

139. **LEPANTHES PHALLOIDES** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

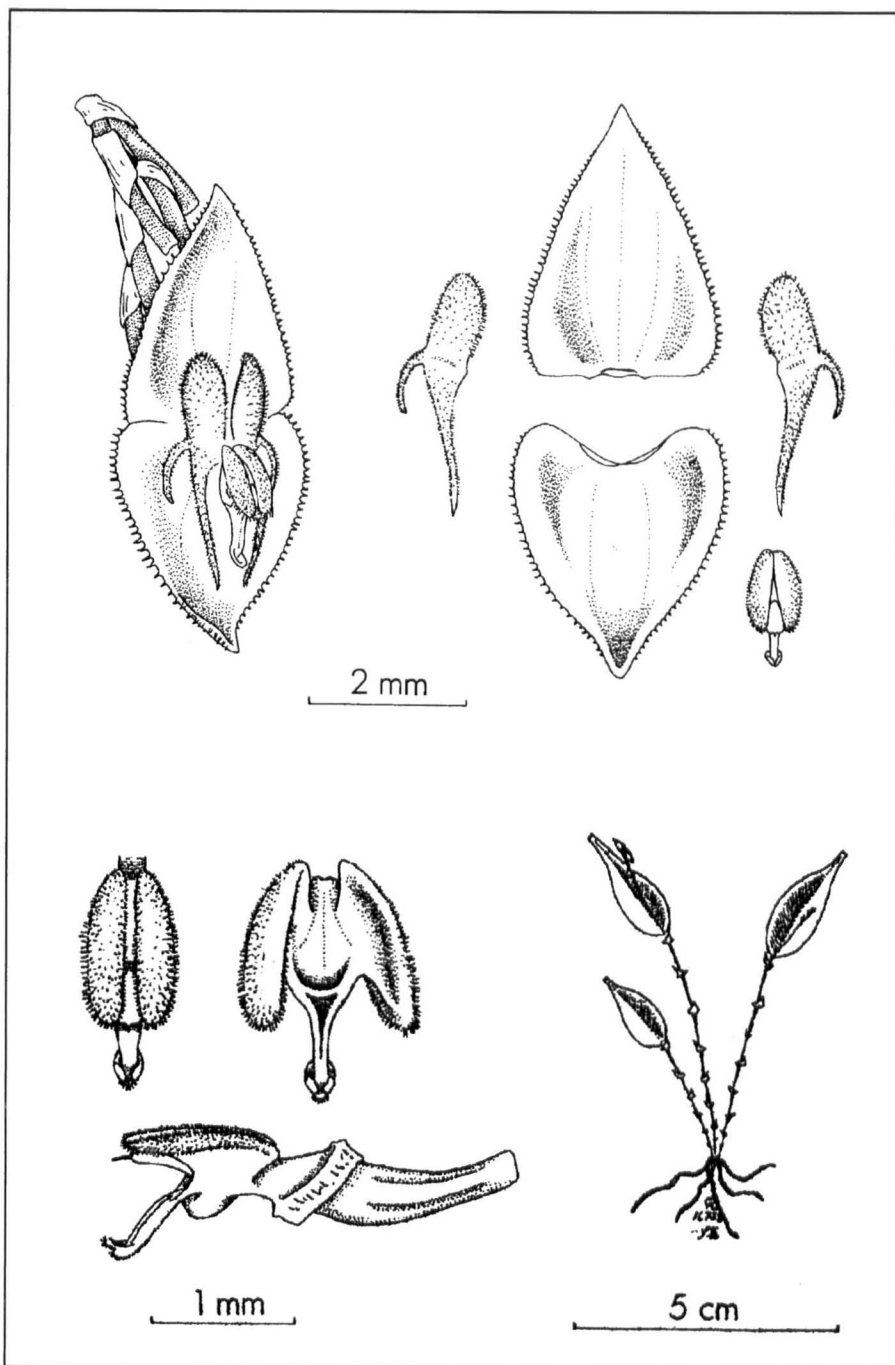
Planta parva caespitosa, inflorescentia racemosa congesta subsecunda folio crasso ovato brevior, sepalis ovatis concavis denticulatis, petalis transverse lobatis villosis, lobo superiore oblongo obtuso, lobo inferiore angustissime triangulari, lobo intermedio filiformi, labelli laminis ellipticis, connectivis brevissimis latissimis, corpore lato concavo, appendice elongata apice marginato concavo.

**TYPE:** Colombia: Dept. of Boyacá: El Taladro, collected by E. Valencia, Apr. 1992, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 5 May 1993, C. Luer 16728 (Holotype: MO).

**ETIMOLOGÍA:** Del griego *phalloides* (como un falo), en alusión al apéndice.

**ETYMOLOGY:** From the Greek *phalloides*, "phallus-like," in reference to the appendix.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 2-4.5 cm long, enclosed by 10-18 microscopically ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths with dilated ostia. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, sulcate, ovate, acute, lightly acuminate, 15-25 mm long, 7-9 mm wide, the base cuneate into a petiole ca. 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, subsecund, successively many-flowered raceme, up to 12 mm long, borne on top of the leaf by a filiform peduncle 5-10 mm long; floral bracts, 1 mm long; pedicels overlapping, 1.5 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long; **sepals** yellow, denticulate, carinate-spiculate, with the inner three-fourths concave, the dorsal sepal triangular, acute, 3.3 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals completely connate into an ovate, acute, synsepal, 3 mm long, 2.6 mm wide, 4-veined; **petals** red, long-pubescent, transversely bilobed, 0.6 mm long, 3 mm wide, the upper lobe obliquely oblong, obtuse, the lower lobe narrowly triangular, acute, acuminate, with an intermediate lobe, arcuate, slender, 0.6 mm long; **lip** rose with red edges, bilaminar, the blades pubescent, elliptical with rounded ends, 1 mm long, the connectives short, broadly cuneate, the body broad, concave, connate to the base of the column, the sinus protuberant with the appendix oblong, 0.5 mm long, with the apex concave with distinct margins, minutely pubescent; **column** 1 mm long, with the anther apical and the stigma ventral.



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La especie se conoce únicamente de la colecta original realizada en la Cordillera Oriental. Se distingue por la hoja pequeña, angostamente ovada, sulcada por el centro donde descansa la inflorescencia. Los sépalos se parecen a los de algunas especies encontradas en Bolivia. En las flores conservadas en líquido, se observa una pigmentación celular pardusca en la cuarta parte periferal, no cóncava, de los sépalos. En la parte central, con respecto a la pigmentación, los sépalos se presentan abruptamente cóncavos. Los sépalos laterales se presentan completamente connatos, formando un sinsépalo cóncavo, ovado.

Los pétalos son largamente pubescentes, con el lóbulo superior oblongo, el inferior largo, más angosto, y el del medio filiforme y más corto. Las láminas del labelo nacen de conectivas anchas y cortas, que forman un cuerpo ancho, cóncavo. Del borde anterior sale un apéndice alargado, prominente. El ápice es cóncavo, con los bordes incurvados.

This species is known only from the original collection in the Eastern Cordillera. It is distinguished by the small, narrowly ovate, thickly coriaceous leaf that is sulcate medially where the inflorescence lies. The sepals resemble some of those found in Bolivia. In pickled flowers, a brownish, cellular pigmentation is seen on the peripheral fourth of the sepals that is not concave. Medial to the pigmentation the sepals are abruptly concave. The lateral sepals are completely connate into an ovate, concave synsepal.

The petals are long-pubescent with an oblong upper lobe, a long, narrow lower lobe, and a filiform, shorter middle lobe. The blades of the lip are born by short, broad connectives that form a broad, concave body. From the anterior margin a prominent, elongate appendix protrudes. The apex is concave within incurved margins.