

Trichosalpinx wilhelmii Luer, sp. nov.

Fig. 91.

Ety.: Named in honor of Dr. Sherman Wilhelm, formerly of Sarasota, Florida, co-discoverer of this species.

Species haec *T. durae* (Lindl.) Luer affinis, sed labello multiminore cum callis duobus mammilliformibus distinguitur.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose and more or less prolific; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, often 2-3 superposed, each 1.5-3 cm long, enclosed by 3-6 microscopically scabrous, lepanthiform sheaths with dilated, ciliate ostia. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, gray-green with 3 purple stripes, elliptical to broadly elliptical, obtuse, 7-10 mm long, 4-7 mm wide, contracted below into a petiole 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a loose, subsecund, simultaneously several-flowered raceme, 15-25 mm long including the filiform peduncle 5-10 mm long, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts ciliate, 0.75 mm long; pedicels 1 mm

long; ovary 0.4 mm long; **sepals** yellow, glabrous, tall-carinate, thickened toward the apices, the dorsal sepal ovate, concave, acute, slightly acuminate, 2.5 mm long, 1-1.25 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals barely connate basally, narrowly ovate, oblique, acute, 2.5 mm long, 0.75 mm wide, 1-veined; **petals** colorless, translucent, oblong, 0.75 mm long, 0.3 mm wide, 1-veined, the apex obtuse to rounded, microscopically erose; **lip** yellow, fleshy, cellular glandular, ovoid, 0.75-0.9 mm long, 0.5-0.75 mm wide expanded, rounded and thick at the apex with the margins broadly rounded and erect in the lower two-thirds, the disc channeled centrally between a pair of mammillate calli above the middle, the base truncate, hinged to the column-foot; **column** terete, winged at the apex, 0.5 mm long, the anther apical, the stigma ventral.

ECUADOR: Prov. of Napo: Archidona, alt. 550 m, Spring 1983, A. Hirtz 888 (Holotype: MO; Isotype: SEL); Guacamayo Range south of Baeza, alt. ca. 1000 m, 11 Aug. 1978, C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Hirtz & A. Andreetta 3261 (SEL); Prov. of Pichincha: orange trees above Tinalandia, alt. 800 m, 16 Aug. 1975, C. Luer, G. Luer & S. Wilhelm 532 (SEL).

This little species, found uncommonly on both sides of the Andes of Ecuador, closely resembles the frequent and variable *T. dura*-complex with which it is sympatric. The ramicauls of both species are prolific, but densely clumped plants are formed. The small leaves are similarly often striped with purple along the three veins. The racemes of both species are similar, those of *T. wilhelmii* being smaller with shorter bracts and pedicels. The small sepals are tall-carinate; the tiny petals are translucent with a microscopically erose, rounded apex; and the minute lip is cellular and fleshy with erect, rounded sides, and a pair of central, mammillate calli.

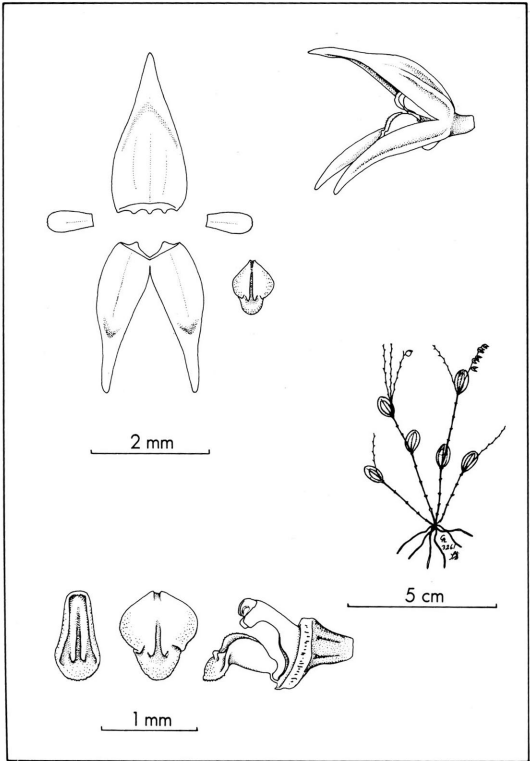


Fig. 91. *Trichosalpinx wilhelmii*