

***Scaphosepalum beluosum* Luer, sp. nov.**

Inter species generis *Scaphosepali* Pfitz. foliis magnis longissime petiolatis, pedunculo brevi gracili leviter verruculoso horizontali paucifloro floribus duobus coetaneis, sepalis ochraceis brunneo-purpureo punctatis carinis eroso-ciliolatis caudis brevibus, labello ovato-ligulato trilobato bicarinato, lobo antico deflexo obovato denticulato, lobis lateralibus prope medium brevibus distinguitur.

Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems slender, erect, unifoliate, 2-4 cm long, enclosed by 2 loose, tubular sheaths at the base. Leaf erect, thinly coriaceous, very long-petiolate, the petiole slender, 5-11 cm long, the blade elliptical, up to 14 cm long, 3.5-5 cm wide, the apex acute, tridenticulate, cuneate below into the petiole. Inflorescence a loose, several-flowered, distichous raceme 5-8 cm long, including the peduncle, two flowers commonly produced simultaneously, the peduncle slender, horizontal, lightly verrucose, from a node on the secondary stem; floral bract 4 mm long; pedicel 7-11 mm long, scabrous; ovary 3.5 mm long, pubescent; sepals yellowish tan dotted with purple-brown, with erose-ciliate carinae, the middle sepal tricarinate, fleshy, ovate, the apical half tubular with revolute sides, verrucose near the apex, the lateral sepals connate 8 mm into an ovate, concave, bicarinate synsepal, 15 mm long including the tails, 9 mm wide, with acutely triangular, yellow-orange pads filling the diverging, acute apices, the apices gradually narrowed into decurved, sparsely spiculate tails; petals yellow, marked with purple, polygonal, 4 mm long, 2.25 mm wide, the apex subacute, obtusely angled on the labellar margin, with a low callus near the base, acutely angled near the base on the opposite side; lip greenish white, marked with purple, ovate-ligulate, 3-lobed, the anterior lobe deflexed, obovate, obtuse, denticulate, the lateral lobes short, rounded, near the middle, with a pair of erect, obtusely toothed carinae in the center, the basal portion elliptical, concave, minutely bi-auriculate at the base; column greenish white, marked with purple, broadly winged, curved, 4 mm long, with a thick foot 2 mm long.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *beluosus*, "full of monsters," (*belua*, "a beast"), referring to more than one ferocious-appearing flower produced at a time.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: PICHINCHA. epiphytic in cloud forest above Mindo, alt. 2200m, 11 Nov. 1979, C. Luer, J. Luer & A. Hirtz 4746 (HOLOTYPE: SEL); without locality, W. Teague and D. Welisch s.n., 1975, cultivated in San Francisco, Calif., and La Ceja, Colombia, C. Luer 2058 (SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Ecuador.

This species is characterized by the long, slender petioles bearing thin elliptical blades, and a short, horizontal peduncle usually bearing two flowers simultaneously. The light yellowish brown flowers with purplish brown spots are provided with erose carinae and short tails. The anterior lobe of the bicarinate lip is deflexed and denticulate and the middle lobes near the middle are small and rounded.