

NEW OR NOTEWORTHY ORCHIDS

Lepanthes confusa A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba caespitosa, in magnitudine valde variabilis. Caulis pluriarticulatus, monophyllus. Folium ellipticum vel suborbiculare. Inflorescentiae singulae vel duae, folio breviores, superne racemosae. Sepala conspicue cellulari-ciliata, ovata, lateralia obliqua. Petala in lobos triangulari-lanceolatos transverse extensa. Labellum trifidum; lobi laterales dolabriformes; lobus intermedius minutus, quadratus.

Plant epiphytic, extremely variable in size, up to 7.7 cm. high. Stems (flower-bearing) slender, 5 mm.-5.4 cm. long, consisting of 3-8 internodes enveloped in minutely hispid sheaths of which the infundibuliform mouths are somewhat spreading and hispid-margined. Leaf solitary, elliptic to suborbicular, 1-2.7 cm. long, 7-13.5 mm. wide, acute or rounded at the apex, cuneate and shortly petioled at base, erect, coriaceous, margined, often violet-tinged. Inflorescences commonly 1-2, more or less shorter than the leaf, densely few- to many-flowered above. Flowers small, membranaceous. Sepals densely cellular-ciliate. Lateral sepals obliquely lanceolate-ovate, semiconnate, up to 2.3 mm. long, acute, 2-nerved, the inner nerve running to the apex and prominently carinate on the outer surface. Dorsal sepal ovate, up to 3 mm. long, acuminate, 3-nerved, the mid-nerve carinate on the outer surface. Petals transversely extended into two lobes, pubescent; posterior lobe narrowly triangular-lanceolate, up to 1.9 mm. long, broadest at base, abruptly obtuse, slightly outcurved; anterior lobe somewhat shorter, oblong-triangular, up to 1.3 mm. long, straight, acute or obtuse. Labellum tripartite, about equaling the column; lateral lobes dolabriform, peltate at the dilated apex with narrowly ovate pubescent surfaces which are about 1 mm. long, acute at the tip; middle lobe minute, quadrate, densely pilose. Column about 1 mm. long, somewhat dilated above. Pollinia 2, pyriform.

This description was made from several dried specimens.

Lepanthes confusa is closely allied to *L. blepharistes* Reichb. f., but it differs from that species in having rounded

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or merely acute leaves, fewer cauline sheaths with inconspicuous mouths, and lanceolate petal-lobes.

COSTA RICA, Province of Limón, Hamburg Finca, on the Rio Reventazón below Cairo, *Paul C. Standley & Juvenal Valerio 48709*, February 19, 1926. About 55 meters altitude. "On cacao tree; sepals reddish green; lip dark red; petals dull yellow." (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 33489): Province of Guanacaste, Naranjos Agrios, *Standley & Valerio 46439*, January 29, 1926. 600-700 meters altitude. "On tree; flowers red and green"; *Standley & Valerio 46440a*.