

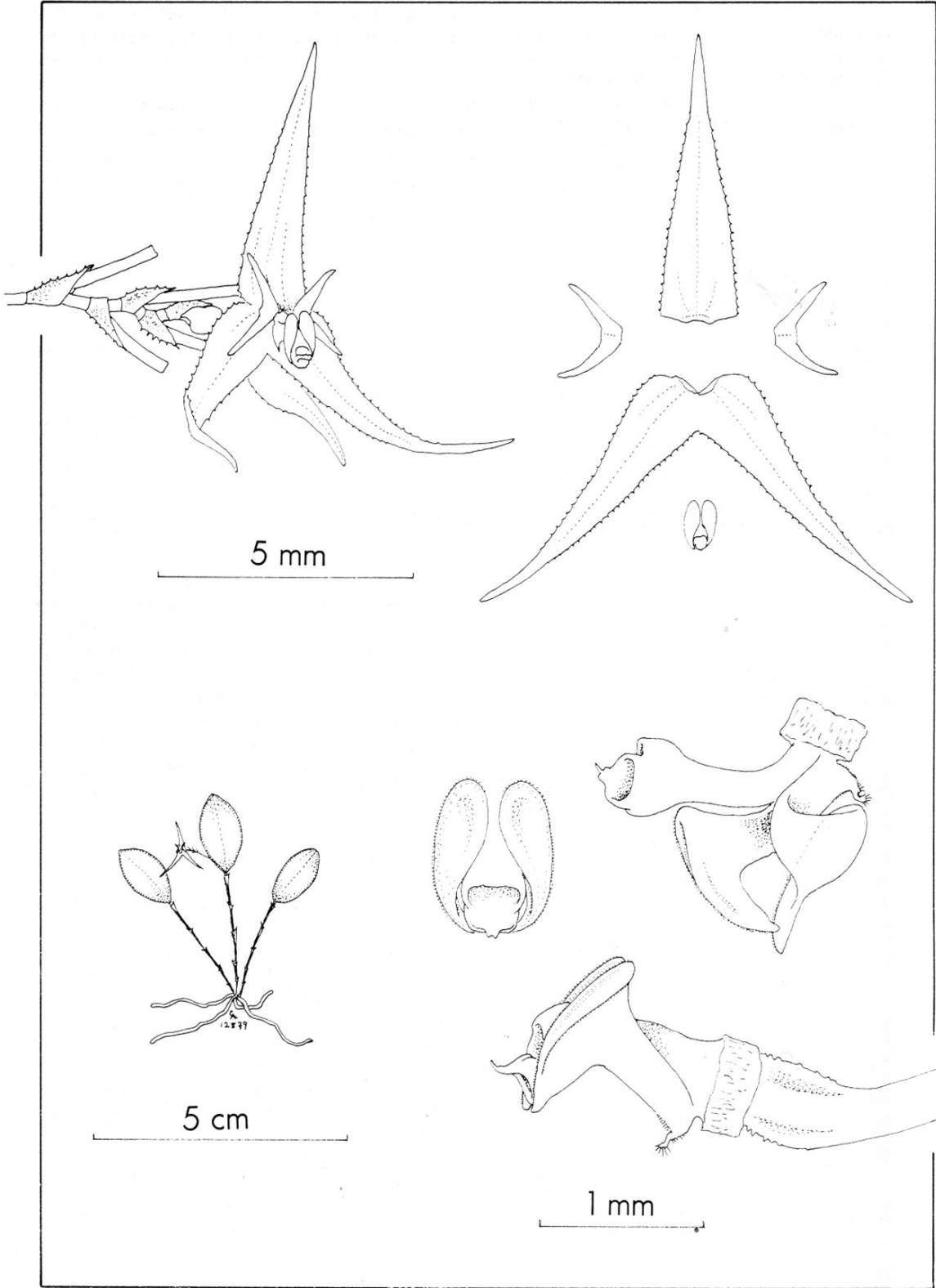
**Lepanthes myiophora** Luer, sp. nov.

Species haec *L. tipuliferae* Reichb. f. persimilis, sed ramicaulorum vaginis paucis leviter dilatatis, labelli laminae columnam amplectentibus cum connectivis oblongis elongatis, columna quam labello non longiore differt.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, slender, 1.5-2.5 cm long, enclosed by 5 or 6 minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, suffused with purple beneath, elliptical, subacute, 12-15 mm long, 7-8 mm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole 1 mm long. Inflorescence a dense, distichous, successively few-flowered raceme up to 4 mm long, borne on top of the leaf by a filiform peduncle up to 8 mm long; floral bracts 1 mm long, muricate; pedicels 2.5 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long; sepals yellow-green, minutely denticulate, carinate-spiculate, the dorsal sepal narrowly triangular, acute, 5.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.25 mm, the lateral sepals widely spread, narrowly triangular, acute, oblique, 6 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, connate 0.5 mm; petals orange, red basally, microscopically pubescent, transversely bilobed, 0.3 mm long in the middle, the lobes narrowly triangular, oblique, acute, each 1 mm long; lip red, minutely pubescent, bilaminar, the blades ovate, with the apices acute, 1 mm long, with the connectives embracing the entire column, the connectives narrowly oblong, as long as the blades, connate to the base of the column, the sinus membranous, about half the distance between the apices of the blades and the appendix, the appendix external, oblong, pubescent; column 1 mm long, the anther and the stigma apical.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek *myia* and *-phoros*, "fly-bearing," referring to the appearance of the inflorescence.

TYPE: PANAMA: Prov. of Chiriquí: near the Fortuna dam site, alt. ca. 1000 m, collected Dec. 1976 by C. Luer et al., flowered in cultivation by P. Jesup & A. Jesup in Bristol, CT., 26 April 1987, C.



*Lepanthes myiophora* Luer

*Luer 12879* (Holotype: MO).

This species is one of the several that were sent to the Jesups for cultivation from the Chiriquí province of western Panama in 1976. When first seen in flower 10 years later, it was thought at first to be *L. tipulifera* which is known to occur in the same area as well as Costa Rica whence it was first described.

Vegetatively both species are small. The ostia of the sheaths of the ramicauls of *L. myiophora* are only slightly dilated, while those of *L. tipulifera* are widely dilated. The sepals and petals of the two species are practically indistinguishable. The lips, however, are distinctly different. The blades and elongated connectives of *L. myiophora* embrace the entire length of the column, while the blades and very broad, short connectives of *L. tipulifera* embrace the long, slender column only below the middle.

Schweinfurth's *L. insectiflora*, also from the Chiriquí province of Panama, differs from *L. tipulifera* only in the relative lengths of the two segments of the petals.