

1. *Acianthera aberrans* (Luer) Pupulin & Bogarín, **comb. nov.**

Basionym: *Pleurothallis aberrans* Luer, Selbyana 2(4): 382. 1978. Type: Panama. Veraguas: epiphytic in tree north of the continental divide, alt. ca. 700 m., above Santa Fé, 6 September 1976, C. Luer & R.L. Dressler 1628 (holotype, SEL). *Aberrantia aberrans* (Luer) Luer, Monogr. Syst. Bot. Missouri Bot. Gard. 95: 253. 2004, *nom. inval.* *Aberrantia*

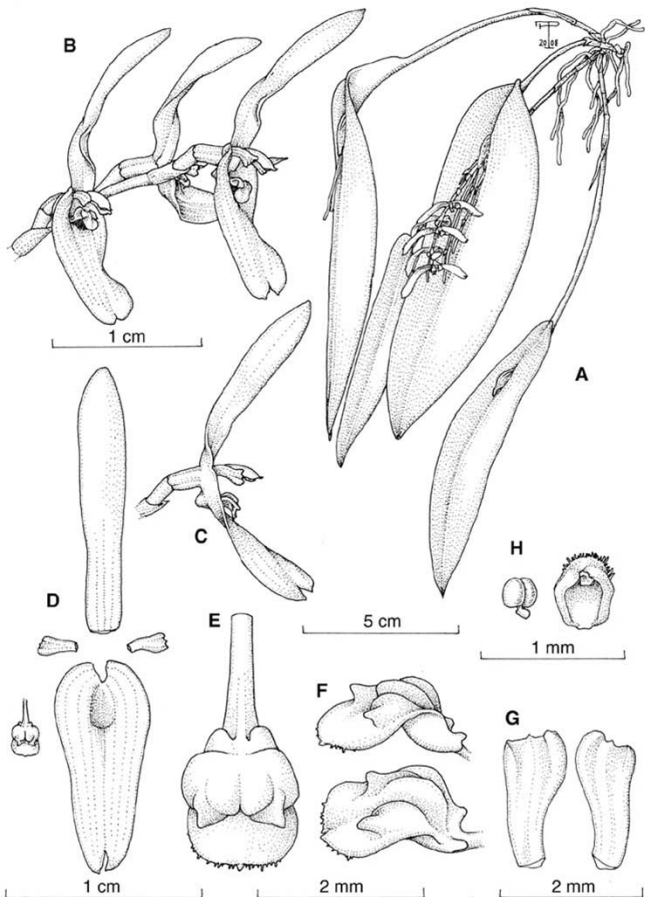


FIGURE 1. *Acianthera aberrans* (Luer) Pupulin & Bogarin. A. Habit. B. Apex of inflorescence. C. Flower, side view. D. Dissected perianth. E. Lip, frontal view. F. Lip, lateral views. G. Petals, lateral views. H. Pollinarium and anther cap. Drawing by F. Pupulin based on *Pupulin et al.* 4857 (JBL-spirit).

aberrans (Luer) Luer, Monogr. Syst. Bot. Missouri Bot. Gard. 103: 310. 2005.

DISTRIBUTION: Costa Rica, Panama and Ecuador.

ETYMOLOGY: from the Latin *aberrans*, "away from the usual", in reference to the unusual characteristics of the species, according to its author.

HABITAT IN COSTA RICA: epiphytic in tropical rain forest in the Caribbean lowlands at 275 m of elevation.

COSTA RICAN MATERIAL STUDIED: Heredia: Sarapiquí, Horquetas, road to Rara Avis, ca. 6 km, granja La Selva, 10°20'15"N 84°00'15" W, 275 m, tropical rain forest, secondary vegetation with large remnant trees, along the edge of pastures, 26 July 2003 *F. Pupulin* 4857, *M. Pupulin*, *C. Pupulin*, *C. Ossenbach* & *B. Arias* (JBL-spirit!) (Fig. 1, 15-A).

Although this species has not been yet analyzed by molecular phylogenetic techniques, morphological features suggest that it belongs to the genus *Acianthera* Scheidw. Luer (1978) stated that it vegetatively resembles to *Pleurothallis circumplexa* Lindl., *P. pacayana* Schltr., and *P. pantasmi* Rchb.f. (all now included in the genus *Acianthera*) because the inflorescence emerges from the blade of the leaf above the base. Also, he noted that the green, glabrous, gaping flowers in the short raceme resemble those of *Pleurothallis cogniauxiana* Schltr., *P. decipiens* Ames & C.Schweinf., and *P. verecunda* Schltr. (as well as many others), all of them also transferred to the genus *Acianthera* by several authors (Pridgeon & Chase 2001, Luer 2004). Its bicallose, truncate petals ending into a short apiculum, as well as the long claw of the lip, are unusual features of this species. Luer (2004, 2005) considered these floral details, together with the pair of pointed calli laying near the center of lip (rounded in our specimen) as critical features to segregate *Pleurothallis aberrans* into the monotypic genus *Aberrantia* Luer. We consider the monotypic genus *Aberrantia*, only defined by subtle floral features, congeneric with *Acianthera*. According to Luer (2003a), the voucher cited by Pupulin (2002a) is from Panama. Here, we cite a Costa Rican voucher for this species.