Pleurothallis regalis Luer, sp. nov.

(Selbyana 3:237, Figure 219).

Species haec ab P. acuminata (HBK) Lindl. petalis et labello denticulatis differt.

See Selbyana 3:236 for English description.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin regalis, "regal," in allusion to the royal colors (gold and purple) of the flowers.

Type: ECUADOR: Cotopaxi: epiphytic in cloud forest between Angamarca and El Corazon, alt. ca. 2000 m, 17 Feb. 1979, C. Luer, J. Luer & A. Hirtz 3998 (Holotype: SEL).

OTHER MATERIAL EXAMINED: ECUADOR: COTOPAXI: epiphytic between Quevedo and Latacunga, Nov. 1974, G. Kennedy s.n., greenhouse acc. no. 30-74-184, flowered in cult. 9 June 1976, C. Luer 683 (SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Western Ecuador.

Pleurothallis regalis was misidentified as the widespread P. acuminata in Selbyana 3.236. It differs from the latter not only in the thinner leaves and flower parts (as readily seen in dried herbarium specimens) but also in the minutely denticulate margins of the petals and lip.

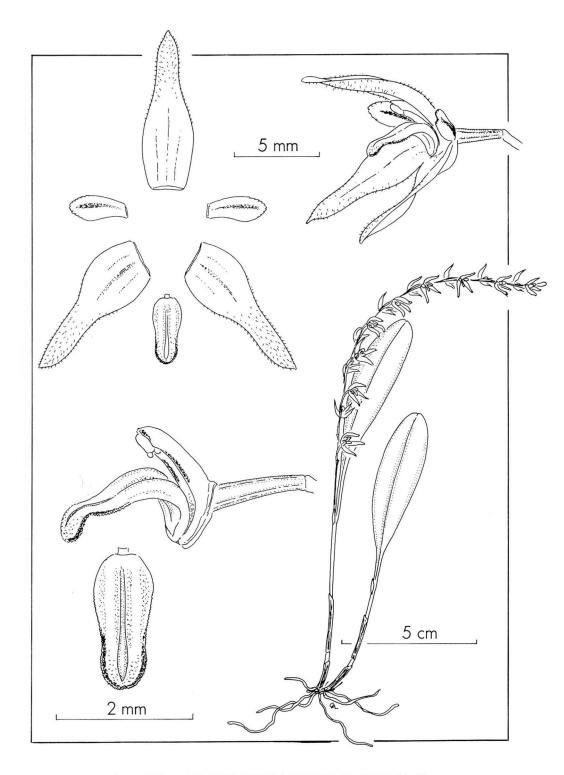


Figure 219. PLEUROTHALLIS ACUMINATA (HBK) Lindl.