

**Pleurothallis chaetoglossa** Luer, sp. nov.

Planta parva epiphytica caespitosa, caulibus secundariis brevibus unifoliatis proliferantibus seriebus longis dependentibus formantibus, vaginis costatis scabridulosis, foliis coriaceis ellipticis acutis, pauciracemis paucifloris brevissimis, floribus pallido flavovirescentibus, sepalis petalisque oblongis acutis, labello trilobato, lobo antico angusto tereti obtuso piloso, lobis lateralibus infra medium late obtusis erectis, base transverse calloso.

Plant small, epiphytic caespitose; roots filiform, flexuous. Secondary stems dependent, prolific, the series of individual secondary stems to 17 cm long, each secondary stem slender, unifoliate, 1-3 cm long, enclosed by 1-4 close-fitting, ribbed, tubular sheaths, only slightly dilated at the ostia, minutely scabrous along the ribs and margins. Leaf thick, coriaceous, elliptical, the apex acute, minutely tridenticulate, the base cuneate, with a petiole 1-2 mm long, the blade 18-20 × 4-5 mm. Inflorescence a few (1-3), abbreviated, 2- to 3-flowered racemes, the peduncles 3-5 mm long, from the apices of the secondary stems; flowers glabrous, pale yellow green, not widely spreading; floral bract oblique, acute, 1-1.5 mm long; pedicel 1.5-2 mm long; ovary 0.5 mm long; dorsal sepal oblong-ovate, acute, 5.5 × 2 mm, tricarinate; lateral sepals narrowly oblong, the apices acute and thickened, connate basally to form a shallow mentum below the column-foot, each 5 × 1.25 mm, unicarinate; petals elliptical, oblique, acuminate, acute, 4 × 1.5 mm, 1-veined; lip obscurely 3-lobed, narrowed and terete above the middle to an obtuse apex, glandular pilose, dilated below the middle into erect, obtuse, broadly triangular lateral lobes, pubescent, the base truncate, with a central, transverse, curved callus, 2.5 × 1.5 mm across the spread lateral lobes; column 1.25 mm long, with a short foot.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek *chaete*, "long hair," and *glossa*, "tongue," in allusion to the pilose anterior lobe of the lip.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: PASTAZA: epiphytic in citrus grove ca. 8 km north of El Puyo, alt. 750 m, 21 March 1976, C. Luer, J. Luer & J. Brenner 1097 (HOLOTYPE: SEL), flowered in cult. 3 Nov. 1976.

DISTRIBUTION: Eastern Ecuador.

The long, trailing, "leafy" stems of this species are composed of a series of short, superposed, secondary stems, each of which bears a single, little, elliptical leaf. The markedly prolific habit is similar to that of *Pleurothallis cedralensis* Ames, but the compound stems are much longer and pendent.

Small, yellowish white flowers in very short, few-flowered racemes are produced simultaneously from the apices of most of the secondary stems. The sepals and petals are nearly equal in size. The lip is most distinct in its narrow, villous, anterior lobe.

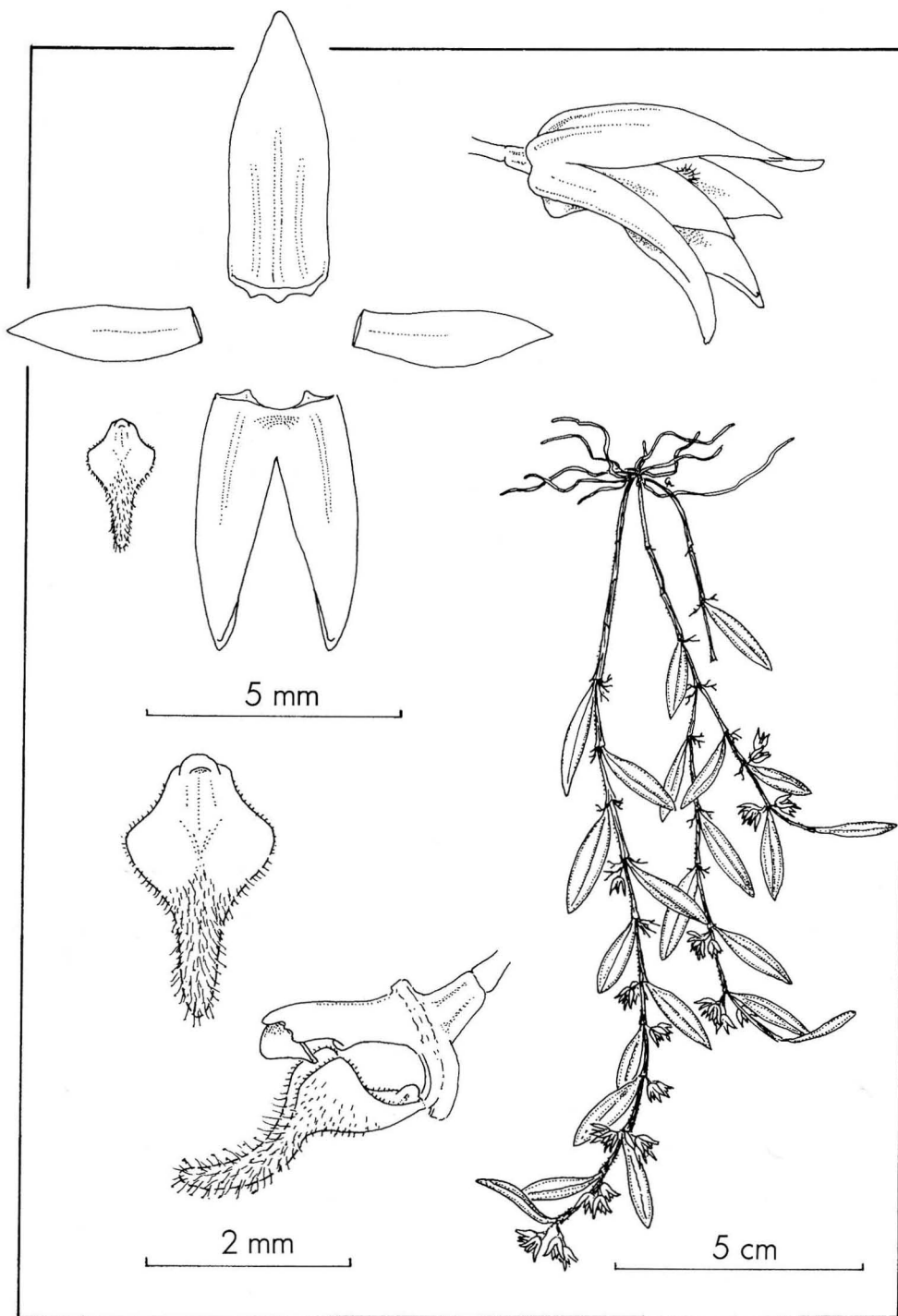


Figure 232. *PLEUROTHALLIS CHAETOGLOSSA* Luer