

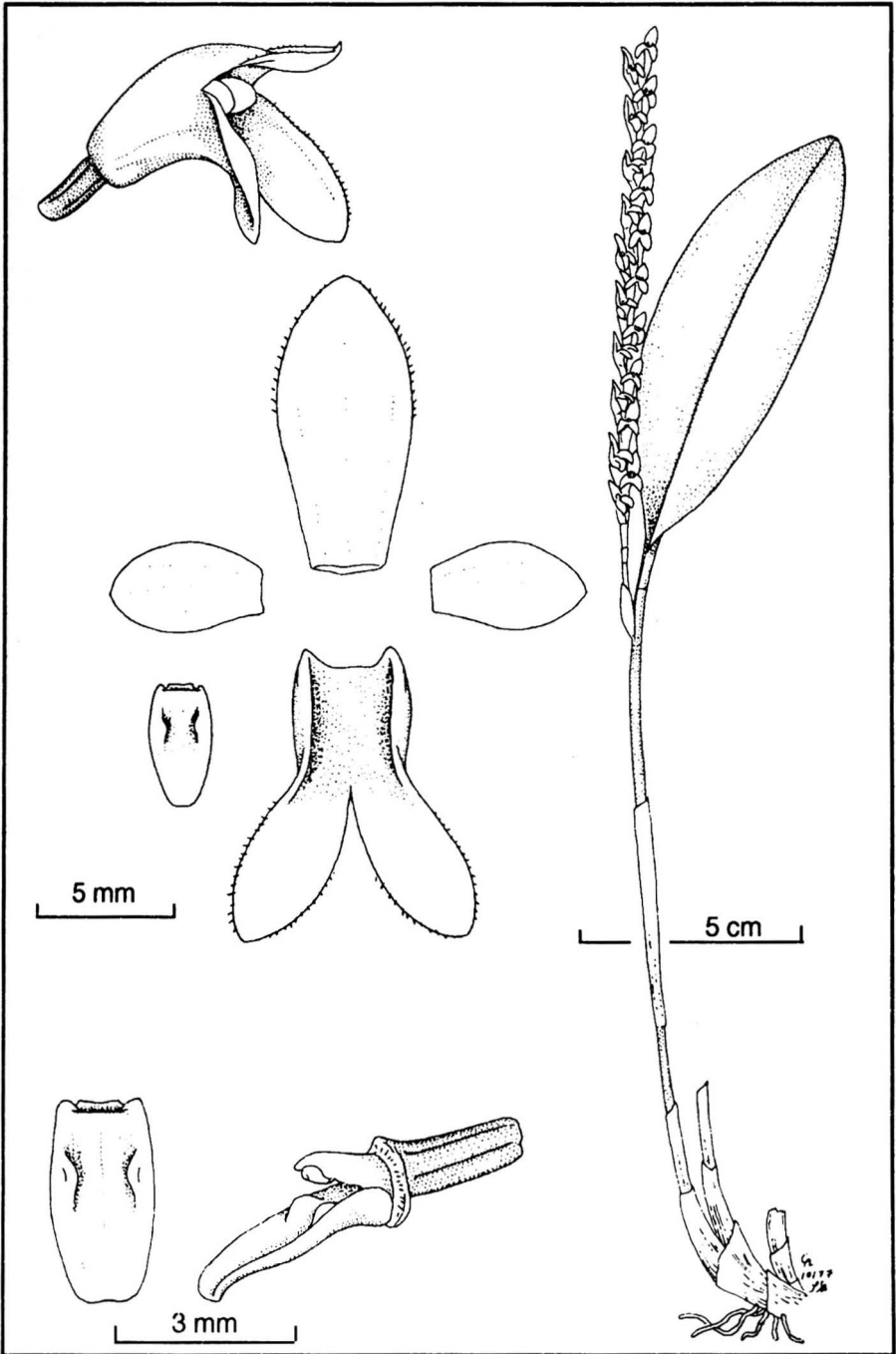
3. **PLEUROTHALLIS BUCARAMANGAE** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Species haec *P. moritzii* Rchb. f. affinis, sed folii petiolo longiore, spatha multiminore et labello apice rotundato differt.

**TYPE:** Colombia: Dept. of Santander: in scrub forest east of Bucaramanga toward Berlin, alt. 3300 m, 7 May 1984, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar & E. Valencia 10107* (Holotype: MO); same area, alt. 2600 m, 14 May 1982, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar & D. Portillo 7878* (SEL).

**ETIMOLOGIA:** Nombrada por la ciudad de Bucaramanga en Santander, Colombia, cercana al sitio de ocurrencia de esta especie.

**ETYMOLOGY:** Named for the city of Bucaramanga in Santander, Colombia, near where this species occurs.



**PLEUROTHALLIS BUCARAMANGAE** Luer & R. Escobar

**Plant** medium in size to large, epiphytic to terrestrial, densely caespitose but forming rhizomes up to 8 mm thick between clumps; roots slender, numerous. Ramicauls fasciculate, relatively slender, erect, 12-20 cm long, with a slender, tubular sheath near the middle and 2-3 imbricating sheaths about the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, petiolate, subacute to obtuse, the blade 7-10 cm long, 2-3 cm wide, cuneate below into a petiole 1 cm long. **Inflorescence** racemose, the racemes 1 or 2, stout, densely and simultaneously many-flowered, with the flowers erect and more or less distichous, 8-11 cm long including the peduncle 1-2 cm long, subtended by a slender spathe 1 cm long, from an annulus 1 cm below the abscission layer; floral bracts tubular, 5 mm long, enclosing the pedicel, ovary and lower portion of the flower; pedicels 1-1.5 mm long; ovary 2-2.5 mm long; **sepals** yellow, finely ciliate, the dorsal sepal elliptical-obovate, acute to subacute, concave, 8-9 mm long, 3.5-5 mm wide expanded, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 4 mm to form a cylindrical sepaline tube, the lateral sepals oblong, obtuse, 7-9 mm long, 2.5-3 mm wide, 3-veined, connate 3 mm; **petals** translucent yellow, veined in purple, elliptical, obtuse, more or less concave, 4-5 mm long, 2.5-3 mm wide, 3-veined; **lip** yellow, edged in purple, fleshy, ovate-oblong, 3.5 mm long, 1.5-2 mm wide, the apex obtuse to rounded, the disc broadly shallowly concave and smooth between a pair of low, lunate calli near or below the middle, and with a transverse callus above the narrowly concave base, the base truncate, solidly fixed to the column-foot; **column** stout, 1.5 mm long, the foot thick, 1 mm long with the apex short and thick, the anther, rostellum and stigma subapical.

Esta especie es muy parecida a *P. moritzii*. El hábito es semejante en tamaño y apariencia, pero el pecíolo de la hoja de *P. bucamangae* es considerablemente más largo, emergiendo la inflorescencia unos dos centímetros debajo de la lámina y la espata es delgada y considerablemente más pequeña. Los racimos de flores son parecidos, con flores semejantes, pero el ápice del ovado labelo de *P. moritzii* es agudo, y el ápice del oblongo labelo de *P. bucamangae* es redondeado.

This species is most similar to *P. moritzii*. The habit is similar in size and appearance, but the petiole of the leaf of *P. bucamangae* is considerably longer, the inflorescence emerging about two centimeters below the blade, and the spathe is slender and considerably smaller. The racemes also appear similar, with similar flowers, but the apex of the ovate lip of *P. moritzii* is acute, and the apex of the oblong lip of *P. bucamangae* is rounded.