

Pleurothallis salpingantha Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

Fig. 56.

Ety.: From the Greek *salpinganthos*, "with trumpet-like flowers," referring to the sepaline tube.

Planta grandis dense caespitosa, racemo multifloro folio elliptico sessile longiore, spatha magna, sepalis vivide aureis ad medium in tubum arcuatum connatis, petalis obtusis trinervis, labello ovoideo obtuso disco ad medium bicalloso.

Plant medium in size to large, coarse, epiphytic to terrestrial, densely caespitose; roots slender, numerous. Ramicauls fasciculate, stout, erect, 6-32 cm long, with a loose, tubular sheath near the middle and 2-3 loose, imbricating sheaths about the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, subacute to obtuse, 7-14 cm long, 2-6 cm wide, cuneate below into a sessile base. **Inflorescence** racemose, 1 to a few, comparatively stout, simultaneous, more or less secund or distichous, densely and simultaneously many-flowered racemes, 12-22 cm long including the peduncle 3-5 cm long, subtended by a spathe 2-4.5 cm long, from an annulus 2-3 mm below the abscission layer; floral bracts tubular, 6-7 mm long, enclosing the pedicel, ovary and lower portion of the flower; pedicels 1.5-2 mm long; ovary 1.5-2 mm long; **sepals** yellow, ciliate, variously short-pubescent above the middle, the dorsal sepal elliptical-obovate, acute to obtuse, concave, 9-11 mm long, 3.5-4.5 mm wide expanded, 3-veined (sometimes with a partial, additional pair), connate to the lateral sepals for 4 mm to form a cylindrical sepaline tube, the lateral sepals oblong-obovate, subacute, 9-10 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, 3-veined, connate 4 mm; **petals** translucent yellow, elliptical-obovate, obtuse, more or less concave, 4-5 mm long, 2.75 mm wide, 3-veined; **lip** yellow, fleshy, ovate to oblong, 2.5-3 mm long, 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.

ECUADOR: Loja; near the pass south of Yangana, alt. 2400 m, 23 Mar. 1985, C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Hirtz & W. Flores 10865 (Holotype: MO); páramo above Saraguro, alt. 3320 m, 26 May 1978, J. A. Hart 1432 (AMES, NY, US); Nudo de Sabanilla above Yangana, alt. 2600 m, 6 Feb. 1985, G. Harling & L. Andersson 21683 (AMES); same area, alt. 2500 m, 3 Apr. 1985, G. Harling & L. Andersson 23604 (AMES, GB); Parqué Nacional Podocarpus, east of Nudo de Cajanuma, alt. 2850-2950 m, 21 Feb. 1985, B. Ølgaard et al. 57818 (AAU, QCA); same locality, alt. 2900-3000 m, 10 Apr. 1989, J. E. Madsen 85906, 85952 (AAU, QCA). **Carchi**: terrestrial on road embankment east of the pass above Maldonado, alt. 3400 m, 15 Jan. 1992, C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Jesup & P. Jesup 16044 (MO). **Pichincha**: along the new

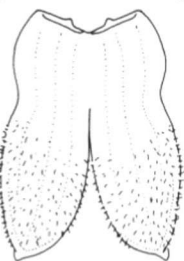
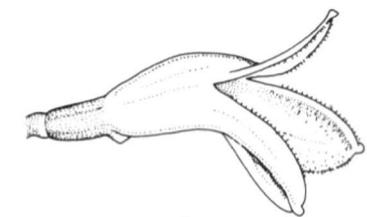
road between Quito and Santo Domingo, alt. 3000 m, 28 Oct. 1979, *C. Luer, J. Luer & A. Hirtz 4390* (SEL). **Napo:** Guacamayo Range, alt. 1800 m, 18 Nov. 1984, *A. Hirtz 2107* (MO); Cosanga, alt. 2000 m, May 1984, *A. Hirtz 1778* (MO). **Morona-Santiago:** between Gualaceo and Limón, alt. 2650 m, 16 Feb. 1986, *C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Hirtz, W. Flores & A. Embree 11839* (MO). **Napo:** Quijos south of Cosanga, alt. 2120 m, 15 Feb. 1978, *J. H. Kirkbride & H. Chamba 4102* (NY, US); between Baeza and Tena, alt. 2200 m, *C. H. Dodson & T. A. Dodson 16446* (MO). **Loja:** Altos de Numbala, east of Yangana, alt. 2500-2900 m, May 1985, *D. D' Alessandro 410* (MO). **Zamora-Chinchipe:** above Valladolid, alt. 2450 m, 18 Mar. 1984, *C. Luer, S. Dalström, T. Højjer & J. Kuijt 9570* (MO); Cajanuma range south of Loja, alt. 2750 m, 21 Mar. 1985, *C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Hirtz & W. Flores 10735A* (MO); between Yangana and Valladolid, alt. 2600-2700 m, 2-6 Feb. 1985, *G. Harling & L. Andersson 21470, 21683* (AMES, GB); Quebrada Honda, alt. 1450 m, 14 Mar. 1986, *D. D' Alessandro 548* (MO); between Loja and Zamora, alt. 2770 m, 19 Apr. 1973, *L. Holm-Nielsen, S. Jeppesen, B. Løjtnant & B. Øllgaard 3842* (AAU); east of the Loja-Zamora pass, alt. 2750 m, 20 Feb. 1986, *C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Hirtz, W. Flores & A. Embree 11970* (MO); same area, alt. 2800 m, 15 Mar. 1989, *J. E. Madsen 85906* (AAU); same area, alt. 2500-3000 m, 25 Mar. 1990, *J. E. Madsen 87084* (AAU, QCA).

COLOMBIA: Norte de Santander: Munic. of Toledo, Alto de Santa Inez, alt. 2250 m, 13 May 1984, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar & E. Valencia 10335* (MO). **Santander:** cloud forest between Bucaramanga and Berlin, alt. 2600 m, 15 May 1982, *C. Luer & R. Escobar 7878* (SEL). **Quindío:** epiphytic at pass between Salento and Tocha, alt. 3250 m, 10 May 1993, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar & A. DeWilde 16751* (MO).

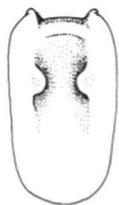
VENEZUELA: Táchira: headwaters of Río Quinimarí, below cliffs of La Relumbrante, alt. 2550 m, Feb. 1968, *G.C.K. Dunsterville 1063*.

PERU: Pasco: Oxapampa, alt. 2700 m, 7 Mar. 1986, *H. van der Werff et al. 8572* (MO).

This species is widely distributed in the Andes from the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia into Peru. It is allied to the frequent and variable *P. laevigata*, with which it is sympatric in the southern half of its range. One to a few, long, multi-flowered racemes are produced from a large, foliaceous spathe at the base of a sessile leaf. The flowers are distinguished by the bright yellow color, and deeply connate sepals that form a sepaline tube below the middle. The free portions are about equal in size and shape and recurve only slightly. The broad, three-veined petals and oblong lip are very similar to those of *P. laevigata*. The apex of the lip is broadly rounded or more or less narrowly obtuse, and the pair of lunate calli are present near or below the middle of the disc.



5 mm



2 mm



5 cm

