

**Trichosalpinx jimburae** Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

Fig. 54.

Ety.: Named for the community of Jimbura in southernmost Ecuador near the locality where this species was discovered.

Species haec *T. pusillae* (H.B.K.) Luer affinis, sed foliis leviter majoribus, racemis fasciculatis folio elliptico brevioribus et labelli lobis minoribus inconspicuis differt.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, densely caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, slender, 1-2 cm long, enclosed by 3 microscopically ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, elliptical, subacute or obtuse, 8-13 mm long including a petiole 2-3 mm long, 4-6 mm wide, cuneate below into the petiole. **Inflorescence** a fascicle of 3-5 loose, successively 2- to 3-flowered racemes 5-6 mm long including the filiform peduncles 2-3 mm long, from a node below the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts 1 mm long; pedicels 1.5 mm long; ovary 0.75 mm long; **sepals** yellow-white with purple veins, glabrous, subcarinate, the dorsal sepal ovate-triangular, concave, acute, lightly acuminate, 6 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, 3-veined, barely connate to the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals narrowly triangular, oblique, acute, 5.5 mm long, 0.75 mm wide, each 1-veined, connate 1.5 mm; **petals** light yellow, translucent, elliptical, acute, oblique, 3 mm long, 1 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** light yellow, oblong, sub-trilobed, 2.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, the apical lobe oblong, cellular, with the apex rounded, the lateral lobes below the middle, low, erect, broadly rounded, the disc with an obscure pair of low calli at the anterior margin of bases of the lobes, the base unguiculate-truncate, hinged to the column-foot; **column** semiterete, 2 mm long, the foot short, the anther and stigma ventral.

ECUADOR: Prov. of Zamora-Chinchipec: epiphytic in scrubby cloud forest above Jimbura, alt 3350 m, 21 Mar. 1984, C. Luer, S. Dalström, T. Höjjer & J. Kuijt 9648 (Holotype: MO).

This species is apparently endemic in a high-altitude elfin forest in southernmost Ecuador, where several other species of the genus are also apparently endemic. Vegetatively, the plants are small, densely caespitose with elliptical-petiolate leaves. The short inflorescences, shorter than the leaves, are produced in fascicles. The flowers are similar to those of *T. pusilla*, but the basal lobes of the lip are low and inconspicuous with vestigial calli at their forward angles with the middle lobe.

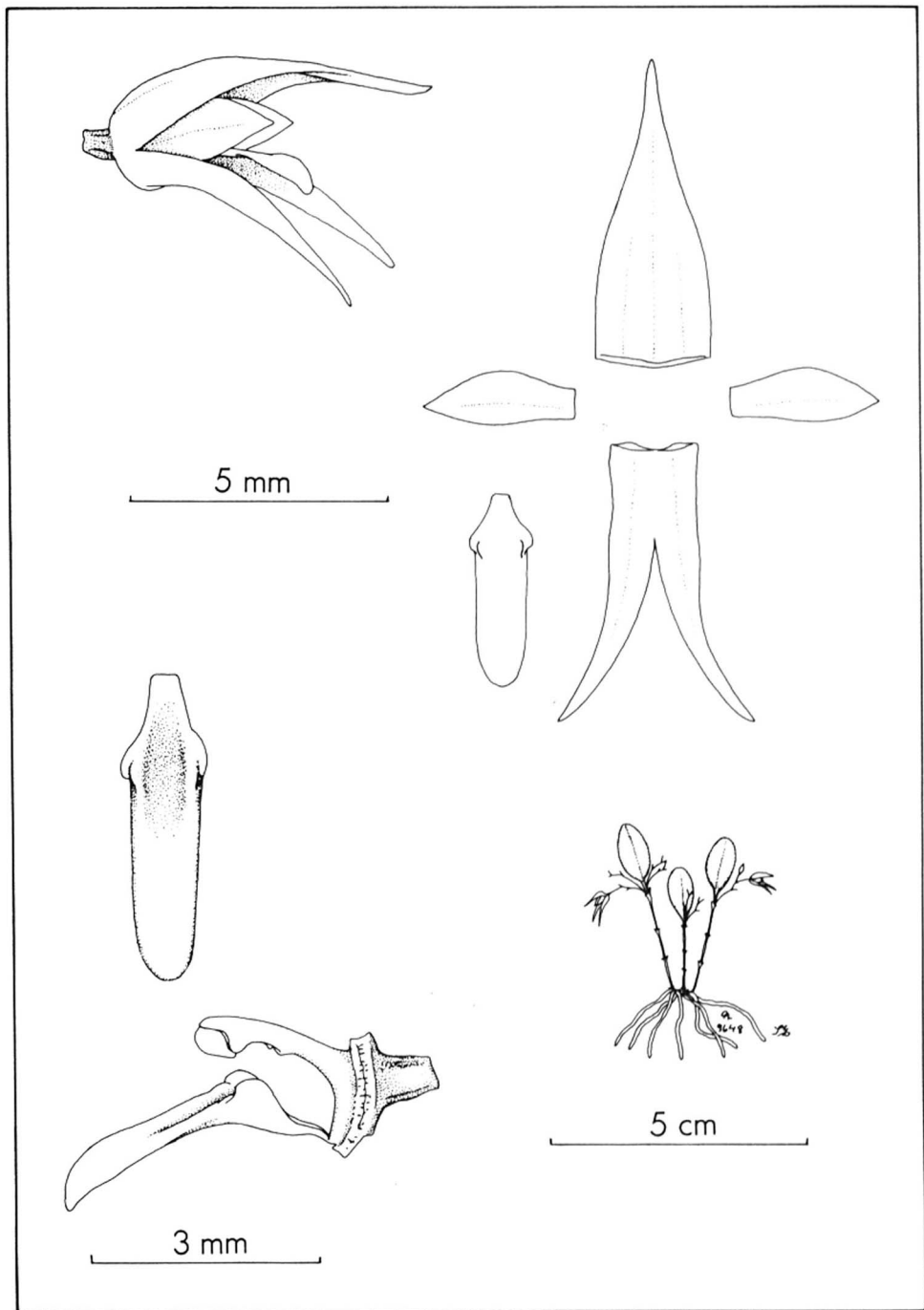


Fig. 54. *Trichosalpinx jimburae*