

Trichosalpinx spathulata Luer, sp. nov.

Fig. 100.

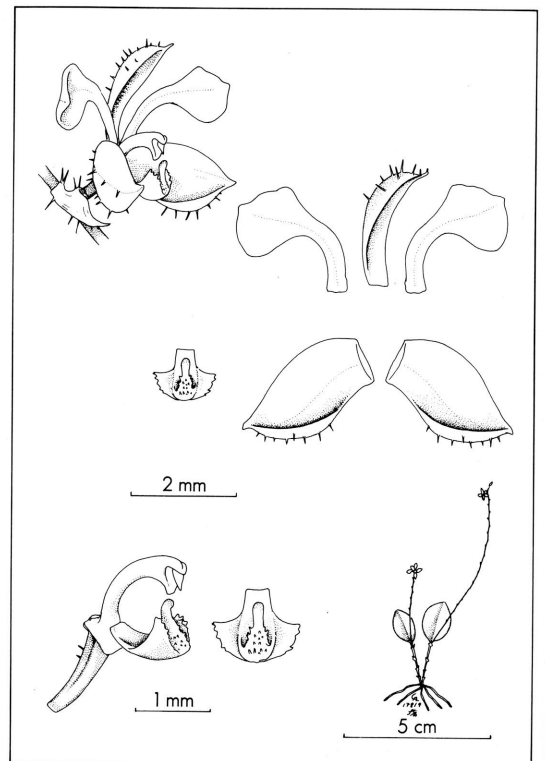
Ety.: From the Latin *spathulatus*, "spathulate," referring to the petals.

Planta perparva, foliis ellipticis ramicaulibus plus minusve aequilongis, vaginis longispiculatis ad ostium dilatatis, sepalis spiculatis, lateralibus liberis, petalis longi-unguiculatis late spathulatis obtusis erosis et labelli callo erecto digitiformi distinguitur.

Plant very small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, stout, 10-18 mm long, enclosed by 3-4 long-ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths with dilated ostia. **Leaf** green with purple veins, erect, coriaceous, elliptical, obtuse, 10-15 mm long including a petiole 1 mm long, 7-10 mm wide, the base cuneate into the petiole. **Inflorescence** a loose, successively many-flowered raceme, up to 6 cm long, including the peduncle ca. 1 cm long, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts acuminate, long-spiculate, 1.5 mm long; pedicels 1 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** rose, long-spiculate externally, the dorsal sepal obovate, acute, concave, 2.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, free from the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals free, elliptical-ovate, acute, concave, 2.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 1-veined; **petals** rose, erect, broadly spathulate, obtuse, erose, long-unguiculate, 2.5 mm long, including the claw 1 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** rose, fleshy, elliptical-obovoid, 1 mm long, 0.5 mm wide, the apical half occupied by an erect, finger-like callus, verrucose on the anterior surface, with the basal surface smooth and continuous with the claw-like base, the margins thinly dilated with lobulated margins, the base smooth, concave, inflexibly attached to the base of the column; **column** slender, arcuate, terete, 1.5 mm long, the anther apical, the stigma ventral.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Chocó: Munic. of San José del Palmar, Cerro del Torrá, above the heliport, primary rain forest, alt. 1920-1950 m, 11 Aug. 1988, National Geographic Society grant 3884-88, *P. Silverstone-Sopkin, N. Paz, R. T. González, J. E. Ramos, L. H. Ramos & A. Henao 4323* (Holotype: CUVC; Isotype: MO); Cerro del Torrá, between heliport and mesa, 28 Aug. 1988, National Geographic Society grant 3884-88, *P. Silverstone-Sopkin, N. Paz, R. T. González, J. E. Ramos, L. H. Ramos & A. Henao 4830* (CUVC); Cerro del Torrá, east of Río Negro below the heliport, alt. 1600 m, 9 Aug. 1988, National Geographic Society grant 3884-88, *J. E. Ramos, P. Silverstone, L. H. Ramos et al. 1106* (CUVC); Cerro del Torrá, above heliport, alt. 1920 m, 8 Jan. 1984, *F. Silverstone-Sopkin, N. Paz, A. Duque & H. Bayona 1642* (CUVC).

This species, apparently endemic in rain forest on Cerro Torrá in the Chocó of Colombia, is allied to *T. silverstonei* and *T. uvaria*, companion plants, as well as *T. pseudolepanthes*. Vegetatively, it is small with a comparatively stout ramicaul enclosed by long-ciliate sheaths. The flowers are distinguished by concave, spiculate sepals; long-unguiculate, broadly spathulate, erose petals; and a lip with an erect, finger-like callus. The margins of the lip are thin and dilated with lobulate margins.

Fig. 100. *Trichosalpinx spatulata*