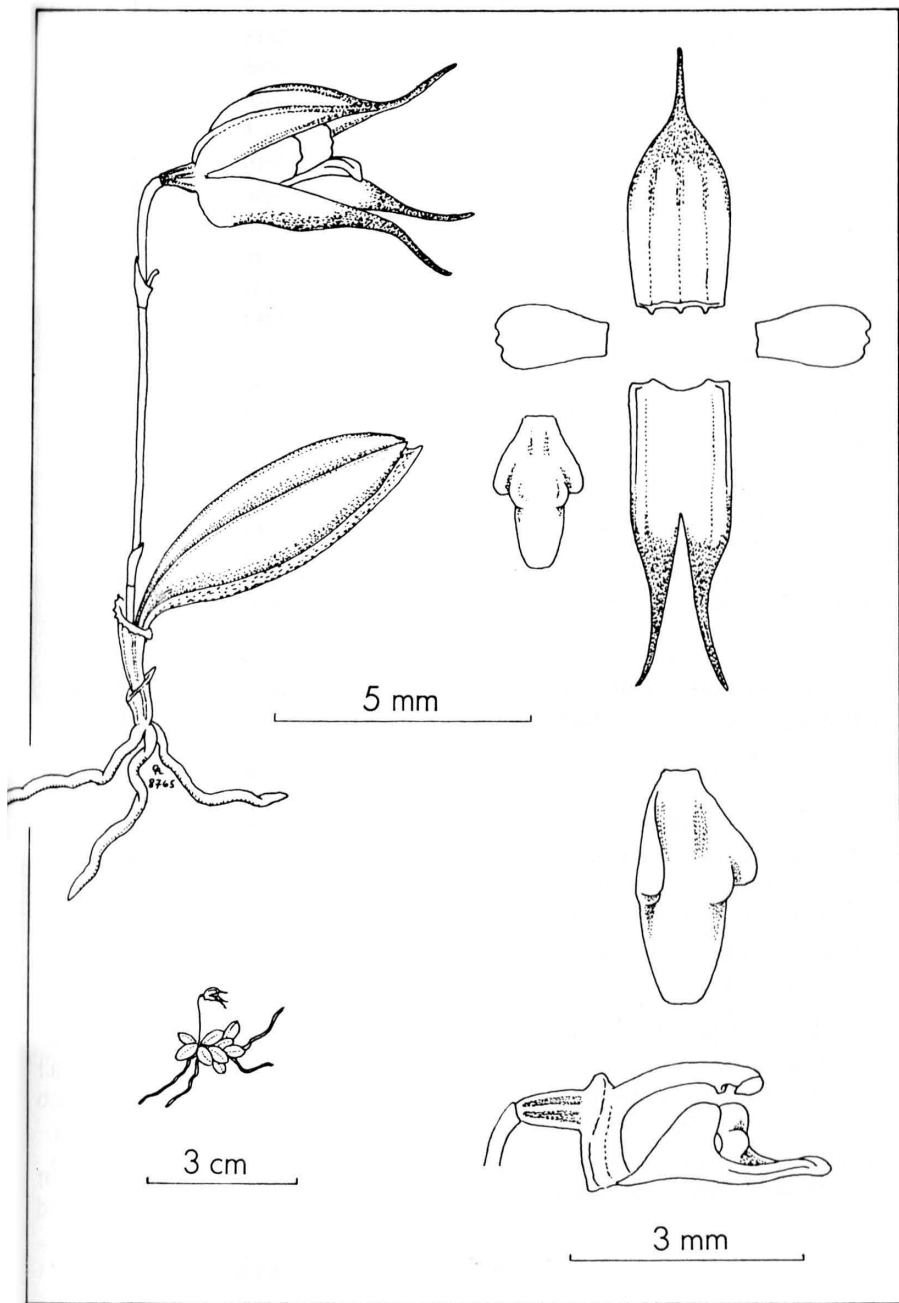


Trichosalpinx webbiae Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta minuta caespitosa vel breviter repens, caulibus secundariis brevissimis, foliis suborbicularibus prostratis, flore proportione grandi, sepalis acuminatis, petalis obovatis, labello trilobato bicalloso.

Plant minute, epiphytic, caespitose to shortly repent; roots proportionately coarse. Secondary stems ca. 1 mm long, enclosed by 2 ribbed sheaths 0.5-1 mm long, with oblique, minutely scabrous margins. Leaf suberect to prostrate, mottled with purple beneath,



Trichosalpinx webbiae

Illustration: Carlyle A. Luer

thickly coriaceous, broadly elliptical, obtuse, apiculate, 4-6 mm long, 2-4 mm wide, cuneate below into the subtetiolate base. Inflorescence a solitary flower as large as the leaf, borne by a filiform peduncle 5-6 mm long, from near the apex of the secondary stem; floral bract 0.75 mm long; pedicel 2 mm long; ovary ribbed, 0.75 mm long; sepals membranous, barely parting if at all, light yellow, suffused with purple along the ribs and toward the apices, the dorsal sepal tricarinate, oblong, the acute apex shortly attenuate, 5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the lateral sepals connate to above the middle into a bicarinate, oblong lamina with acute, acuminate apices, 6 mm long, 2 mm wide, petals translucent, ovobate, 2.25 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, the truncate apex obscurely 3-lobed; lip light yellow, ovate-trilobed, the anterior lobe oblong to truncate, the lateral lobes below the middle, erect, rounded, the disc with a small rounded callus adjacent to the anterior margin of the lateral lobes, the truncate base hinged to the column-foot; column light green, slender, 2 mm long, with a foot nearly 1 mm long.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Mrs. Marguerite Webb Head of J & L Orchids, Easton, Ct., who discovered this species.

ETIMOLOGIA: Nombrado en honor de la Sra. Marguerite Webb Head, de J. & L. Orchids, Easton, Ct., quien descubrió esta especie.

TYPE: *COLOMBIA*: ANTIOQUIA: Munic. of Medellín: epiphytic in cloud forest, Cerro of Padre Amaya, alt. 2,800 m, 22 Apr. 1983, C. Luer, R. Escobar et al. 8765 (Holotype: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Colombia, Central Cordillera.

This tiny species was found on the narrow, mossy branches of dwarf trees in a zone of frequent fog and rain. The flower is as large as the minute, prostrate, confettilike leaves. The closest relative seems to be the Ecuadorian *T. nymphalis* (Luer) Luer which produces a larger, gaping flower, and a well-developed, although minute, secondary stem.

Esta pequeña especie fue encontrada en las musgosas y delgadas ramas de árboles enanos en una zona de frecuente lluvia y niebla. La flor es tan grande como las pequeñas hojas postradas, como confetti. El pariente más cercano parece ser el ecuatoriano *T. nymphalis* (Luer) Luer el cual produce una flor más grande y separada, y un bien desarrollado, aunque pequeño tallo secundario.