

*Pleurothallis cerberus* Luer & Vásquez, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris caespitosa, caulibus secundariis argute triquetris, racemis paucifloris folio elliptico sessili multibrevioribus, sepalis brunneis carnosissimis crassis breviter pubescentibus intus verrucosissimis lateralibus falcatis leviter cohaerentibus, petalis obovatis acutis serratis, labello oblongo obtuso bicarinato infra medium bilobato.

Plant medium-sized, epiphytic, caespitose; roots coarse, fasciculate. Secondary stems erect, terete at the base and concealed by 1-2 tubular sheaths, soon becoming sharply triquetrous, 10-17 cm long, 5 mm deep near the apex, unifoliate. Leaf erect, coriaceous, elliptical, 7-10 cm long, 2.5-3.2 cm wide, the apex subacute, tridenticulate, the base cuneate, sessile. Inflorescence racemose, 1-2, 1- to 4-flowered racemes 1-1.5 cm long, from the base of the leaf, with a spathe ca. 8 mm long; floral bract white, tubular, oblique, 3-4 mm long; pedicel shortly pubescent, 2 mm long; ovary shortly pubescent, 2 mm long; sepals brown, suffused with purple toward the base, thick fleshy, covered with a short, white pubescence, the internal surfaces markedly verrucose, the dorsal sepal obovate, subacute, 9.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the lateral sepals falcate, subacute, lightly adherent to the apex, 6 mm long, 2.25 mm wide; petals translucent white, suffused with purple, obovate, oblique, acute, 4 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the margins serrate; lip dull yellow, suffused with purple, oblong 3 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, arcuate, the apex rounded with slightly irregular margins, with a pair of small, erect, denticulate marginal lobes below the middle, the base truncate, delicately hinged

between a pair of membranous lobules, the disc with a longitudinal pair of carinae from the lateral lobes to near the apex where they unite; column dark red-purple, semiterete, 2.5 mm long, obtusely winged above, the foot thick, pubescent, 2 mm long.

ETYMOLOGY. From the Latin *Cerberus*, a mythological, three-headed, dog-like monster, in allusion to the appearance of the few-flowered raceme.

TYPE: *BOLIVIA*: LA PAZ: Prov. Sud Yungas, without specific locality, collected near Chulumani by Dino Menato, flowered in cult. 1 Feb. 1980, C. Luer & R. Vásquez 5048 (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Bolivia.

This wing-stemmed species is characterized by the brown, fleshy, gaping flowers covered by a short, white pubescence. Within, the sepals are markedly verrucose, the petals are serrulate, and the oblong lip is bilobed below the middle.