

Pleurothallis tintinnabula Luer, *sp. nov.* TYPE: COSTA RICA. Prov. of Guanacaste: Monteverde Forest Reserve, alt. ca. 1400 m, 1989, *J. T. Atwood 89-235* (Holotype: SEL). Fig. 27.

Species haec *P. papilliferae* Rolfe affinis, sed floribus minoribus, sepalis obtusis et labello elliptico obtuso crasso non transverse rugoso et sine carina subter differt.

Plant small to medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose, roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 3–9 cm long, enclosed by a thin, closely fitting tubular sheath below the middle and 2 shorter sheaths at the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, sessile, 3–7 cm long, 1–2.5 cm wide, cuneate below into the base. **Inflorescence** a loose, secund, flexuous, simultaneously 4- to 6-flowered raceme, 6–8 cm long including the slender peduncle 2–3 cm long, borne laterally from the apex of the ramicaul at the base of the leaf, with a spathe ca. 3 mm long; floral bracts 3–4 mm long; pedicel 5 mm long; ovary 3 mm

long; **sepals** mottled with dark purple, glabrous, concave, the dorsal sepal elliptical, obtuse, 9 mm long, 6.5 mm wide expanded, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate to near the apex into an elliptical, shortly bifid lamina, 9 mm long, 6 mm wide expanded; **petals** dark purple, elliptical, concave, rounded at the apex, verrucose externally, 6 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, 3-veined, with the veins prominent on the inner surface in the distal half; **lip** dark purple, fleshy, ovoid, 3-lobed, 5.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, the margins thin and erect below the middle forming rounded, basal lobes above the base, the apical lobe elliptical, obtuse, minutely verrucose, convex, the disc concave below the middle above a transverse callus at the base, hinged to the tip of the column-foot; **column** stout, subconical, 2 mm long, with the margin extending beyond the anther, the anther, rostellum and stigma ventral, the foot 1 mm long with the apex free.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *tintinnabula*, "bells," alluding to the fancied appearance of the flowers.

This species of subgenus *Dracontia*, most similar to *P. papillifera*, is apparently endemic in the mountains of the Monteverde Forest Reserve. It is distinguished by the small habit; an acute, elliptical leaf; a flexuous raceme longer than the leaf with several, nutant, bell-like, purple flowers; an obtuse, concave dorsal sepal and synsepal; obtuse, verrucose petals; and a thick, ovate, obtuse lip with thin, erect, rounded, basal lobes.

PARATYPE: COSTA RICA. Guanacaste: Monteverde Forest Reserve, alt. ca. 1400 m, 1989, *J. T. Atwood 89-132* (SEL).

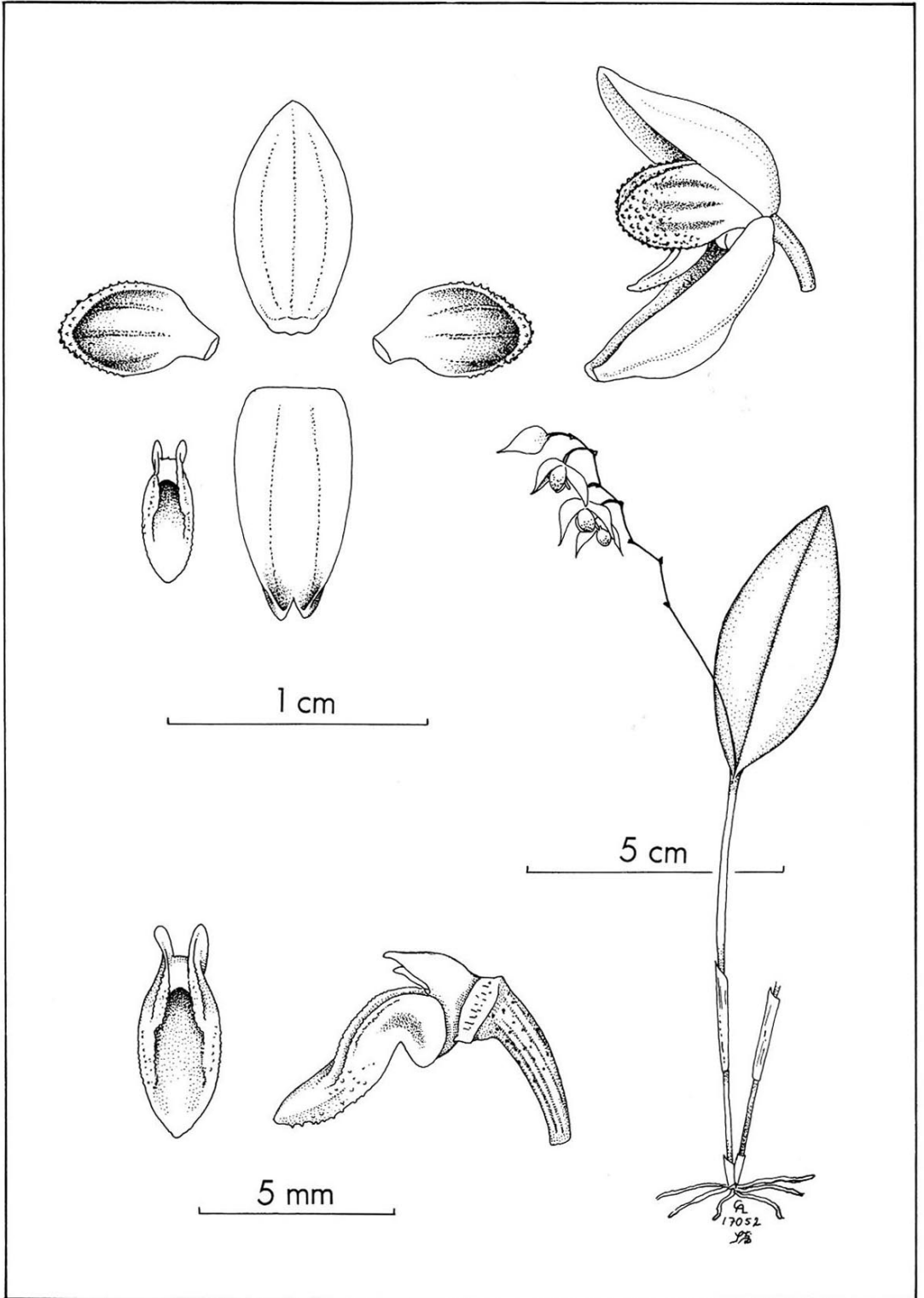


Fig. 27. *Pleurothallis tintinabula*