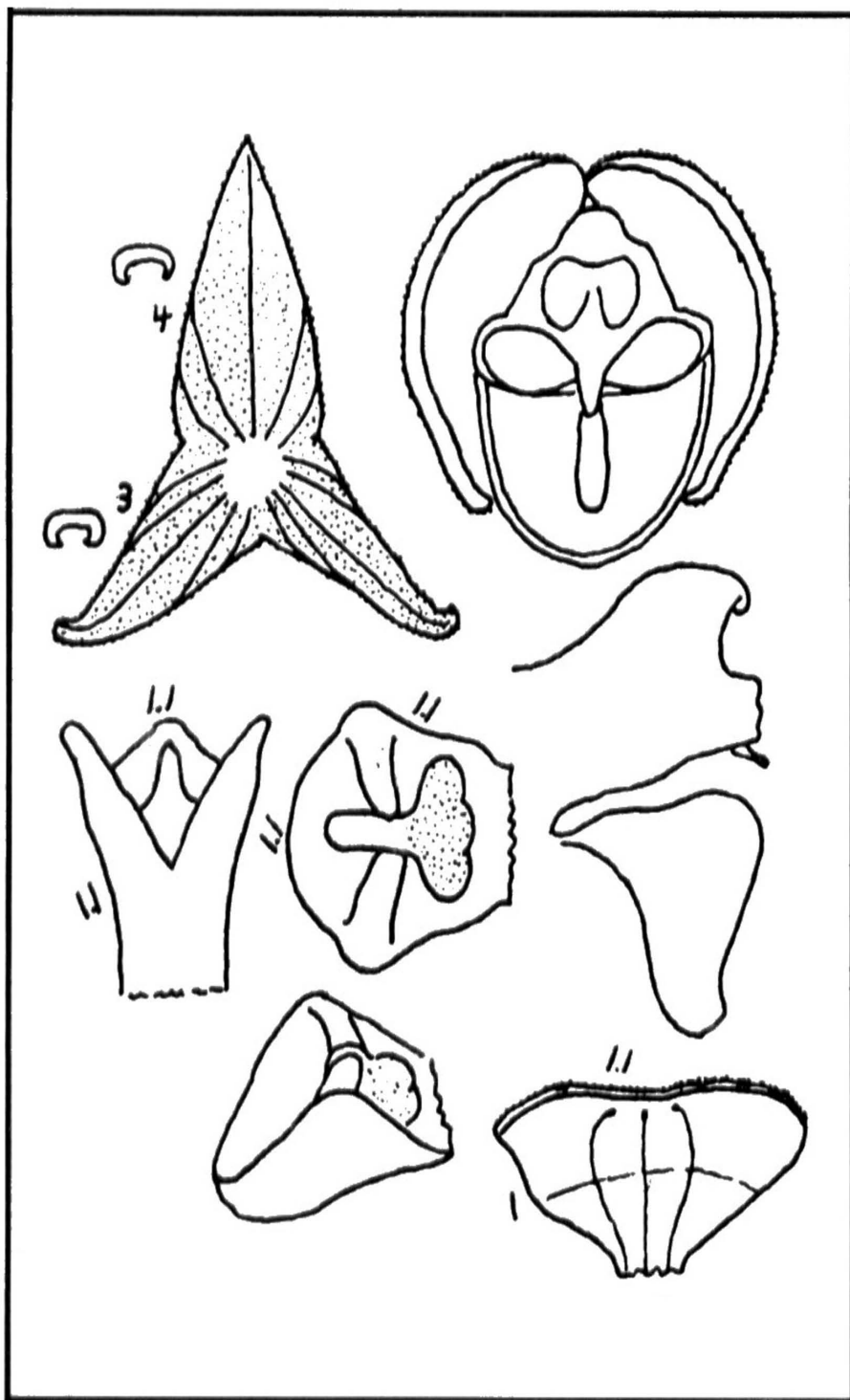
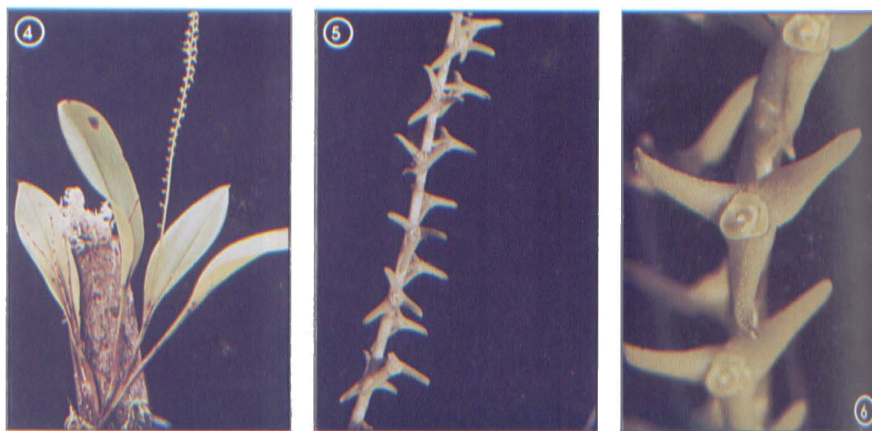






23. **STELIS STELLA** Duque, sp. nov

(Pl. VIII, 4-6; Pl. XIV, 3)

Planta grandis epiphytica. Caulibus secundariis crassis tribus vaginis, apicem versus incrassantur et complanatur. Folio erecto oblongo, basis in brevem petiolum angustatur. Racemo erecto laxe multifloro. Floribus medianis, stelliformis. Sepalis similibus, patentibus, marginibus breviter pubescentibus. Petalis flabellatis. Labello a latere viso, triangulari, circuitu oblongoideo, antice obtuso. Inter lobis lateralibus callum carnosum cum crista transversali divisa et gibosa. Columna brachiis stigmaticis oblique porrectis.

TIPO: Colombia, Departamento de Valle del Cauca, montañas cerca a Buenaventura; la planta fue encontrada en el cultivo de O. y M. Robledo-Posada en La Ceja, cerca a Medellín. Floreció en el cultivo de O. Duque en junio 2, 1990. O. Duque 1143 (Holotipo:JAUM).

ETIMOLOGIA: del latín *stella*, estrella, por la forma de la flor como una estrella de 3 picos.

From the Latin *stella*, a star, referring to the shape of the flower like a 3-pointed star.

Planta grande vigorosa. Tallos secundarios de 10-13 cm de largo que se engruesan y se aplanan hacia arriba. Hoja erecta, estriada, oblongo-elíptica 14 x 6.5 cm, peciolada. Racimo dístico, 20-40 cm de largo, multiflo-

ro. Flores pequeñas verde-amarillas, como estrellitas. Sépalos similares, libres, patentes, con bordes doblados hacia atrás, cortamente vellosos, forman entre sí como una estrella de 3 picos, 5 venas. Pétalos flabeliformes trivenados. Labelo lateralmente triangular-oblongo obtuso con callo transversal de base trilobada vellosa. Los estigmas son largos y prominentes.

Plant large, epiphytic. Secondary stems 10-13 cm long, approximate from a short rhizome, terete at the base it enlarges and flattens at the top; two basal fibrous sheaths at the base and a 5 cm long scarious sheath near the middle, unifoliate. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, striated, elliptic, asymetrically tridenticulate at the apex, the lamina 12-14 cm long, 5-6.5 cm wide, narrowing below into a decurrent canaliculate 1 cm long petiole. **Inflorescence** an erect distichous many-flowered raceme 20-40 cm long including an 8 cm long bracteate peduncle, from a compressed 3-4 cm long spathe partially dwelling in the canaliculate petiole. Floral bract thin oblique, shortly apiculate 2 mm long, covering most of the pedicel. Ovary 4 mm long. Flowers small, yellowish-green, arranged in two rows, resupinate or tranverse over the rachis. **Sepals** similar, narrowly triangular, ovate when extended, shortly villous, the sides folded back, spread forming a 3 pointed star, 5-veined, 3.5-4 cm long, 0.6 mm wide. **Petals** obtusely flabellate, the thin margin erose, depressed at the center, 3-veined, 1 mm high, 1.6 mm wide. **Lip** 1.1 mm long, 1.1 mm wide, laterally obtusely triangular, trilobed, the face rounded shallowly concave, the apex broadly rounded, the callus thick, transversely crested between the middle lobes, divided by a wide glenion that ends posteriorly in a tri-lobed mass of soft, shortly pubescent tissue. **Column** 1.1 mm long, 1.1 mm wide the long oblique stigmatic arms projected upward.

NOTAS: *S. stella* es pariente cercana de *S. santiagoensis* Mansf. pero esta especie tiene un área distintiva, pubescente, en el centro del margen superior de los pétalos, el labelo es diferente y el racimo bastante más corto, sin embargo en ambas especies la flor es una estrella de 3 picos. *S. stella* es muy fácil de reconocer por su largo racimo de florecitas estrelladas.

S. stella is closely related to *S. santiagoensis* Mansf. in that both species have star-shaped flowers, but *S. santiagoensis* has a distinctive pubescent area in the center of the apex of the petals, the lip is different and its raceme shorter. *S. stella* is easy to recognize by its long raceme with many small stellate flowers.