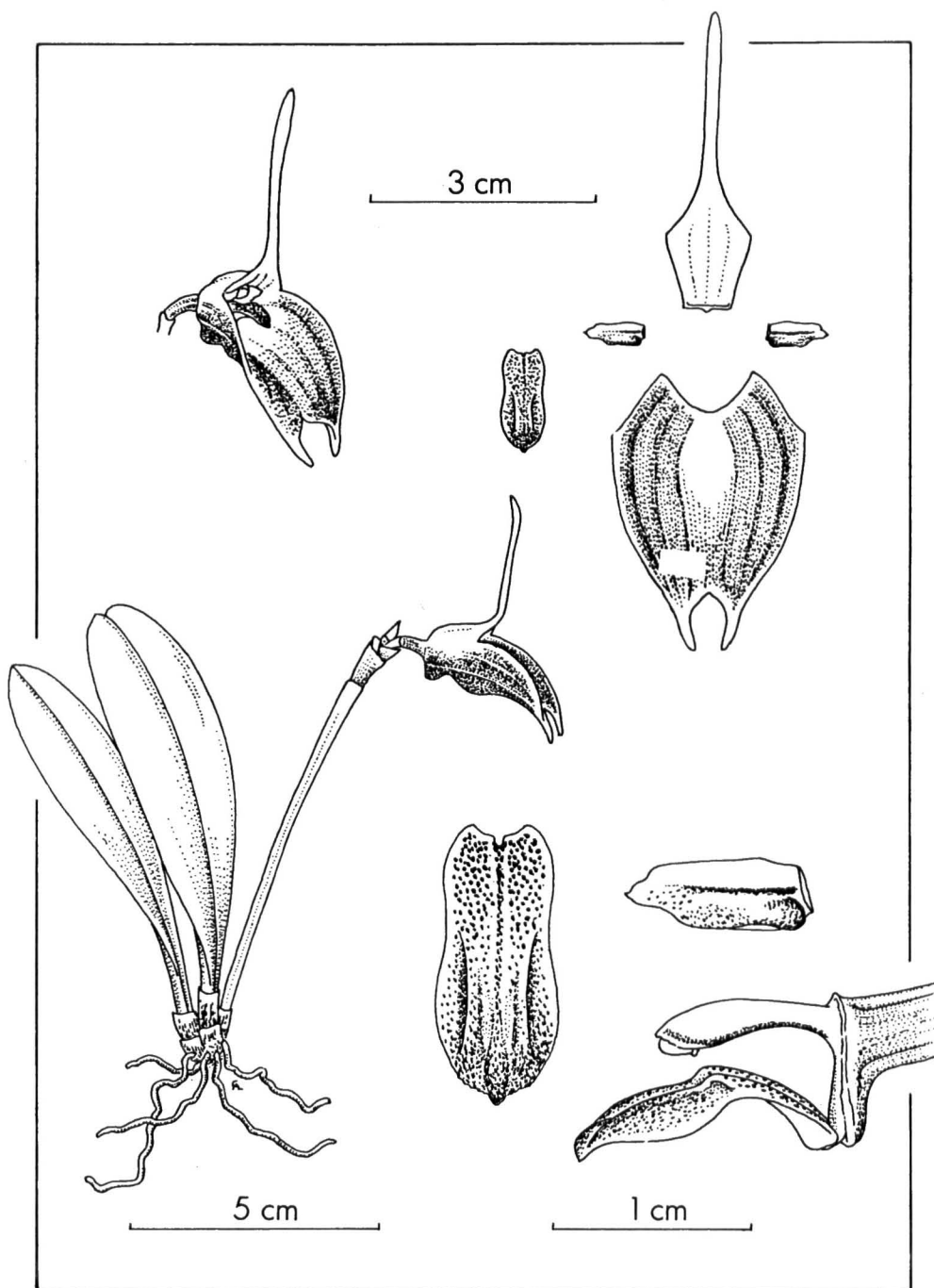


Masdevallia megaloglossa Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Inter species sectionis **.Alaticaulium** Krzl. flore successivo, cauda sepali dorsalis erecta tereti, sepalis literalibus alte connatis caudis, brevibus, petalis apiculatis callo supra basim rotundato. labello ligulato maximo distinguitur.

Plant medium-sized, epiphytic, caespitose; roots coarse, flexuous. Secondary stems stout, unifoliate, 1-1.5 cm long enclosed by 2 loose, tubular sheaths. Leaf suberect, thickly coriaceous, narrowly obovate, indistinctly short-petiolate, 7-11 cm long, 1.8-2.2 cm wide, the apex obtuse to rounded, tridenticulate, gradually narrowed below to the sulcate base. Inflorescence a succession of solitary flowers borne in a congested, several-flowered raceme at the summit of a stout, suberect, triquetrous peduncle 7-8 cm long, with a bract at the base, from a node low on the secondary stem; floral bracts 7-8 mm long, imbricating, oblique; pedicel ca. 9 mm long; ovary green, 4 mm long; dorsal sepal green, lightly dotted with purple within along the veins, subcarinate, subquadrate, connate to the lateral sepals for 10 mm to form a gaping, cylindrical tube, the free portion triangular, acuminate into an erect, stout, semiterete tail ca. 2.5 cm long, the total length of the dorsal sepal 40 mm, the width 11 mm; lateral sepals green, suffused with purple, minutely glandular-cellular within, con-



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nate 25 mm into an ovate, bifid lamina 26 mm wide, 38 mm long including the 3 mm long green tails produced from acute apices; petals greenish white marked with purple, oblong, 9 mm long, 3,25 mm wide, the obscurely lobed apex subacute, apiculate, with a smooth callus along the lower margin ending in a broad, rounded tuberosity above the base; lip rose, heavily spotted with dark purple, oblong-ligulate, 14 mm long, 6 mm wide, the obtuse apex minutely verrucose, the disc with a pair of low, parallel carinae above the middle, the base subcordate, hinged in the sulcus to the column-foot; column green with purple margins, semiterete 9 mm long, the foot 6 mm long with an incurved extension.

ETIMOLOGIA: Del griego **megalo**, "grande " y **glossa**, "lengua", en referencia al labelo comparativamente grande de esta especie.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek **megalo**, "large", and **glossa**, "tongue", in reference to the comparatively large lip of the species.

TYPE: COLOMBIA: INTEND. OF PUTUMAYO: Munic. of Mocoa, Río Mocoa, alt. 700-900 m. 26 Aug. 1977, J.M. Serna s.n., cultivated by M. & O. Robledo at La Ceja, flowered in cult, 12 July 1979, R. Escobar 1984 (HOLOTYPE JAUM; ISOTYPE: SEL) October 1979, C. Luer 3679;

DISTRIBUTION: Southern Colombia, eastern slopes of the Andes.

Solo existen dos plantas de esta especie colectadas junto con varias de **M. sernae** Luer & Escobar. Es muy similar en muchos aspectos a **M. bicolor** Poepp. & Endl. y a sus aliados, pero puede distinguirse por sus sépalos laterales de cortas colas, anchos, profundamente connados y por un labelo ligulado relativamente grande.

There are only two plants of this species, collected with several of **M. sernae** Luer & Escobar. It is similar in many respects to **M. bicolor** Poepp. & Endl. and its numerous allies, but the former may be distinguished by the broad, deeply connate lateral sepals with short tails, and a comparatively large, ligulate lip.