

10. **STELIS FRONTINENSIS** Duque, sp. nov.

(Pl. IV, 1-3; Pl. XI, 3)

Planta mediocris caespitosa. Caulibus similis longitudine foliae ellipticae. Racemus longior folio florescente unice ad apicem. Floribus rubris glabris magnis. Sepalis lateralibus connexis synsepalo vadoso. Petalis semicircularibus. Labellum cum callo pyramidalis transverso et verrucoso.

TIPO: Colombia, Antioquia; municipio de Frontino alt. ca. 2.200 m, Francisco Villegas mayo 1995. Florece en cultivo diciembre 13, 1995. O. Duque 1891 (Holotipo: JAUM).

ETIMOLOGIA: de Frontino nombre de la localidad en Antioquia donde se encontró la especie.

From the name of Frontino a village in Antioquia where the plant was found.

Planta mediana caespitosa epífita. los tallos aproximados erectos 9-11 cm de largo. Hoja elíptica peciolada 9.5 x 2 cm. Racimo floral más largo que la hoja, las flores relativamente grandes, rojas, dispuestas al extremo del escapo. Sépalos glabros, los laterales unidos en un sinsépalo pando con bolsillo anterior. Labelo triangular de lado, rómbico por encima, con el callo verrucoso en la base.

Plant medium in size, caespitose, epiphytic. Rhizome short, roots slender flexuous; secondary stems approximate, erect unifoliate 9-11 cm long, 0.25 cm in diameter, with two tubular sheaths at the base and a third 4.5 cm long sheath that covers most of the upper third of the stem. **Anulus.** **Leaf** erect or arching, the lamina 9.5 x 2 cm elliptic, the apex subacute tridentate, narrowing below into a 2 cm long channeled petiole that encloses the acute narrow 1 cm long spathe. **Inflorescence** 1 to 3 slender, erect racemes surpassing the leaf, up to 12 cm long, including the 7.5 cm long peduncle with many empty bracts, the distichous many-flowered rachis at the upper extremity. Flower bract amply navicular apiculate oblique, 2 mm long, enclosing the short pedicel and half of the curved 1.8 mm long ovary. Flowers red, relatively large. **Sepals** red, glabrous, the upper sepal broadly ovate, obtuse, 5.8 mm long, with 5 main and 6 adventitious veins; lateral sepals connate except at the bifid extremity forming a 5.5 mm long very shallow synsepal with a small pouch near the apex., each sepal 5 veined plus 1-2 adventitious veins. **Petals** large, flabellate-suborbital, the apex rounded, thickened, its sides overhanging, 1.5 mm high, 2.1 mm wide,

3-veined. **Lip** 3-lobed, frontally suborbicular, laterally triangular, rhombic from above, 1 mm long, 1.2 mm wide, obtuse at the apex, truncate at the base, the callus a frontally erect lamina divided by the glenion, transverse between the lateral lobes, descending towards the base with a verrucous surface. **Column** short and stout 1 mm long, 1.2 mm wide, the stigma bilobed.

NOTAS: Esta linda especie se puede distinguir entre la hueste de *Stelis* de flores rojas con sinsépalo, por su sinsépalo pando con bolsa anterior como en *S. asseris* Duque y *S. dentata* Duque de las cuales se puede separar por el pétalo semicircular engrosado y el callo verrucoso del labelo.

This pretty species may be distinguished from the host of *Stelis* with red flowers with synsepal by its shallow synsepal with an anterior pouch as in *S. asseris* Duque and *S. dentata* Duque from which it differs by its semicircular thickened petals and by the verrucose callus of the lip.



