

**Trichosalpinx parsonsii** Luer & Dod, sp. nov.

Fig. 68.

Ety.: Named in honor of Jerry Parsons of Berkeley, CA, co-collector of this species.

Species haec *T. durae* (Lindl.) Luer affinis, sed floribus minoribus, sepalis angustioribus et labello oblongo ecalloso distinguitur.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, scandent, prolific, up to 10 cm or more long; roots slender along the stem. Ramicauls ascending, slender, producing another ramical from the apex, 10-12 mm long, enclosed by 3-4 minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** ascending, thickly coriaceous, elliptical, obtuse, 8-10 mm long, 4.5-6 mm wide, broadly cuneate or rounded below into a petiole ca. 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a loose, subflexuous, distichous, simultaneously few-flowered raceme 2-3 cm long including the filiform peduncle ca. 1 cm long, from near the apex of a ramicaul; floral bracts 1 mm long; pedicels 2 mm long; ovary 0.5 mm long; **sepals** pale yellow, glabrous, subcarinate, the dorsal sepal narrowly ovate-triangular and concave below the middle, acute, attenuate above the middle, 4 mm long, 1 mm wide, 3-veined, barely connate to the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals free, narrowly triangular, attenuate, acute, oblique, 4 mm long, 0.75 mm wide, 1-veined; **petals** membranous, elliptical, oblique, obtuse, microscopically irregular at the tip, 1.5 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** yellowish, oblong, very shallowly concave, 1.5 mm long, 0.5 mm wide, with the apex rounded and thickened, the base truncate, hinged to the column-foot; **column** terete, 0.6 mm long, wingless, the foot minute, 0.2 mm long, the anther subapical, the stigma ventral.

COSTA RICA: Prov. of San José: near Santa Maria de Dota, 13 June 1990, flowered in cultivation in Berkeley, CA, by D. Dod, June, 1997, *M. Grantham & J. Parsons 03 93 90* (Holotype: UC; Isotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 18486.

This little species with small prolific ramicauls and small elliptical leaves is vegetatively similar to sympatric forms of the *T. dura*-complex and the Andean *T. scabridula*. Loose racemes of tiny, yellow flowers exceed the leaves. From both the above, *T. parsonsii* differs with the smaller flowers with proportionately narrower sepals and a simple, oblong lip free of any callus.