

***Lepanthes zamorensis* Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.**

Fig. 264.

Ety.: Named for the Río Zamora along which this species was discovered.

Planta mediocris, inflorescentia congesta folio ovato leviter acuminato purpureo suffuso brevior, sepalis ovatis acutis acuminatis denticulatis, petalis bilobis cum angulo marginali, lobo superiore oblongo, lobo inferiore triangulari, labello bilaminato, laminis glabris tenuibus oblongis supra columnam convexis, appendice oblonga pubescenti ad basim concava.

Plant small to medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose, roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 1.5-7 cm long, enclosed by 5-12 ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths with oblique, dilated ostia. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, suffused with purple beneath, ovate, acute, lightly acuminate, 1.5-4.5 cm long, 0.9-2.5 cm wide, the rounded base contracted into a petiole 1-3 mm long. **Inflorescence** a congested, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme, 10 mm or more long, borne behind the leaf by a peduncle 8-12 mm long or longer; floral bracts 1-1.5 mm long; pedicels 1 mm long; ovary 2 mm long, lightly papillose; **sepals** yellow, suffused with brown or purple, denticulate-fimbriate, carinate externally along the veins, the dorsal sepal ovate-triangular, acute, acuminate, 4.5-6 mm long, 3-4.5 mm wide, 3-veined, connate to the lateral sepals for 1 mm, the lateral sepals ovate, oblique, 5-6 mm long, 2-2.5 mm wide, 2-veined, the apices acute, acuminate into tails 1.5-2 mm long; **petals** orange with red margins, microscopically pubescent, transversely bilobed, 1 mm long, 3 mm wide, the upper lobe suboblong, subtruncate, the outer margin of the petal with an obtuse angle between the lobes, the lower lobe triangular; **lip** yellow suffused with red medially, bilaminar, the blades glabrous, oblong, 1.5-2 mm long, the apices rounded, ciliate, the connectives cuneate, the body narrow with an oblong, pubescent appendix that is concave at the base; **column** 2 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

Zamora-Chinchipe: epiphytic in forest east of the pass between Loja and Zamora, alt. 2000 m, 25 Jan. 1992, C. Luer, J. Luer, P. Jesup, A. Jesup & A. Hirtz 16152 (Holotype: MO); east of the pass between Loja and Zamora, alt. 2030 m, 8 Mar. 1989, B. Øllgaard, J. Madsen & L. Ellemann 90839 (AAU); epiphytic in forest south of Zamora, above Río Jamboe, alt. 1550 m, 22 Jan. 1992, C. Luer, J. Luer, P. Jesup, A. Jesup & A. Hirtz 16098 (MO); same area, alt. 1400 m, 22 Jan. 1992, C. Luer et al. 16104 (MO).

This species is related to *L. chorista* which is also known to occur in the province of Zamora-Chinchipe. *Lepanthes zamorensis* differs in the acute, acuminate, denticulate sepals, and the larger petals that are not oblique above the lip. The lobes of the petals of *L. chorista* are obliquely short-rectangular; the upper lobe of the lip of *L. zamorensis* is oblong while the lower lobe is triangular. The lips and columns are very similar to those of *L. chorista*.

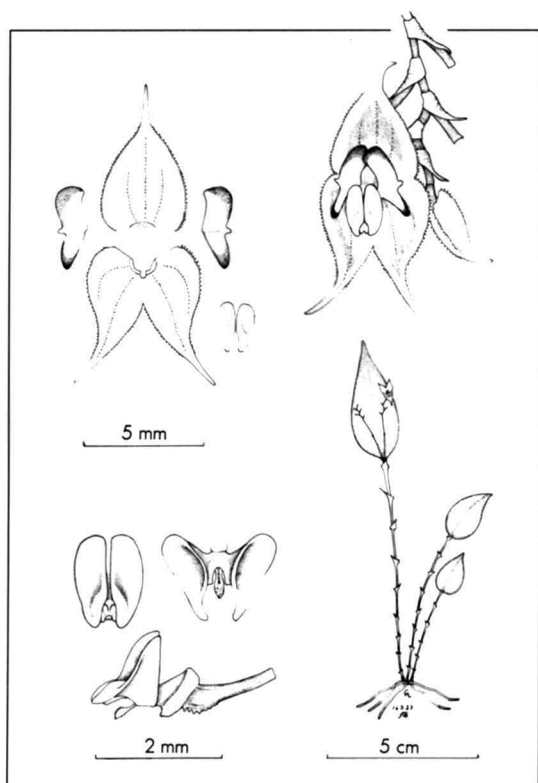


Fig. 264. *Lepanthes zamorensis*