

**Pleurothallis simplex** A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba epiphytica, caespitosa, mediocris. Caules monophylli, vaginis paucis tubularis laxis ornati. Folium ellipticum, crassum, valde obtusum. Inflorescentiae foliis multo longiores, singulae vel duae, subdense racemosae. Sepala ovata, in dorso carinata. Petala oblongo-oblancheolata. Labellum obovato-pentangulum.

Plant caespitose, up to 21.4 cm. tall. Roots fibrous, flexuous, glabrous. Stems monophyllous, 3–12.7 cm. long, adorned with 3–4 loose tubular sheaths of which the uppermost is largest and loosest. Leaf elliptic, 3.3–7 cm. long, up to 2.8 cm. wide, very obtuse at the apex, sessile with a cuneate or somewhat rounded base, erect, thickly coriaceous and rugose in the dried specimen, mid-nerve sulcate above and conspicuously carinate beneath. Inflorescences solitary or in pairs (very rarely a third rachis remains), much surpassing the leaf; peduncle below the raceme commonly much shorter than the leaf, with 3–4 distant tubular sheaths; raceme subdensely many-flowered; rachis fractiflex. Flowers small, all appear to be in a mature state, having well-developed ellipsoid ovaries and connivent perianth segments. Sepals fleshy. Lateral sepals ovate, about 2.8 mm. long and 1.8 mm. wide, subacute, 1-nerved, conspicuously carinate on the outer surface. Dorsal sepal similar, broadly ovate, cucullate. Petals oblong-oblancheolate, about 2.1 mm. long, obtuse, 1-nerved, membranaceous. Labellum simple, obovate-pentagonal in outline with a truncate fleshy base and upcurved sides, 2 mm. long and about equally wide above the middle when spread out, obtuse, 3-nerved. Column small, stout.

*Pleurothallis simplex* is apparently without Central American allies. It is vegetatively similar to the South American *P. acuminata* Lindl. and *P. pulchella* Lindl.

The specific name is derived from the simple lip.

Dried plants furnished the description.

COSTA RICA, Province of San José, Cerro de las Vueltas, Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio 44023, December 29, 1925–January 1, 1926. 2700–3000 meters altitude. "On tree." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33475); Standley & Valerio 43652, 43664, 44011.