

**Pleurothallis recula** Luer, *sp. nov.* TYPE: ECUADOR. Napo: Río Jatunyacu, above Shandia, alt. 650 m, 12 Mar. 1991, A. Hirtz & S. Ortega 5364 (Holotype: MO), Fig. 25.

Planta parva caespitosa, pedunculo foliis ellipticis multilongiore, inflorescentia tenuissima successiviflora fasciculata, sepalis petalisque obtusis, labello ligulato bicalloso, columna supra medium alata pede minute biglanduloso.

**Plant** very small, epiphytic, densely caespitose; roots slender but thicker than the ramicauls. Ramicauls slender, erect, 1–2.5 mm long, enclosed by 2 thin, tubular sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical-obovate, subacute, 5–18 mm long including the petiole 1–3 mm long, 3–4 mm wide, the base narrowed into the petiole. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of successive, single-flowered pedicels, borne by a filiform peduncle 15–20 mm long, borne laterally from the ramicaul; floral bracts imbricating, 1–1.5 mm long; pedicel 3–5 mm long; ovary, 0.5–1 mm long; **sepals** transparent light yellow, thin, glabrous, the dorsal sepal elliptical-ovate, obtuse, 3.75–6 mm long, 2–3 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, obtuse, 3.5–6 mm long, connate from the middle or to near the apex into a lamina 2.5–3 mm wide; **petals** translucent light yellow, thin, obovate, oblique, obtuse, 2 mm long, 1 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** yellow-orange to yellow-green, elliptical-oblong, arcuate, 1.75–2 mm long, 0.75–1 mm wide, the margins microscopically erose toward the rounded apex, the disc with a pair of longitudinal calli near the middle, the base subtruncate, delicately hinged to the column-foot; **column** deeply winged above the middle, 1.5 mm long, the anther subapical, the stigma ventral, the foot 1 mm long with a pair of minute lobules near the middle.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *recula*, “a little thing,” referring to the habit of the plant.

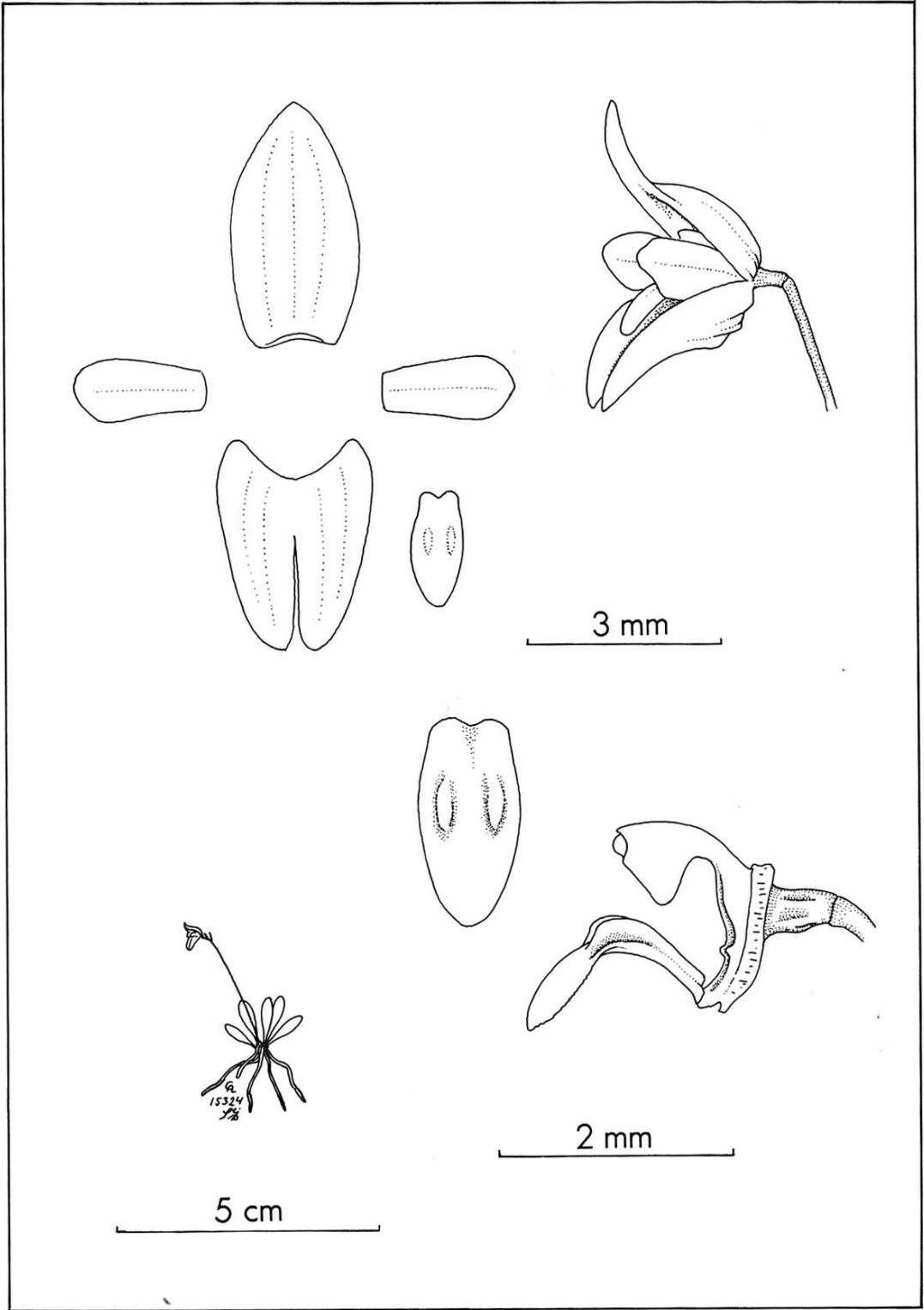


Fig. 25. *Pleurothallis recula*

This little species has been known to me since 1975 with the intended name *recula* written on four drawings of plants from different localities, but to date not published. It is similar to the Brazilian *P. biglandulosa* Schltr., but *P. recula* is distinguished by a fasciculate inflorescence and elongate wings of the column. The flower of the Hispaniolan *P. bipapularis* Dod is also similar, but the inflorescence is elongate and loosely flowered. A minute pair of lobules is found on the column-foot, but smaller than those of several other species, most notable the super-species known as *P. grobyi* Batem. ex Lindl.

PARATYPES: COSTA RICA. Puntarenas: Osa Peninsula, west of Rincon de Osa, alt. 30 m, 4 June 1968, *W. Burger & R. Stolze 5432* (CR, F). PANAMA. Panama: Altos de Pacora road, alt. ca. 600 m, 4 Mar. 1976, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. L. Dressler & P. Taylor 742* (SEL). ECUADOR. Napo: epiphytic in forest near Tena, alt. ca. 1000 m. July 1975, *C. Luer, G. Luer & S. Wilhelm 455* (SEL).