

Pleurothallis pennelliana Luer, sp. nov.

Fig. 47.

Ety.: Named in honor of Francis W. Pennell who first collected this species.

Species haec *P. ligulatae* Lindl. affinis, sed habitu et floribus majoribus, sepalis longiciliatis et labello ad medium bicalloso differt.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls ascending, fasciculate, erect, slender, 10-20 cm long, with a close, tubular sheath near the middle and enclosed by 2-3 tubular, imbricating sheaths at the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical-oblong, subacute to obtuse, 8-11 cm long, 1.5-2.5 cm wide, the base narrowly cuneate into a petiole ca. 1 cm long. **Inflorescence** a solitary, simultaneously many-flowered raceme 17-23 cm long including the slender peduncle 5-7.5 cm long, subtended by a slender spathe 1-2 cm long, borne laterally from the ramicaul 7-8 mm below the abscission layer; floral bracts tubular, 5 mm long; pedicels 5-8 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; **sepals** yellow-green, finely long-ciliate, the dorsal sepal free, ovate, concave, acute, 9-11 mm long, 4-5 mm wide, the lateral sepals oblong, acute, 9-11 mm long, 2-2.75 mm wide, connate ca. 5 mm; **petals** translucent, with the midvein and margins brown, elliptical, subcarinate, rounded at the apex, 5-5.5 mm long, 2-2.5 mm wide, 3-veined; **lip** ovate-subtrilobed, 4.25 mm long, 3 mm wide expanded, the apex rounded, dilated below the middle with the sides erect, the disc smooth with a pair of small, lunate calli near the middle near the margins, the base concave on the end, densely hinged to the small, bulbous apex of the column-foot; **column** stout, 2.5 mm long, the foot thick, 0.5 mm long, the anther, rostellum and stigma ventral.

COLOMBIA: **Cundinamarca**: Río San Cristobal near Bogotá, alt. 3000-3200 m, 20-26 Sept. 1917, *F. W. Pennell 2043* (Holotype: US; Isotype: AMES); Cerro Negro, Hato Grande, east of Gachetá, alt. 3000 m, 13 June 1944, *M. L. Grant 9407* (NY), C. Luer illustr. 17068; San Miguel near Sibaté, alt. 2800-3250 m, 4 Sept. 1949, *M. Schneider 151* (S), C. Luer illustr. 17106; Páramo de Guerrero, between Zipaquirá and Pacho, alt. 3280 m, 28 Nov. 1976, *P.J.M. Maas & R. Jaramillo 1791* (K, NY), C. Luer illustr. 17067; Vereda Bóchica, Fusagasugá, finca Lolandia, alt. 1780-1900 m, 6 Nov. 1980, *H. García-Barriga 21237* (US); Mountains of Bogotá, without altitude or date, *Bro. Ariste-Joseph A442b* (US).

This species, closely related to *P. ligulata*-complex, is apparently endemic in the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia where it grows sympatrically with the latter. Similar to the latter, it is characterized by slender, densely fascicled, ascending ramicauls. The elliptical, petiolate leaves are broader than those acceptable for *P. ligulata*. The flowers, borne in shorter racemes, are larger and yellow-green with the sepals long-ciliate. The petals are veined in purple. The lip is oblong, dilated below the middle with the sides erect. A pair of low, rounded calli are present near the middle near the margins.

