

**Lepanthes pileata** Luer & Vásquez, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris, racemo laxe plurifloro foliis ellipticis acutis multilongiore, floribus parvis, sepalo dorsali pileato acuminato, synsepalo triangulari pubescenti marginibus involutis, petalis transverse oblongis, labelli laminis oblongis, appendice minuta trilobulata.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Secondary stems slender, erect, 3.5-9 cm long, enclosed by 8-9 minutely ciliate lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, elliptical, acute, 20-33 mm long including the 2-3 mm long petiole, 10-15 mm wide, the base cuneate into the petiole. Inflorescence a loose, subflexuous, several- to many-flowered raceme up to 20 cm long including the filiform peduncle, flowers small, 2-3 open simultaneously; floral bract 1.5 mm long; pedicel 0.5 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; sepals yellow, suffused with purple centrally, the dorsal sepal ovate, deeply concave, cucullate, acute, acuminate, 4.5 mm long, 2 mm wide unexpanded, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the margins cellular-erose, the lateral sepals connate 3 mm into a triangular lamina, 5 mm long, 2.25 mm wide, split at the acute apex into two approximate tails 1.5 mm long, the surface cellular-pubescent, the margins narrowly involute; petals red, transversely oblong, microscopically pubescent, 0.5 mm long, 1.75 mm wide, the upper lobe oblong, rounded, the lower lobe much smaller, triangular; lip red, microscopically pubescent, the blades oblong with rounded ends, the connectives cuneate, connate to the column near the middle, the appendix minutely pubescent, minutely bilobed at the sinus with a third lobule beneath; column 1.5 mm long, the anther and stigma apical.

**Etymology:** From the Latin *pileatus*, "with a cap," referring to the appearance of the concave dorsal sepal.

**Type:** *BOLOVIA*: COCHABAMBA: Prov. of Chapare: epiphytic in cloud forest between Cochabamba and Villa Tunari, alt. 2650 m, 9 Feb. 1980, C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Vásquez 5184 (Holotype: SEL); same area, alt. 2500 m, 26 Nov. 1978, C. Luer, F. Fuchs et al. 3566 (SEL).

This species may be recognized by the long raceme of small flowers with a pointed, caplike dorsal sepal; a bifid synsepal with infolded margins; small, transverse, obtuse petals; and oblong blades of the lip with a minute trilobulate appendix.