

Trichosalpinx ligulata Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

Fig. 57.

Ety.: From the Latin *ligulatus*, "ligulate," referring to the tongue-shaped lip.

Species haec *T. intricatae* (Lindl.) Luer affinis, sed floribus majoribus et labello obscure lobato plano differt.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, 5-17 mm long, enclosed by 3-5 microscopically ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, red-purple, coriaceous, broadly elliptical, obtuse, 5-8 mm long, 3-4.5 mm wide, contracted below into a petiole 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a loose, simultaneously few-flowered raceme, up to 2.5 cm long, including the filiform peduncle 1-1.5 cm long, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts 1 mm long; pedicels 4-6 mm long; ovary 0.5 mm long; **sepals** white, glabrous, subcarinate, the dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, concave, acute, long-acuminate, 15 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.25 mm, the lateral sepals narrowly ovate, 15 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, 1-veined, connate 1 mm; **petals** translucent, obovate, obtuse, subungiculate, 3 mm long, 1 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** white, oblong, 4.25 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, with the margins obscurely rounded above the base, the apex rounded, the disc featureless, the base narrowly truncate, hinged to the column-foot; **column** terete, 2 mm long, the anther subapical, the stigma ventral.

ECUADOR: Prov. of Morona-Santiago: epiphytic in cloud forest at the pass above San Juan Bosco toward Gualaceo, alt. 2350 m, 28 Mar. 1985, *C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Hirtz & W. Flores 10993* (Holotype: MO); epiphytic in cloud forest east of Gualaceo above Limón, alt. 2150 m, 16 May 1988, *C. Luer, A. Hirtz, W. Flores, A. Andreetta & W. Teague 13400* (MO). Prov. of Zamora-Chinchipe: Cordillera del Condor, epiphytic in forest east of Los Encuentros, alt. 1800 m, 22 Jan. 1989, *C. Luer, J. Luer, P. Jesup & A. Jesup 14049* (MO).

In habit, this species of the eastern declivities of the Andes of Ecuador is similar to the relatively frequent and widely distributed *T. intricata*. *Trichosalpinx ligulata* differs in having flowers with longer sepaline tails, and an essentially lobeless lip without the pair of characteristic mammillate calli found on the disc near the forward angles of the lobes of the lip of *T. intricata*.

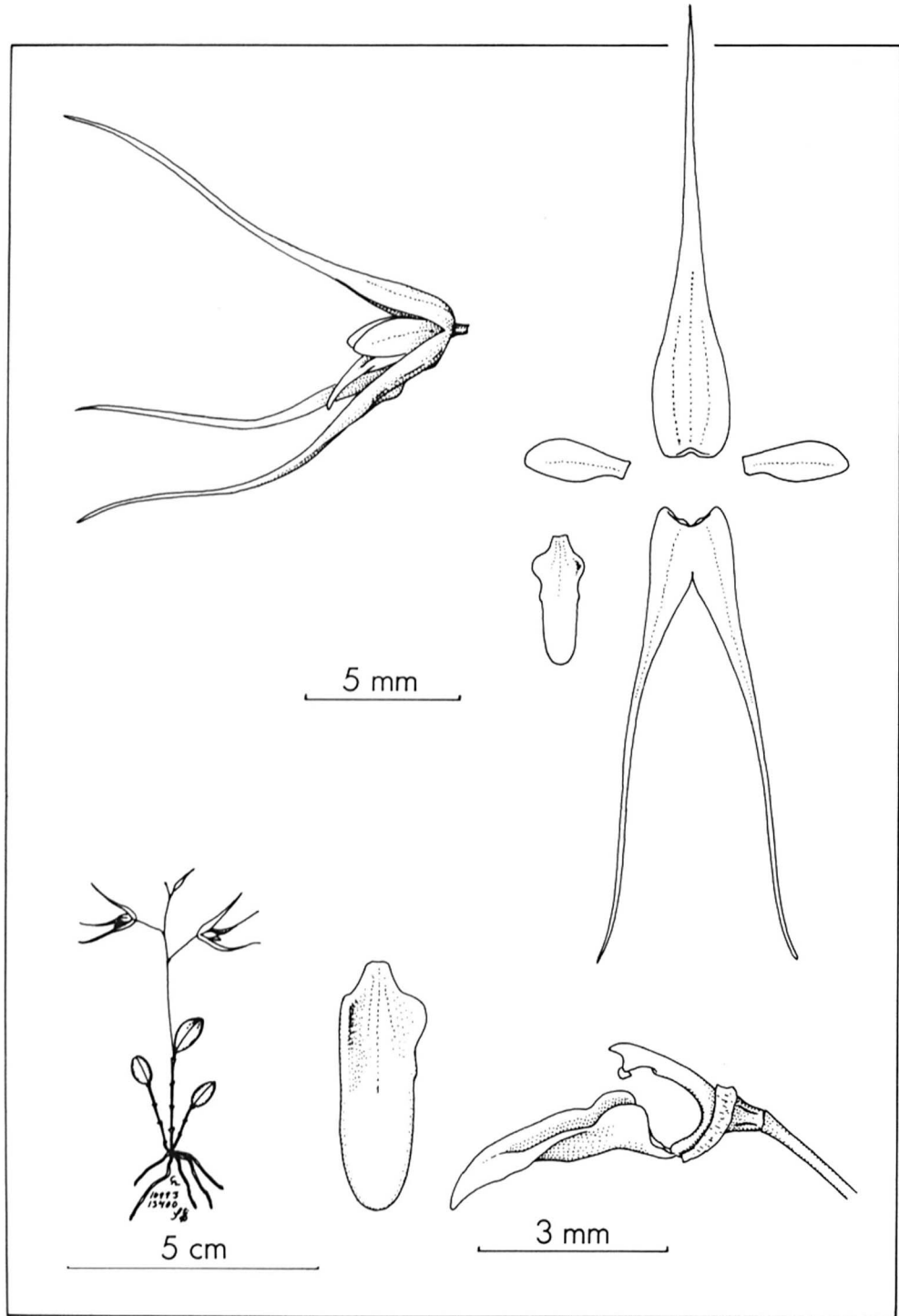


Fig. 57. *Trichosalpinx ligulata*