

12. **PLEUROTHALLIS LEHMANNEPTIS** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Species haec *P. immersae* Linden & Rchb.f. affinis, sed foliis ellipticis latioribus, raceme brevior pedunculo in folium non immerso, petalis extus spiculatis, labello ad centrum transverse rugoso distinguitur.

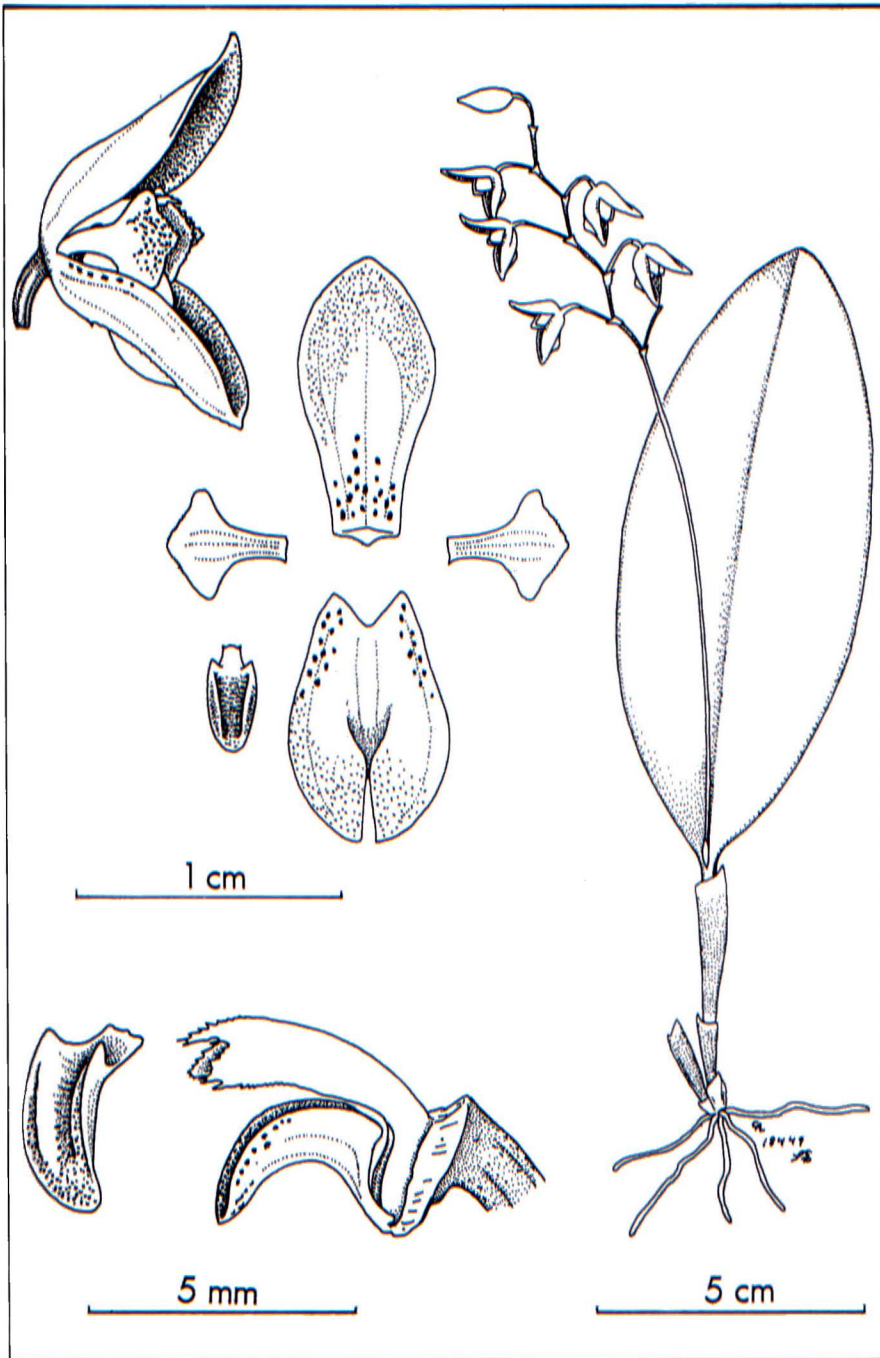
COLOMBIA: Dept. of Valle del Cauca: without collection data, cultivated by Orquídeas del Valle, 15 Mar. 1997, C. Luer 18449 (Holotype: MO). Dept. of Cauca: near Popayán, cultivated by Amalia Lehmann de Sarria, 26 July 1978, C. Luer 3010 (SEL).

ETIMOLOGÍA: Dedicada a la difunta Amalia Lehmann de Sarria; el nombre viene del latín *neptis* (nieta) y el apellido Lehmann, para significar «nieta de Lehmann».

ETYMOLOGY: Named for the late Amalia Lehmann de Sarria; from *Lehmann* and the Latin *neptis*, "granddaughter of Lehmann."

Plant medium to large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, stout, 3-5 cm long, enclosed by a loose, tubular sheath, and 2 shorter sheaths above the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, obtuse, sessile, 7-14 cm long, 3-6 cm wide, cuneate below into the base. **Inflorescence** a single, loose, distichous, subflexuous, simultaneously several-flowered raceme, 10-18 cm long including the peduncle 5-11 cm long, subtended by a spathe ca. 5 mm long, from the apex of the ramicaul at the base of the leaf; floral bracts infundibular, 3-5 mm long; pedicels 7-9 mm long; ovary 3 mm long; **sepals** fleshy, olive with multiple small, dark brown spots, minutely pubescent within, carinate externally, the dorsal sepal obovate, concave, obtuse, 10-12 mm long, 5-5.5 mm wide, the lateral sepals connate to near the apex into an obovate, bifid, obtuse lamina, 9.5-10 mm long, 6 mm wide; **petals** thick, yellow with red spicules externally, spathulate, obtuse, unguiculate, 4.5-5 mm long, 4-4.5 mm wide, 1 mm wide below the middle; **lip** thick, fleshy, covered with dark brown spots, oblong, rounded at the apex, arcuate, unguiculate, 4 mm long, 2 mm wide unexpanded, the sides erect with a longitudinal, intramural callus, verrucose within with the center transversely rugose, the base truncate, hinged to the column-foot; **column** stout, longitudinally winged, denticulate-erose, 5 mm long, the foot thick, 1.5 mm long, the anther and the stigma ventral.

La especie la cultivó Amalia Lehmann de Sarria en 1978 en su colección de orquídeas en Popayán, ciudad sureña de Colombia donde su abuelo, el ingeniero de minas F.C. Lehmann, se desempeñó como cónsul de Alemania. *Pleurothallis lehmanneptis* tiene afinidad cercana con *P. immersa*,



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distinguiéndose de ella sólo por unos pocos detalles menores. En *P. immersa*, como lo sugiere su nombre, el pedúnculo va inmerso o envuelto en el surco central de la hoja, normalmente hasta la mitad de su longitud, aunque en muchas plantas el pedúnculo se tiene sólo ligeramente en el surco y a veces se presenta libre. En cambio en *P. lehmanneptis* el pedúnculo está completamente libre; asimismo, la hoja es elíptica y más ancha, en vez de obovada y basalmente angosta; y el racimo suele ser más corto y menos flexuoso. Las flores son parecidas, salvo que *P. lehmanneptis* tiene los pétalos espiculado-verrugosos en la superficie externa, hacia el ancho ápice.

This species was cultivated by Amalia Lehmann de Sarria in 1978 in her collection of orchids in Popayán in southern Colombia, the same town in which her grandfather, mining engineer F. C. Lehmann had been the German consul. *Pleurothallis lehmanneptis* is closely allied to *P. immersa* and is distinguished by only a few minor differences. As the name implies, the peduncle of *P. immersa* is embedded or clasped in the central groove of the leaf, usually for about half its length. However, in many plants the peduncle is only lightly held in the groove, and occasionally it is free. In *P. lehmanneptis* the peduncle is completely free. The latter also differs from *P. immersa* by a broader, elliptical leaf instead of an obovate leaf distinctly narrower toward the base. The raceme is usually shorter and less flexuous. The flowers are similar, but the petals of *P. lehmanneptis* are spiculate-verrucose externally toward the broad apex.