

Lepanthes narcissus Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

Fig. 164.

Ety.: Named for *Narcissus* of Greek mythology, noted for the love of his own reflection in a pool.

Species haec *L. inamoena* Luer affinis sed petalorum lobis inferioribus multiminoribus, labelli lamina minoribus et appendice majore in sulco labelli differt.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots numerous, slender. Ramicauls erect, slender, 7-11 cm long, enclosed by 8-11 minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths, minimally dilated at the ostia. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, acute, 5-6 cm long, 1.5 cm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole ca. 0.5 cm long. **Inflorescence** a loose, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme up to 5 cm long including the filiform peduncle 2.5-3 cm long, borne along the back surface of the leaf; floral bracts 1.5 mm long; pedicels 2.5 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; **sepals** yellow, membranous, the dorsal sepal ovate, subacute, 3.5 mm long, 2.4 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.25 mm, the lateral sepals completely connate into an ovate-triangular, acute synsepal, 3 mm long, 2.5 mm wide; **petals** dark yellow with the margin purple, cellular-glandular, transversely bilobed, 1.2 mm long, 3 mm wide, the lobes ovate oblong with the apices rounded, the upper lobe much larger, 3 times longer; **lip** red-purple, cellular-glandular, bilaminar, the laminae ovate, acute, slightly concave, less than 1 mm long, to either side of the column, the connectives cuneate, the body narrow, connate to the base of the column, the appendix triangular, pubescent, in the sinus; **column** comparatively large, cylindrical, 1.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma apical.

Morona-Santiago: Cordillera del Condor, epiphytic in cloud forest east of Chuchumbletza, alt. 1650 m, 21 May 1988, C. Luer, A. Hirtz, W. Flores, A. Andreetta & W. Teague 13537 (MO); Cordillera del Condor east of Guismé, alt 1650 m, 20 Jan. 1989, C. Luer, J. Luer, A. Jesup & P. Jesup 14013 (MO).

Zamora-Chinchipe: Cordillera del Condor, epiphytic in cloud forest east of Los Encuentros, alt. 1550 m, 18 May 1988, C. Luer, A. Hirtz, W. Flores, A. Andreetta & W. Teague 13469 (Holotype: MO).

This species is closely related to *L. inamoena*, but *L. narcissus* is distinguished by the larger upper lobes and the smaller lower lobes of the petals, smaller blades of the lip with a much larger, triangular appendix located in the sinus of the lip. The appendix of *L. inamoena* consists of only a few hairs located externally on the body of the lip. The apex of the column protrudes beyond the lip in *L. narcissus*, whereas the apices of the lobes of the lip protrude beyond the column in *L. narcissus*. Superficially, the two species appear similar: slender, erect ramicauls with a weak, loose inflorescence borne on the back side of a narrowly elliptical leaf. Both species grow in the same forests.

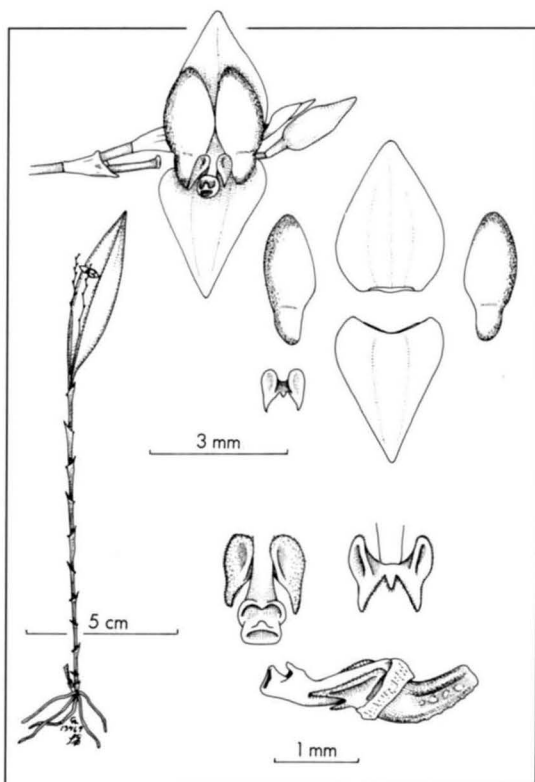


Fig. 164. *Lepanthes narcissus*