translucent, veined in red-purple, narrowly ovate below the middle, attenuated above the middle with the apex clavate-thickened, 18-22 mm long, 2 mm wide above the base, 5-veined, the lateral sepals connate to near the apex into a shallowly concave, obovate lamina, pale rose, minutely dotted with purple in rows to near the apices where the dots disappear, 18-22 mm long, 9-11 mm wide expanded, 12-veined, the apex obtuse, shortly bifid; **petals** membranous, translucent white, veined in red-purple, narrowly linear-ovate, the margins microscopically cellular-erose near the base, attenuated above the middle with the apex slightly clavate-thickened, 16 mm long, 1 mm wide at the base; **lip** orange with purple spots, oblong, 8 mm long, 2.6 mm wide expanded, the epichile elliptical-oblong, retuse, convex with the sides decurved, 2 mm wide in the natural position, with the margins microscopically erose, very slightly constricted below the middle, the hypochile subquadrate, concave with thin, erect margins, each side with a capillary, uncinatate process, the disc with a pair of low carinae extending forward from the base of each process onto the epichile, the base subtruncate, connected to the column-foot by a slender, cylindrical neck; **column** white, slender, clavate, 4 mm long, the base pedestal-like with a pair of obtuse, yellow calli.

Without collection data, cultivated by Ann Jesup, AJ-4, a division to R. Escobar, RE 3327, 14 Oct. 1985, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquideas, 5 July 1996, *C. Luer 17948* (Holotype: MO; Isotype: JAUM); flowered in cultivation at Colomborquideas, 5 May 1993, *C. Luer 16691* (MO).



Restrepia roseola Luer & R. Escobar

VENEZUELA: Edo. Aragua: forest remnant, ridge north of Tiara, alt. 1300 m, May 1978, G. C. K. Dunsterville *illustr.* 1397.

Esta especie, recolectada en las montañas costeras de Venezuela, fue ilustrada por Dunsterville en *Orquídeas de Venezuela, Una Guía de Campo Ilustrada*, y erróneamente identificada como *R. schlimii*, una especie muy diferente, sinónimo de *R. nittiorhyncha* de la Cordillera Oriental de Colombia. Una planta de esta especie, sin datos de recolección, ha sido cultivada desde hace muchos años por Ann Jesup en Bristol, Connecticut, como AJ-4, y divisiones de la planta han sido repartidas a diferentes coleccionistas.

Parecida tanto vegetativa como floralmente a *R. elegans*, con la cual es simpátrica en las montañas costeras de Venezuela, esta especie se reconoce por el sinsépalo rosado con hileras de puntos diminutos de color morado. Más característico es el labelo longitudinalmente convexo con márgenes microscópicamente erosos y ligeramente revolutas. El labelo ilustrado por Dunsterville fue expandido.

This species, collected in the coastal mountains of Venezuela, is illustrated by Dunsterville in *Orchids of Venezuela, An Illustrated Field Guide*, and erroneously identified as *R. schlimii*, a very different species synonymous with *nittiorhyncha* from the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia. A plant of this species with unsubstantiated collection data has been in cultivation for many years in Bristol, Connecticut, by Ann Jesup as AJ-4, and divisions of this plant have been disseminated.

Similar both vegetatively and florally to *R. elegans* with which it is known to be sympatric in the coastal mountains of Venezuela, this species is recognized by the minute, purple dots arranged in rows on a rose-colored synsepal. Most distinguishing is the longitudinally convex lip with modestly revolute, microscopically erose margins. The lip illustrated by Dunsterville has been expanded.

