

ly few-flowered raceme 3–4 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle 3–4 mm long; floral bract 1 mm long; pedicel 1 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** appear to have been yellow, minutely denticulate, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, 3 mm long, 1.8 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals ovate-triangular, acute, oblique, 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, connate 0.5 mm; **petals** appear to have been red or purple, transversely bilobed, glabrous (at most cellular), 0.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the upper lobe narrowly oblong, obtuse, the lower lobe narrowly triangular, about equal in length; **lip** appears to have been red or purple, glabrous, bilaminar, the blades oblong flat, 0.75 mm long, rounded posteriorly with the apices beyond the blades narrowly obtuse, incurved beneath the column, the connectives obliquely oblong, clasping the column, the body connate to the base of the column, the appendix minute, external, oblong, prostrate; **column** 1 mm long, the anther apical and the stigma subapical or ventral.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *forcipifer*, “bearing forceps,” in allusion to the lobes of the lip.

This little species is present among Endres’ numerous collections with meager or no collection data. Neither illustration nor description is present. The present illustration was prepared from a flower rehydrated in concentrated ammonia.

Lepanthes forcipifera is characterized by the small habit with elliptical leaves and a much shorter, congested raceme. The sepals are ovate, acute and minutely denticulate. The petals are narrowly transverse with the upper lobe oblong and the lower lobe triangular. The blades of the lip are oblong, but disappearing toward the falcate apex which is curved beneath the column. The oblique connectives embrace the column and form a narrow body with a small, external appendix.

Lepanthes forcipifera Luer, *sp. nov.* TYPE: COSTA RICA. Without locality, ca. 1867, A. Endres *s.n.* (Holotype: W). Fig. 11.

Planta parva, racemo folio elliptico multibreviore, sepalis ovatis acutis minute denticulatis, petalis anguste bilobis, lobo superiore oblongo obtuso, lobo inferiore triangulari, labelli laminis reniformibus apice obtuse falcatis, appendice externali.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 2–3 cm long, enclosed by ca. 5 closely fitting, microscopically scabrous, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, suffused with purple, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, 15–24 mm long, 6–8 mm wide, the base broadly cuneate, contracted into a petiole 1.5 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successive-

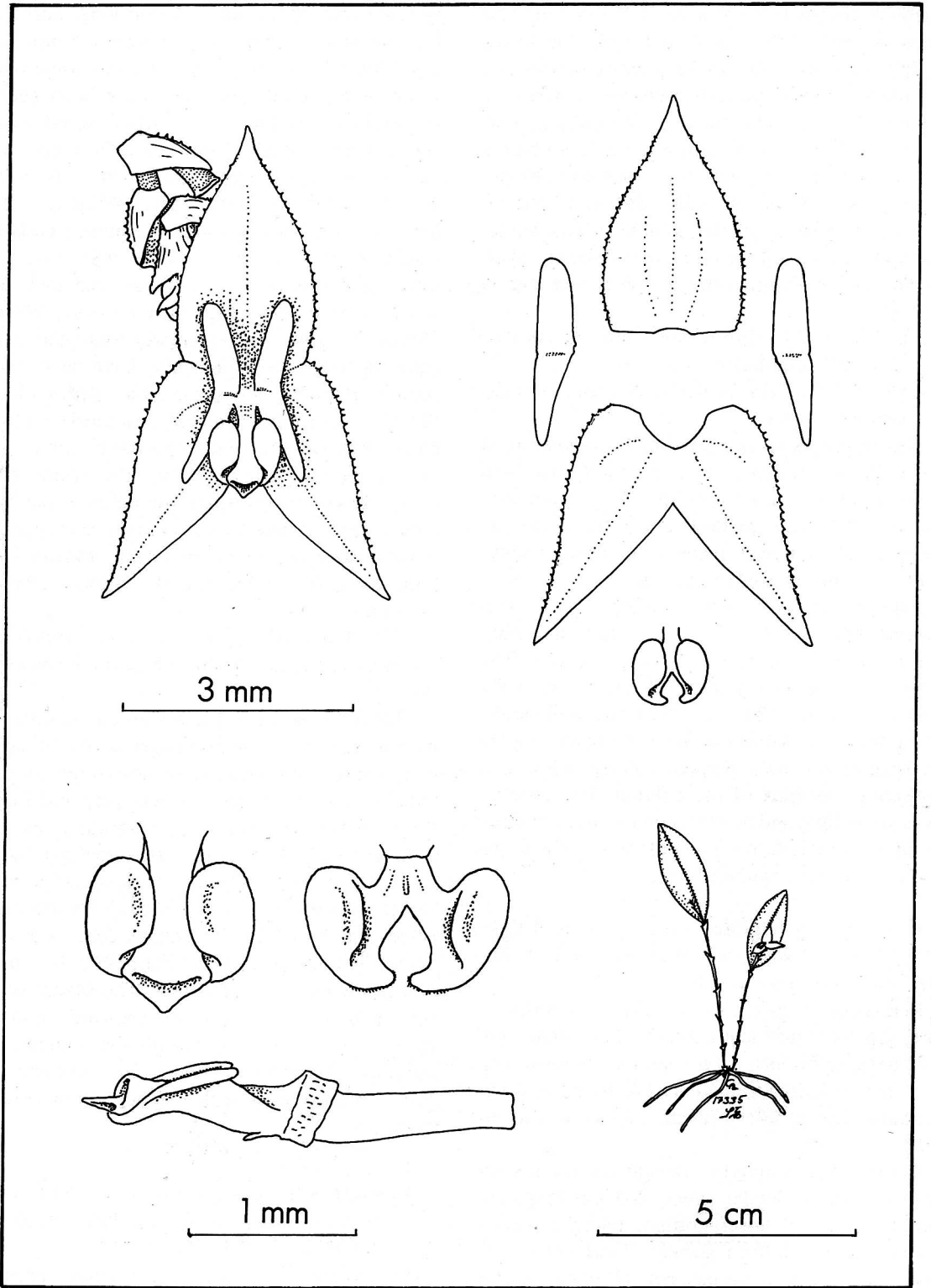


Fig. 11. *Lepanthes forcipifera* Luer.