

137. **LEPANTHES LINGULOSA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

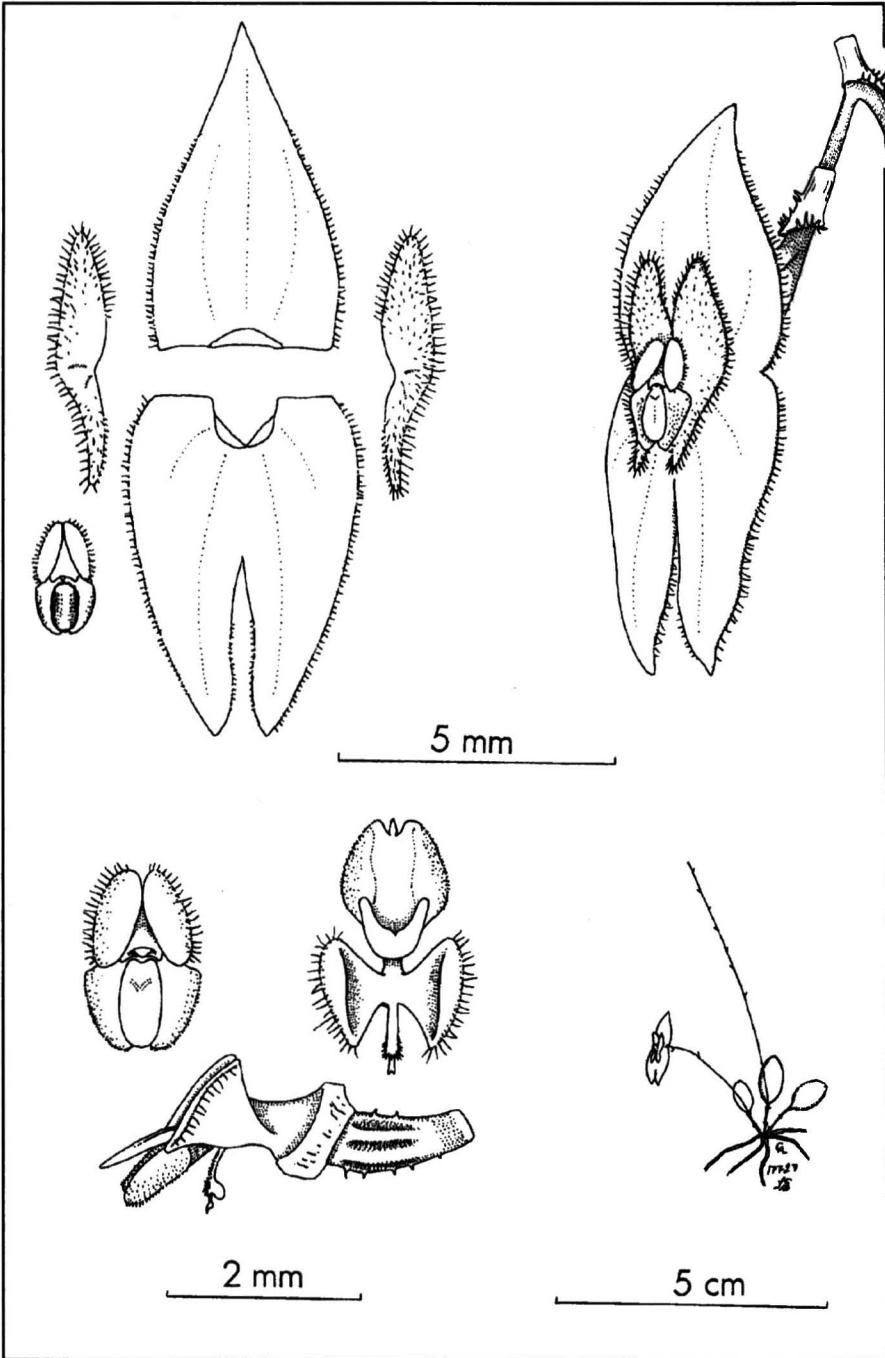
Planta parvula flore proportione grandi, racemo laxo successivifloro folio elliptico multilongiore, sepalis ovatis acutis ciliatis, petalis transversis longiciliatis, labelli laminis ellipticis proportione parvis longiciliatis, rostellae lingula quam laminis majore et appendice elongata apice glandulosa.

TYPE: Colombia: Dept. of Cundinamarca: Sierra Loma, San Antonio de Tena, alt. 2620 m, collected Nov. 1993 by G. Ruiz Schnitter, R. Escobar 5481 (Holotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 17727.

ETIMOLOGÍA: Del latín *lingulosus* (con lengua larga), por la forma de la laminita rostellar.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *lingulosus*, "with large tongue," referring to the rostellar flap.

Plant very small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 3-6 mm long, enclosed by 2-3 closely fitting, microscopically ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, obtuse to rounded at the apex, 6-9 mm long, 3.5-6 mm wide, the base broadly cuneate, contracted into a petiole less than 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a loose, successively several-flowered raceme up to 5 cm long including the



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filiform peduncle 2-3 cm long, borne beyond the leaf; floral bract muricate, 3 mm long; pedicel 3 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; **sepals** membranous, spiculate-carinate, widely spread, irregularly ciliate, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, concave below the middle, 6 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals narrowly ovate, oblique, acute, 6 mm long, 2 mm wide, connate 2 mm; **petals** long-ciliate and pubescent with thin hairs, transversely bilobed, 1 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, the lobes narrowly triangular, obtuse; **lip** bilaminate, the blades minutely pubescent, irregularly long-ciliate, elliptical-oblong, 1 mm long, with rounded ends, the connectives cuneate, the body connate to the base of the column, the appendix narrowly oblong, 0.8 mm long, minutely pubescent, with a pedunculate apical process; **column** 1.5 mm long, the anther cap thin, elliptical, 1 mm long, lying upon the ovate, rostellar flap, 1.25 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, the stigma ventral.

Esta especie, recolectada unicamente una vez, proviene de la Cordillera Oriental de Colombia. Fue conservada impecablemente en líquido, pero sin anotarse los colores. El hábito es muy pequeño, con ramicaules y hojas que miden individualmente menos de un centímetro de largo. El racimo, laxo, de flores sucesivas, alcanza una longitud de cinco centímetros aproximadamente. Las flores son muy grandes en comparación con las proporciones de la planta. Los sépalos son agudos, ciliados, y los pétalos angostamente transversos y en una forma irregular largamente ciliados. Las láminas del labelo también lo son, y proporcionalmente son muy pequeñas, más pequeñas que la lengüeta rostellar, grande y saliente.

This species, known from no other collection, was discovered in the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia. It was perfectly preserved in liquid but without color notes. The habit is very small with ramicauls and leaves each less than one centimeter long. The loose, successively flowered raceme reaches about five centimeters in length. The flowers are proportionately very large for the plant. The sepals are acute and ciliate, and the petals are narrowly transverse and irregularly long-ciliate. The elliptical blades of the lip, also irregularly long-ciliate, are proportionately very small, smaller than the large, protruding rostellar flap.