

No. 98 - ***LEPANTHES OSIRIS*** Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris scandens, inflorescentia racemosa laxa stricta folio elliptico acuto multilongiore, sepalo dorsali ovato breviter acuminato, sepalis lateralibus in synsepalum acutum bifidum connatis, petalis transverse bilobis, lobis subaequalibus cornutis, labelli lamina anguste oblongis, appendice bifida

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, scandent; roots slender, produced from the apices of ramicauls. Ramicauls erect, stout, prolific, 6-8 cm long, enclosed by 5-7 minutely ciliate, leparanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, 3.5-6 cm long including the petiole 0.5-1 cm long, the blade 1-1.8 cm wide, cuneate below into the petiole. Inflorescence a loose, strict, successively several-flowered raceme up to 25 cm long including the 3-4 cm long peduncle; floral bracts oblique, 3.5 mm long; pedicels 1.5-2 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long, subcostate; sepals yellow, carinate, microscopically ciliate, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, slightly acuminate, 10 mm long, 4 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 1.5 mm, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate lamina with the apex acute and bifid, 10 mm long, 6.25 mm wide, 4-veined; petals glabrous (microscopically cellular pubescent), transversely bilobed, 12 mm long, 7 mm wide, the lobes yellow, suffused with rose, subequal, narrowly ovate, acute, the tips of the upper lobe curving outward; lip yellow-orange, bilaminate, the blades microscopically ciliate, narrowly oblong with rounded ends, 2.75 mm long, the connectives short, cuneate, the body narrow, connate to the base of the column.

the sinus broad, with an small, oblong, bifid appendix; column 2.5 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

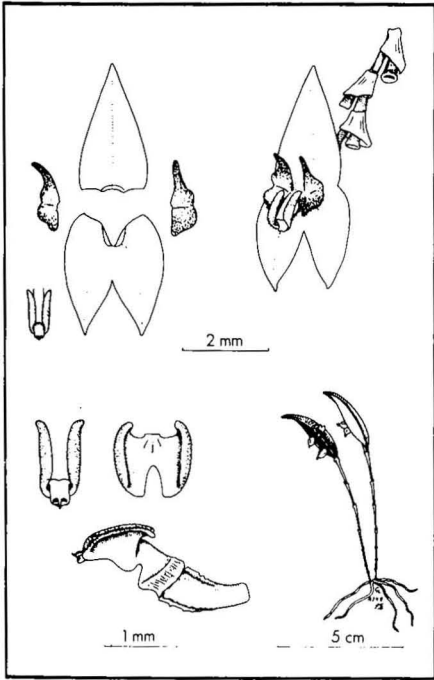
TYPE: Colombia: Dept. of Cauca: Munic. of Totoró, epiphytic in Páramo de las Delicias east of Popayán, alt. 3380 m, 17 Nov. 1982, *C. Luer & R. Escobar 8470* (Holotype: SEL).

ETYMOLOGY: Named for the hornlike petals, reminiscent of the bull's horns that commonly adorn the headdress of the Egyptian god Osiris.

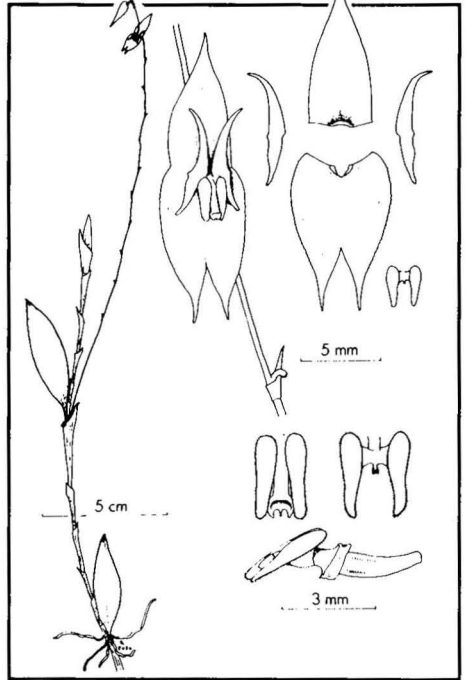
ETIMOLOGIA: Lleva este nombre por tener los pétalos en forma de cuernos, evocadores de los cuernos de toro que suelen adornar la tiara del dios egipcio Osiris.

This species is apparently confined to the cool, moist, scrubby forests of the Páramo de las Delicias in southern Colombia. Although vegetatively of moderate size, the habit is long-scandent. A gradually lengthening, distantly flowered raceme of relatively large flowers eventually far surpasses the leaf. The flowers are most remarkable for the curved, hornlike upper lobes of the petals. The bifid synsepal is similar to the ovate, lightly acuminate dorsal sepal. The blades of the lip are narrowly oblong. The tip of the appendix is minutely bifid.

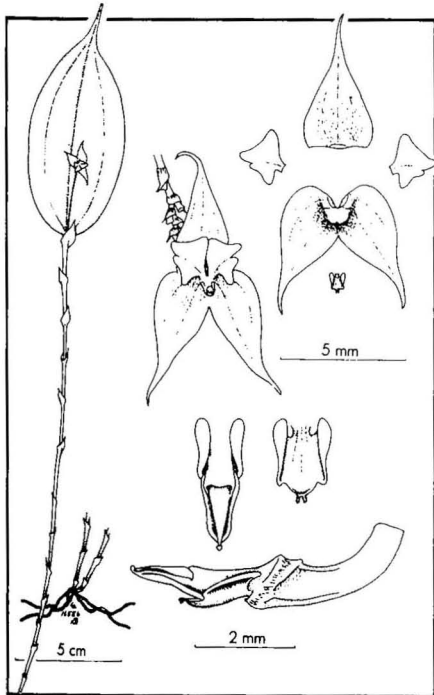
La especie parece tener una distribución limitada al monte enrastrado, húmedo y frío del Páramo de las Delicias en el sur de Colombia. Siendo vegetativamente de tamaño mediano, se presenta con hábito largamente escandente. El racimo, de espaciadas flores relativamente grandes, alcanza con su crecimiento paulatino una extensión muy superior al largo de la hoja. Las flores se distinguen principalmente por los lóbulos superiores de los pétalos, encorvados en forma de cuernos. El sinsépalo bífido se parece al sépalo dorsal ovado y ligeramente acuminado. Las láminas del labelo son angostamente oblongas. El apéndice es diminutamente bifido en la punta.



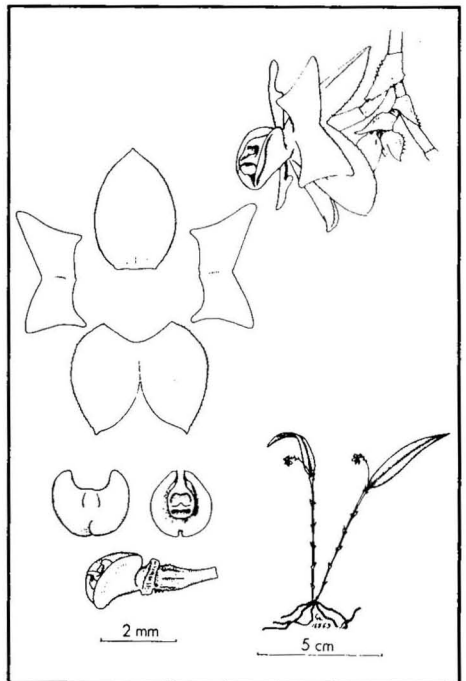
No. 97 - *LEPANTHES NULLA*
Luer & Escobar



No. 98 - *LEPANTHES OSIRIS*
Luer & Escobar



No. 99 - *LEPANTHES PACHOI*
Luer & Escobar



No. 100 - *LEPANTHES PETALOPTERYX*
Luer & Escobar