

1. **STELIS ASSERIS** Duque, sp. nov.

(Pl. I,3; Pl. XI,1)

Planta mediocris, caulibus secundariis foliis ellipticis brevioribus. Racemis multifloriis follis longioribus. Floribus mediocris, sepalo dorsali ovato, synsepalo ovato, obtuso, vadoso. Petalis suborbicularibus apice incrassato. Labello crasso, apice rotundato, basi torus transversus ornato.

TIPO: Colombia, Antioquia: epífita en monte neblinoso cerca de Sonsón, alt. 2.300 m. Nicolás Peláez. Floreció en cultivo dic. 27, 1991. O. Duque 1400 (Holotipo: JAUM)

ETIMOLOGIA: del latín *asser*, viga, barra, en referencia a la barra transversal en la base del labelo.

From the Latin *asser*, a stake, a pole, in reference to the transverse bar at the base of the lip.

Planta mediana con tallos erectos delgados de una sola hoja elíptica 6 x 1.2 cm. Uno a tres racimos de flores rojas espaciadas; sinsépalo pando ancho, órganos centrales rojos o amarillo-rojizo. El labelo con una barra vellosa transversal en la base del callo.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems approximate, erect, unifoliate 4-6 cm long enclosed by 3 brown tubular sheaths. **Leaf** erect coriaceous narrowly elliptical 6 cm long 1.2 cm wide, the apex subacute tridenticulate, the base extending into a 2 cm petiole. **Inflorescence** racemose, 1 to 3 erect or arching, many loosely flowered scapes 8 cm long with medium size red flowers from near the base. Spathe 0.8 mm long fringed at the tip; floral bract small infundibular, covering only the base of the pedicel; ovary 2.2 mm long. **Sepals** deep red outside, red-greyish inside, the margins shortly villous; dorsal sepal broadly ovate 4.2 mm long 4 mm wide, 5-veined; lateral sepals connate almost to the apex in a shallow synsepal 4.2 mm long. **Petals** suborbicular 1 mm high, 1 mm wide, 3-veined, reddish, the apex thickened, obtuse, an arching band separates the thick upper region from the thin lamina below. **Lip** yellow

or red, subtriangular in lateral view subquadrate from above, the apex rounded, 1 mm long, 1 mm wide, the callus a transverse lamina between the lateral lobes; basally there is a transverse bar of soft shortly pubescent tissue. **Column** 1 mm wide, the stalk slightly villous.

NOTAS: La flor de *S. asseris* es muy parecida a las de *S. dentata* y *S. frontinensis* pero las plantas de estas especies son mayores y la estructura de los pétalos y de los callos labelares es diferente. Estas tres plantas se podrían colocar en el obscuro y mal definido grupo de *S. purpurea*.

The flowers of *S. asseris* are rather similar to those of *S. dentata* and *S. frontinensis*, but the plants of these species are larger and their floral structure, specially in the form of the petals and of their labellar calli is different. All these three plants could fit in the obscure and poorly defined group of *S. purpurea*.



