

Trichosalpinx zunagensis Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

Fig. 102.

Etymology: Named for the Río Zuñag in east-central Ecuador where the species was discovered.

Planta parva, foliis ellipticis ramicaulibus brevioribus, vaginis ciliatis, sepalis lateralibus in synsepalum ovatum partim connatis, petalis anguste ovatis acutis et labelli callo subclavato distinguitur.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, slender, 3-4 cm long, enclosed by 4-6 ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, obtuse, 25-33 mm long including a petiole 3-4 mm long, 10-14 mm wide, the base cuneate into the petiole. **Inflorescence** a substrict, loose, successively several-flowered raceme, up to 8 cm long, borne by a filiform peduncle 4-5 cm long, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts acuminate, spiculate, 2-3 mm long; pedicels 1.5 mm long; ovary long-spiculate, 3-4 mm long; **sepals** orange, long-spiculate externally, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, concave, 5.5 mm long, 3 mm wide expanded, 3-veined, free from the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate, acute, concave, shortly bifid synsepal, 5 mm long, 3.75 mm wide, 2-veined; **petals** orange, narrowly triangular, acute, 5 mm long, 1 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** orange, fleshy, elliptical-ovoid, 4 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the apex obtuse with the margins minutely crenulate, the disc with an erect, oblong, subclavate callus, papillose on the front surface, much narrower than the blade, the base smooth, concave, inflexibly attached to the base of the column; **column** orange, erect, stout, terete, 2 mm long, the anther exposed on the ventral surface of the erect gynostemium, the stigma ventral.

ECUADOR: Prov. of Pastaza: epiphytic in cloud forest along Río Zuñag, alt. 2600 m, 23 Feb. 1990, A. Hirtz, S. Dalström, L. Årnby, J. Del Hierro, E. Astorga, S. Ortega & J. Cabezas 4632 (Holotype: MO).

This species, apparently endemic in a remote, mountainous area of central Ecuador, is closely allied to the Colombian *T. calceolaris* and *T. pseudolepanthes*, but *T. zunagensis* is larger vegetatively with fewer, larger, orange flowers. It is also distinguished by the sepals that are connate to near the apex, and the larger lip with a smaller, verrucose callus that is slightly clavate at the rounded apex. It is much narrower than the blade.