

restrial on mountaintop above Warints, Cordillera del Condor, 3°15'24"S, 78°19'10"W, ca. 2700 m, 15 Dec. 2002, L. Jost, D. Neill, J. Clark, W. Quishpe et al. 4686 (Holotype: QCNE).

FIGURE 1.

Planta mediocris erecta rhizomate crasso vaginis longimucronatis, foliis ellipticis, flore atropurpureo cupuliformi, sepalis petalisque ciliatis, synsepalo superiore profunde concavo bicaudato, sepalo impare caudato, petalis longicaudatis, labello transverse obovato, lobis lateralibus planiformibus incurvis, apice obtuso apiculato, marginibus ambis concavis, disco incrassato cum callo pubescenti supra basem.

**Plant** small in size, terrestrial, suberect to erect, up to 11 cm tall; rhizome relatively stout, occasionally branching, 10–12 mm long between ramicauls, enclosed by 2–3 pale, tubular, long-mucronate muriculate sheaths; roots stout; ramicauls relatively stout, suberect, 4–5 mm long, enclosed by 2 long-mucronate pale sheaths. **Leaf** suberect, thickly coriaceous, ovate to lanceolate, acute, olive green above, purple below, 15–18 mm long, 7–8 mm wide, with 7 veins, the round base contracted into a stout petiole 0.5 mm long. **Inflorescence** a solitary, non-resupinate flower born by a slender suberect peduncle 20 mm long, with a bract near the middle, from near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bract 4.5 mm long, inflated, acute, mucronate, enclosing the pedicel and part of the ovary; pedicel 0.6 mm long, with a filament 6 mm long; ovary 2.3 mm long. **Sepals** purple with green bases and yellow tips, ciliate, the dorsal sepal elliptical, acute, long-acuminate, the blade 7 mm long, 6 mm wide, 3-veined, the tail filiform, 4 mm long; lateral sepals connate into an ovate, acute, long-acuminate synsepal, the blade 8 mm long, 7 mm wide, 5-veined including suture; the filiform connate tails 5 mm long, free for 1.5

**Brachionidium condorens** L.J. Jost, sp. nov.

TYPE: Ecuador. Prov. Morona-Santiago: ter-

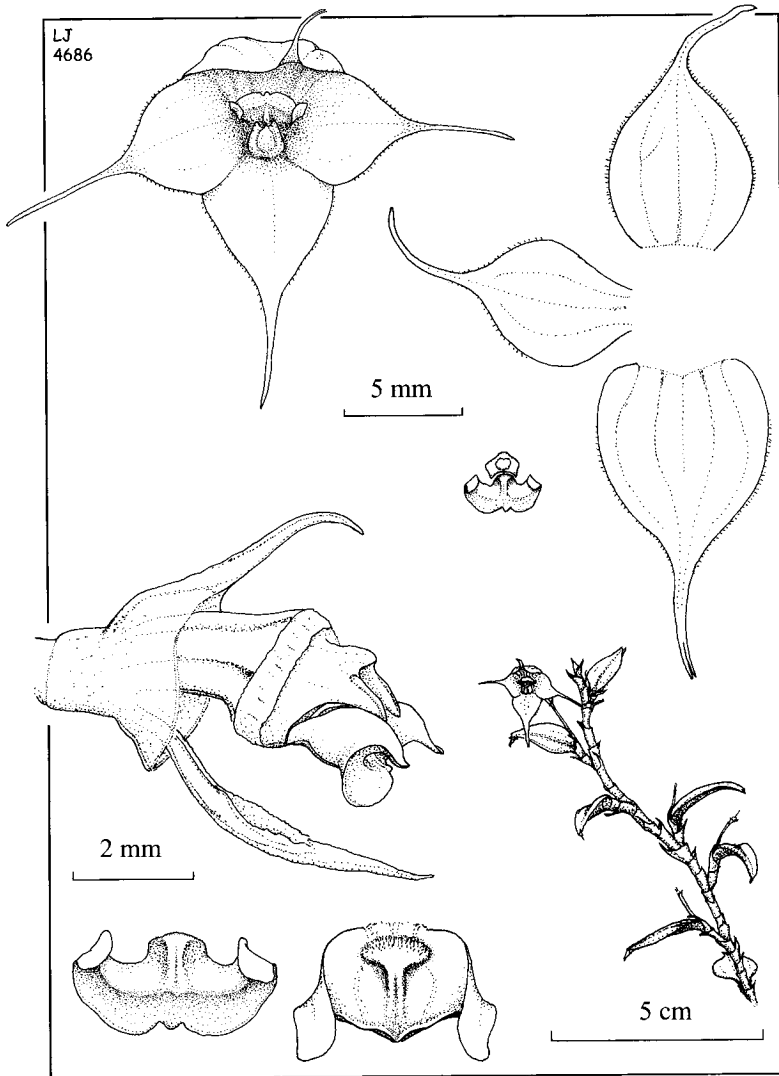


FIGURE 1. *Brachionidium condorenses* L.J. Jost.

mm. **Petals** purple, green basally, ovate, subfalcate, acute, acuminate, the blade 7 mm long, 5 mm wide, 3-veined, margins ciliate, abruptly contracted into filiform tails 5 mm long. **Lip** green suffused purple, subquadrate, extended laterally into incurving flattened wings 1.3 mm long, bimarginate, the apex apiculate, 1.9 mm long, about 3.3 mm wide in the natural position, the disc raised, densely long-papillose basally, longitudinally channeled apically, forming two confluent straight parallel longitudinal ridges on the apical half of the lip, hinged to the column foot. **Column** stout, 1.6 mm long, bidentate; pollinia 8.

**Paratype.** ECUADOR. Prov. Morona-Santiago:

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**Etymology.** After the Cordillera del Condor, where this species was found, and in allusion to the broad wing-like lobes of the lip.

This species and the next are characterized by thick dark olive green leaves flushed purple below and by purple flowers bearing a cucullate synsepal. Both are superficially similar to sympatric *Brachionidium galeatum* Luer and Hirtz (Luer 1995). *Brachionidium condorenses* is easily distinguished by the broad flat incurved lat-

eral lobes of the strongly bimarginate lip. A color photo is available on the Internet at [www.loujost.com](http://www.loujost.com).