



8. **STELIS FOETIDA** Duque, sp. nov.

(Pl. III, 4-6; Pl. X, 4)

Planta mediocris epiphytica, rizomate breviter ascendente. Folium ellipticum longior caulo secundario. Racemus solitarius longior folio, multiflorus fere usque ad basim. Floribus minutissimis flavescentibus. Sepalis ovatis pubescentibus, acutis, trinervis, Petalis cuneatis, apice suborbiculari crasso, trinervato. Labello subquadrato, tricuspidato, concavo, lobis lateralibus projectis, acutis, lobulo medio ascendente, acuto. Columna brevis, tricuspidata, brachiis stigmaticis et rostello elongatis.

**TIPO:** Colombia, Antioquia, epífita en monte neblinoso, Alto de Minas carretera Medellín Sta. Bárbara alt. ca. 2.300 m E. Acevedo. Florece en cultivo marzo 14, 1993. O. Duque 1760 (Holotipo: JAUM). Risaralda, Pueblo Rico, S. Tsubota; O. Duque 1136 (JAUM).

**ETIMOLOGIA:** Del latín *foetidus*, mal oliente, por el olor desagradable de las flores.

From the latin *foetidus* alluding to the repugnant fragrance of the flowers.

Planta mediana rizomatosa con tallos aproximados erectos unifoliados 8 x 12 cm de largo. Hojas elípticas angostas 8 x 1.2 cm, pecioladas. Inflorescencia, uno a varios racimos multifloros de 13 a 20 cm de largo con florecitas amarillas pubescentes, de aspecto anguloso y olor fétido. Sépalos libres doblados en los bordes que son esparcidamente peludos, trivenados. Pétalos triangulares-trapezoides trivenados. labelo subcuadrado, tricuspideo, excavado.

**Plant** medium in size, epiphytic, rhizomatous; roots slender fasciculate. Secondary stems slender erect approximate, unifoliate. 12-16 cm long, 0.2 cm in diameter, with two basal adpressed sheaths and another longer tubular sheath in the middle third. **Leaf** narrowly elliptic acute tridenticulate at the apex, 8 cm long, 1.2 cm wide, contracted at the base into a sulcate 1 cm long petiole. **Inflorescence** one to several erect or arching, distichous many-flowered 13-20 cm long racemes floriferous for the greater part of their length, from an apiculate 1 cm long spathe at the base of the leaf. Floral bracts infundibular, apiculate 2 mm long. Ovary 1.1 mm long. Flowers very small, yellow with redish-yellow central organs, foul smelling. **Sepals** similar 1.8 mm long, 3-veined, ovoid, acute, sparingly hairy at the backwards folded margins. Dorsal sepal nearly erect, lateral sepals oblique, directed forwards. **Petals** triangular-trapezoid, thin, the apex slightly cucullate 0.6 mm high, 0.8 mm wide, triveined. **Lip** 1 mm long, 0.8 mm wide elongate, subquadrate, tricuspid because of the three acute pointed lobes. the disc concave, limited by the deeply excavated shortly pubescent callus. **Column** 1 mm long, 0.8 mm wide the base of the stalk microscopically villous, the long stigmatic arms, with the long rostellum form a tricuspid structure.

**NOTAS:** *S. foetida* está muy relacionada con *S. tricuspis* Schltr., *S. spathulata* Poepp. & Endl. y *S. cuspidata* Ames pero las flores de estas especies son glabras, y los pétalos, sépalos y labelo son diferentes. *S. foetida* se reconoce fácilmente por su hábito ascendente en matojo, por el racimo de pequeñas florecitas amarillas con escasos pelos, con olor náuseabundo.

*S. foetida* is closely related to *S. tricuspis* Schltr., *S. spathulata* Poepp. & Endl. y *S. cuspidata* Ames, but the flowers of these species are glabrous and their structure is different. *S. foetida* is easily recognized by its ascendent clumpy habit and its racemes of small pubescent yellow flowers and its disagreeable smell.

4

