



126. ***LEPANTHES PINNATULA***  
Luer & R. Escobar

126. **LEPANTHES PINNATULA** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta perparva, inflorescentia racemosa disticha pauciflora folio elliptico limbato leviter brevior, sepalis ovatis acutis acuminatis denticulatis lateralibus uninervis, petalis transversis pubescentibus bilobis, lobo superiore oblongo-subfalcato, lobo inferiore oblique multiminore, labelli laminis ovatis minute pubescentibus, connectivis brevibus cuneatis, appendice elongata pedunculata longissime ciliata.

**TYPE:** Colombia: Dept. of Chocó: epiphytic in cloud forest south of the pass between Urrao and Carmen de Atrato, alt. 2680 m, 31 May 1995, C. Luer, J. Luer, R. Escobar, L. Moreno de Posada, B. López, F. López & G. Arteaga 17676 (Holotype: MO).

**ETIMOLOGIA:** Del latín *pinnatulus*, " con una pequeña pluma, en alusión al apéndice.

**ETYMOLOGY:** From the Latin *pinnatulus*, "with a little feather." referring to the appendix.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls proportionately stout, erect, 10-15 mm long, enclosed by 6-7 minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths with dilated, acuminate ostia. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, margined, suffused with purple beneath, ovate, subacute, 10-11 mm long, 6-7 mm wide, the base cuneate, contracted into a petiole 1 mm long. **Inflorescence** a lax, successively 2- to 3-flowered raceme up to 3 mm long, borne behind the leaf by a filiform peduncle 5-7 mm long; floral bract 1 mm long; pedicel 1 mm long; ovary 1.2 mm long; **sepals** yellow, membranous, carinate, denticulate, widely spread, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, acuminate, 3.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals lightly suffused with purple, 4 mm long, connate 2.5 mm into an oblong, bifid synsepal, 2.5 mm wide, with the apices acute, acuminate, each sepal 1-veined; **petals** minutely ciliate-pubescent, transversely bilobed, the upper lobe red-orange, erect, subfalcate-oblong, oblique, acute, 2 mm long, 0.75 mm wide, the lower lobe yellow, obliquely triangular, obtuse, incurved, 0.75 mm long, 0.75 mm wide; **lip** white, suffused with purple medially, bilaminar, the blades minutely ciliate-pubescent, ovate, with the bases rounded, decurved, the apices obtuse, 1.3 mm long, the connectives short, cuneate, the body connate to the base of the column, the sinus acute, with a slender, elongated, pedunculated, long-pubescent appendix; **column** 1.2 mm long, the anther apical and the stigma subapical.

Esta pequeñísima especie es aparentemente endémica en la Cordillera Occidental de Colombia. Se caracteriza por hojas elípticas, marginadas, las que nacen de ramicaules comparativamente fuertes con vainas ciliadas, y una inflorescencia suelta, de pocas flores, la que no sobrepasa la hoja. Los sépalos son agudos y denticulados, los laterales con una sola vena. Las ovadas láminas del labelo no tienen nada especial, pero el alargado, pedunculado y largamente ciliado apéndice se parece a una pluma diminuta.

This very small species is apparently endemic in the Western Cordillera of Colombia. It is characterized by elliptical, margined leaves borne by comparatively stout ramicauls with ciliate sheaths, and a loose, few-flowered inflorescence that does not exceed the leaf. The sepals are acute and denticulate, and the laterals are single-veined. The ovate blades of the lip are not remarkable, but the elongate, pedunculated, long-ciliate appendix resembles a tiny feather.