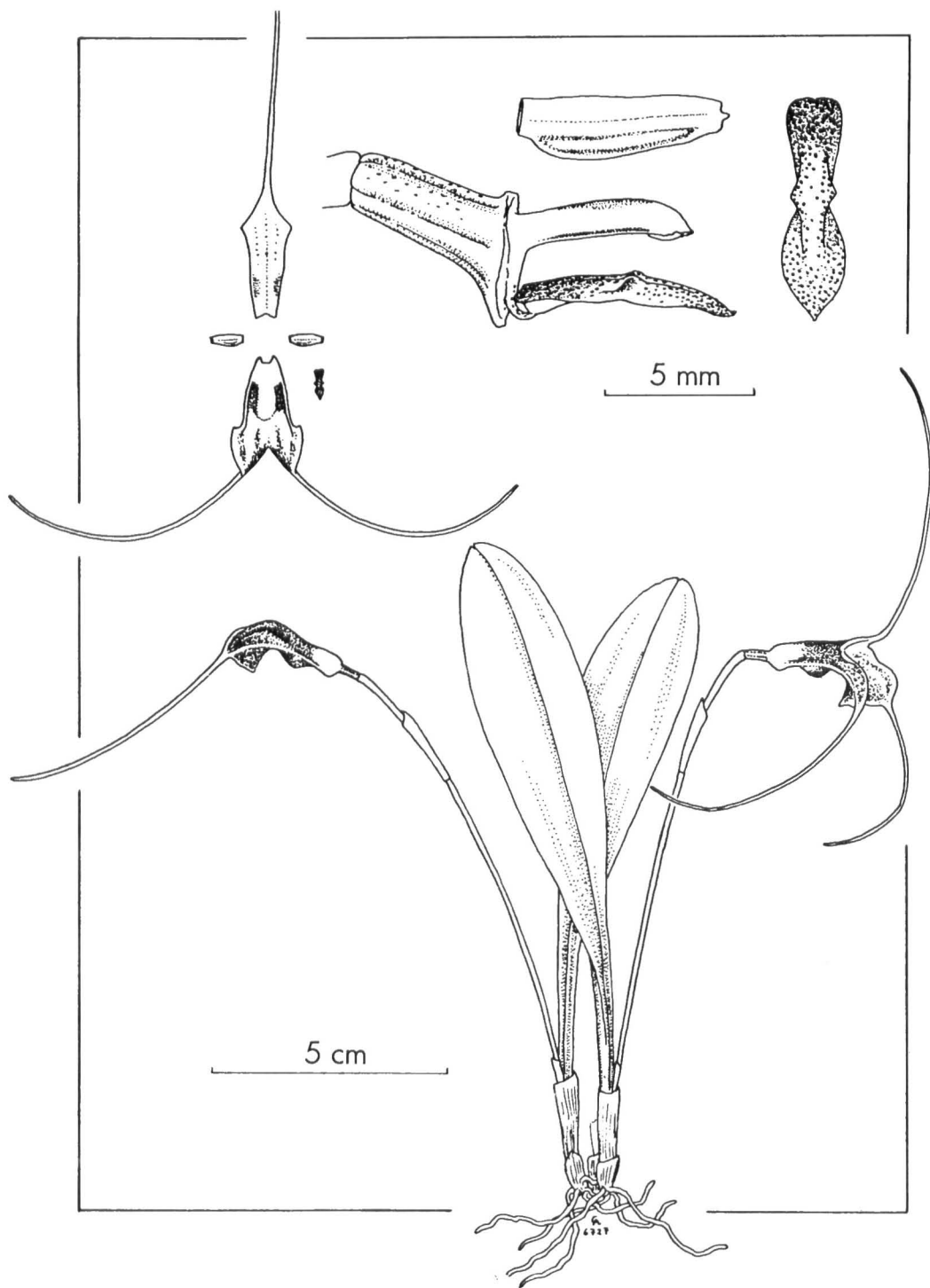


Masdevallia ligiae Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Planta mediocris caespitosa, foliis obovatis petiolatis pedunculo unifloro paulo longioribus, flore horizontali, sepalis purpureo suffusis intus olivaceis in tubum cylindricum ventricosum connatis partibus libris triangularibus longicaudatis, petalis albis oblongis, labello purpureo guttato pandurato acuto bicarinato, carinis obtuse angulatis.



Masdevallia ligiae Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems slender, unifoliate, 2-3 cm long, enclosed by 2-3 loose, imbricating sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, elliptical-obovate petiolate, 8-12 cm long including the 2-3 cm long petiole, 2-2,6 cm wide, the apex obtuse, tridenticulate, narrowly cuneate below into the petiole.

Inflorescence a large, solitary flower borne horizontally by a slender, suberect peduncle 7-8 cm long; floral bract 15-18 mm long; pedicel 30 mm long; ovary green, dotted with purple, 5 mm long; sepals yellow externally at the base, suffused and minutely blotched with brown-purple on the upper two-thirds, internally dull olive yellow, orange toward the base, microscopically pubescent, the dorsal sepal obovate-oblong, 24 mm long, 10 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 18 mm to form a cylindrical tube, the free portion triangular, the acute apex contracted into a slender, green tail ca. 5.5 cm long, the lateral sepals 28 mm long, connate 20 mm into an obovate lamina ventricose near the middle, 17 mm. wide expanded, the ovate free portions 12 mm wide, the acute apices contracted into recurved tails similar to that of the dorsal sepal; petals white, oblong, 7 mm long, 2 mm wide, the truncate apex shortly apiculate, the lower half with a longitudinal callus; lip cream-colored, diffusely dotted with purple, narrowly pandurate, 7 mm long, 2 mm wide, the apex acute, the base subcordate, hinged beneath, the disc with a pair of obtusely angled calli near the middle; column white, marked with purple, semiterete, 6 mm long, the thick foot 3 mm long with an incurved extension.

ETIMOLOGIA: Nombrada en honor de la Sra. Ligia Moreno de Posada de Medellín, Colombia en cuyo jardín de Colomborquídeas en El Retiro, se descubrió esta especie.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Sra. Ligia Moreno de Posada of Medellín, Colombia, in whose garden of Colomborquídeas, el Retiro, the species was discovered.

TYPE: COLOMBIA: ANTIOQUIA: Flowered in cult. 20 Nov. 1981, C. Luer 6727 (HOLOTYPE: JAUM; ISOTYPE: SEL)

DISTRIBUTION: Colombia.

Masdevallia ligiae fue observada por primera vez en 1980, pero había estado en cultivo por algún tiempo pasando desapercibida al

crecer entre las raíces de una **Dracula chimaera** (Rchb.f.) Luer. Solo hay dos plantas en cultivo y aún cuando no se tiene certeza de su procedencia, se presume que fue colectada en el Departamento de Antioquia.

Está vagamente relacionada con **Masdevallia filaria** Luer & Escobar pero las dos especies pueden diferenciarse fácilmente.

Masdevallia ligiae was observed for the first time in 1980, but it had been in cultivation for quite some time and had passed unnoticed growing among the roots of a **Dracula chimaera** (Rchb.f.) Luer. Only two plants are in cultivation and although there is no sure record of its origin it is presumed it was collected in the department of Antioquia.

It is vaguely related to **Masdevallia filaria** Luer & Escobar but the two species can be easily differentiated.