

Trichosalpinx solomonii Luer, sp. nov.

Fig. 78.

Ety.: Named in honor of Dr. James C. Solomon of the Missouri Botanical Garden who discovered this species.

Species haec *T. notosibiricae* (Hashimoto) Luer affinis sed ramicaulibus radicibusque crassissimis, foliis anguste ellipticis et pedicelis brevioribus distinguitur.

Plant medium in size to large, epiphytic, scandent, up to 30 cm tall; roots thick, fleshy. Ramicauls stout, erect, prolific, up to 15 cm long below, 8-10 mm long above, enclosed by up to 10 ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths below, 2-3 sheaths above. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, subacute to obtuse, 10-15 mm long, 2-3 mm wide, narrowly cuneate below into the 1 mm long petiole. **Inflorescence** a loose, lightly flexuous, more or less simultaneously several-flowered raceme, 2-4 cm long, including the filiform peduncle 1 cm long, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts 1.75 mm long; pedicels 3 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** translucent pale yellow, glabrous, subcarinate, the dorsal sepal ovate in the lower third, concave, acute, long-acuminate, 14 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, 3-veined, barely connate basally to the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals narrowly linear-triangular, acute, attenuate, 15 mm long, 1 mm wide, 1-veined, barely connate at the base; **petals** translucent, elliptical, oblique, acute, 3 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, 2-veined; **lip** light yellow, ovate-trilobed, 3.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, 2 mm wide across the expanded lobes, the apical lobe oblong, obtuse to rounded at the apex, with the lateral lobes on the lower quarter, erect, antrorse, obtuse to rounded, the disc with an obtuse, conical callus at the forward angle of lateral lobes, the base subunguiculate, hinged to the column-foot; **column** terete, 1.5 mm long, the anther subapical, the stigma ventral, the foot 0.8 mm long.

BOLIVIA: Dept. of La Paz: Murillo, Valle del Río Zongo, alt. 3000 m, 8 Jan. 1988, *J. C. Solomon 17452* (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 17308.

This species is known from one collection in the Zongo Valley at a high altitude by Solomon. The flowers are very similar to those of *T. notosibirica*, but the habit of *T. solomonii* is distinct. From a mass of thick, fleshy roots, the stout, basal ramicauls, up to 15 cm long, arise. Above, the ramicauls are prolific, and decrease in size, eventually to less than 1 cm long. The leaves are small and narrowly elliptical. The racemes are comparatively short with short pedicels.

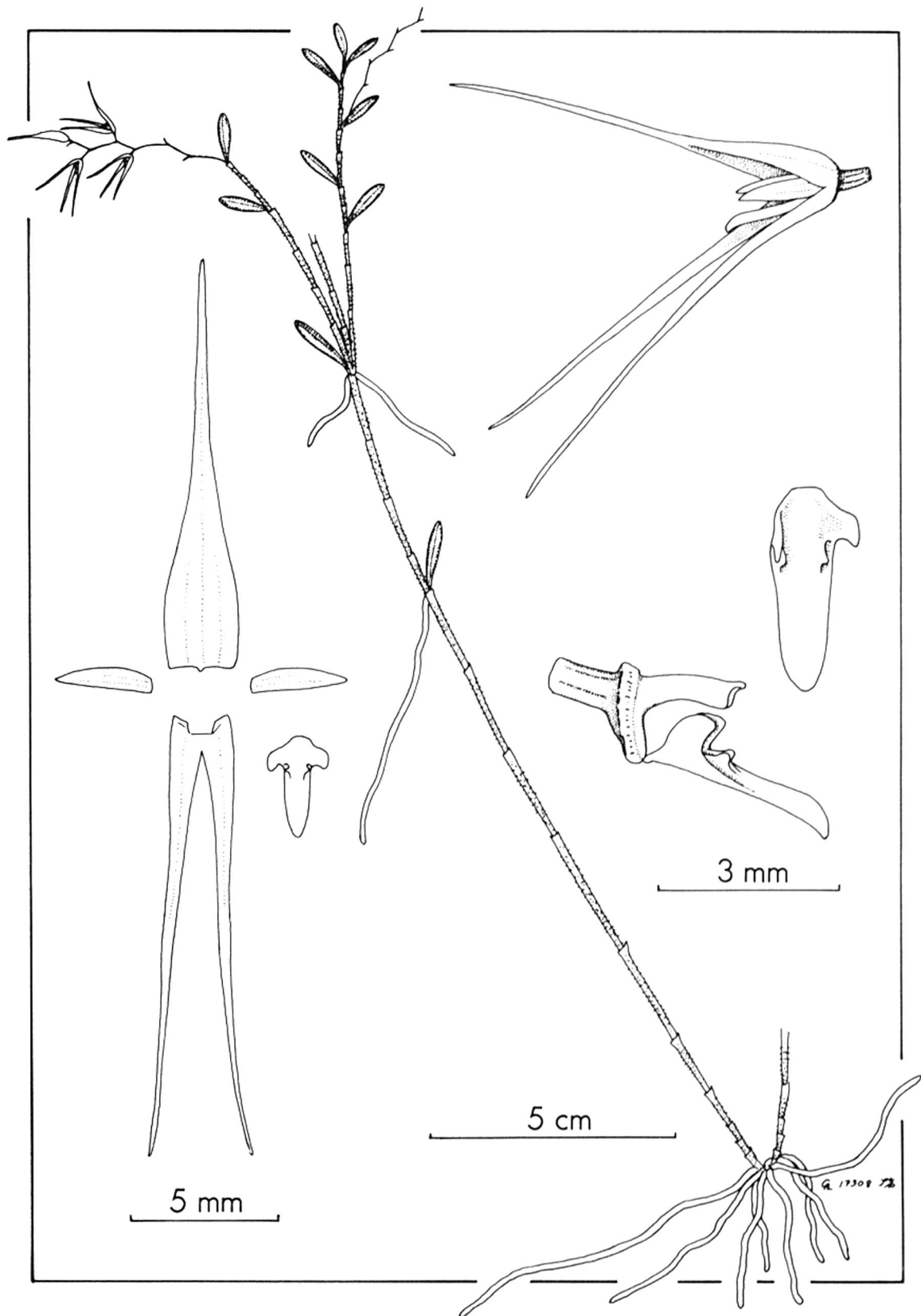


Fig. 78. *Trichosalpinx solomonii*