

Trichosalpinx ectopa Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Fig. 96.

Ety.: From the Greek *ectopos*, "strange," referring to unusual morphological features.

Planta parva, foliis late ellipticis ramicaulibus plus minusve aequilongis, vaginis lepanthiformibus, sepalis ovatis liberis, petalis carosis ellipticis cum dente basali, et labelli callo verrucoso infra medium concavo laevi distinguitur.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, slender, 5-15 mm long, enclosed by 2-3 minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, broadly elliptical, 9-17 mm long, 5-8 mm wide, the apex obtuse to rounded, apiculate, the base cuneate into a petiole 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a strict, loose, successively many-flowered raceme, up to 6 cm long, borne by a filiform, spiculate peduncle 10-15 mm long, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts spiculate, 1 mm long; pedicels 1 mm long; ovary sparsely spiculate, 0.8 mm long; **sepals** translucent orange, spiculate externally, the dorsal sepal ovate, subacute, concave, 2.5 mm long, 1.75 mm wide expanded, 3-veined, free from the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals free, spreading, ovate, subacute, oblique, 2.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 1-veined; **petals** red, thick, narrowly obovate, subacute, 2.5 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, the labellar margin inflexed below the middle, with a descending, acute, toothlike process at the base; **lip** yellow, fleshy, ovoid, 1.25 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, the apex rounded, the margin thickened and irregularly dentate, the disc with a prominent prowl-like callus, verrucose anteriorly, concave and smooth below the middle, the base truncate, broadly fixed to the base of the column; **column** red, erect, stout, terete, 1.25 mm long, the anther exposed on the ventral surface of the erect gynostemium, the stigma ventral.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Antioquia: Munic. of Yarumal, epiphytic in forest above Quebrada El Oro, alt. 1850 m, 16 Mar. 1989, *C. Luer, J. Luer, W. Teague & S. Dalström* 14202 (Holotype: MO). Dept. of Valle del Cauca: epiphytic in forest above San José del Palmar, Alto de Los Galápagos, alt. 2100 m, collected by A. De Wilde, flowered in cultivation above Pereira, 15 May 1993, *C. Luer* 16849 (MO); north of the pass between Urrao and Carmen de Atrato, alt. 2700 m, 30 May 1995, *C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar et al.* 17647 (MO).

This species occurs widely distributed in the Central Cordillera and the Western Cordillera of Colombia. It grows intermixed with the closely related *T. calceolaris* and *T. pseudolepanthes*, but it is readily distinguished from them by the very small flower with spreading lateral sepals, thick petals with a basal tooth, and a smaller lip. The callus of the lip is verrucose only on the anterior surface, the posterior surface concave and smooth all the way to the base.

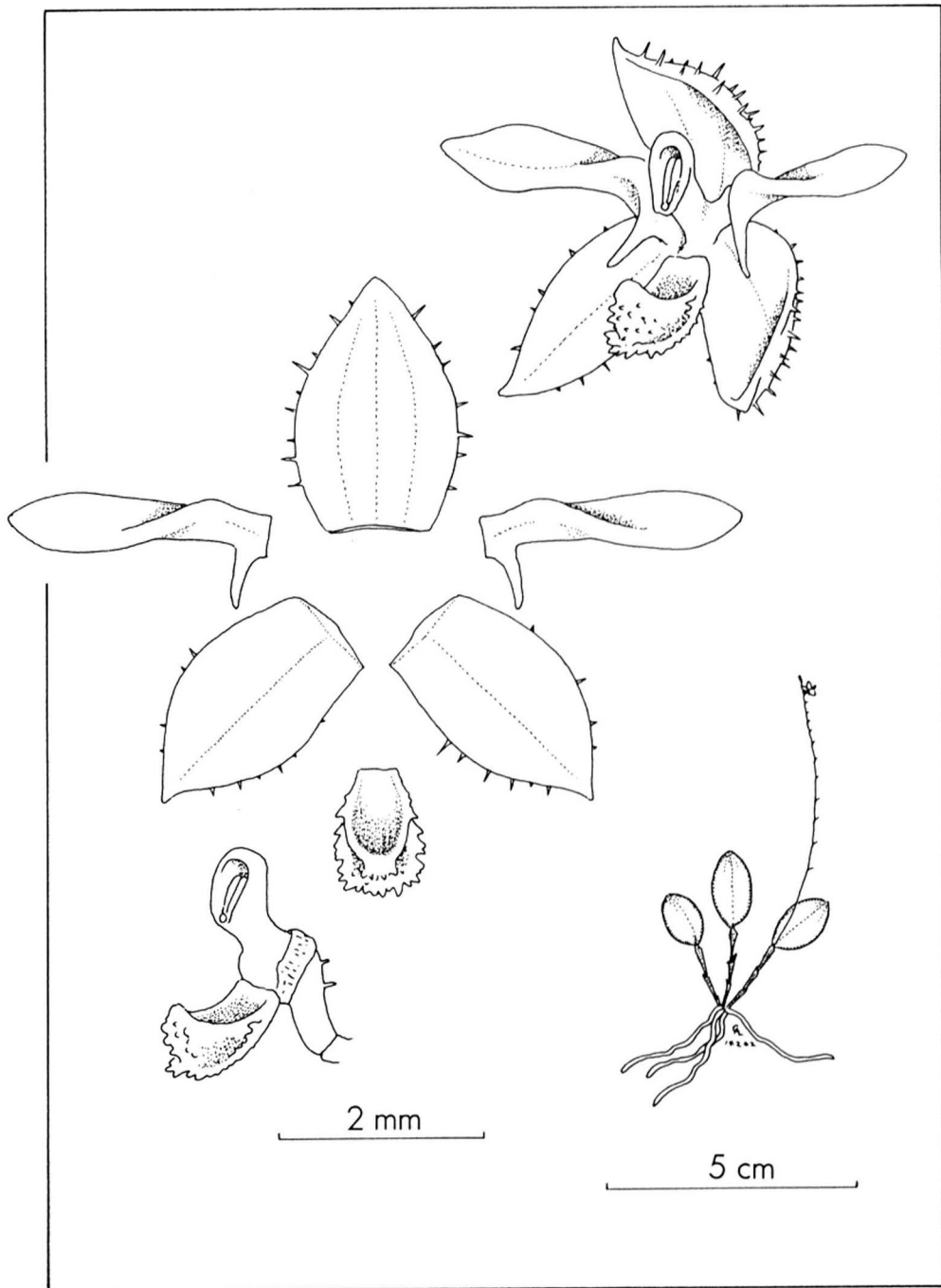


Fig. 96. *Trichosalpinx ectopa*