

4. **PLEUROTHALLIS CANIDENTIS** Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

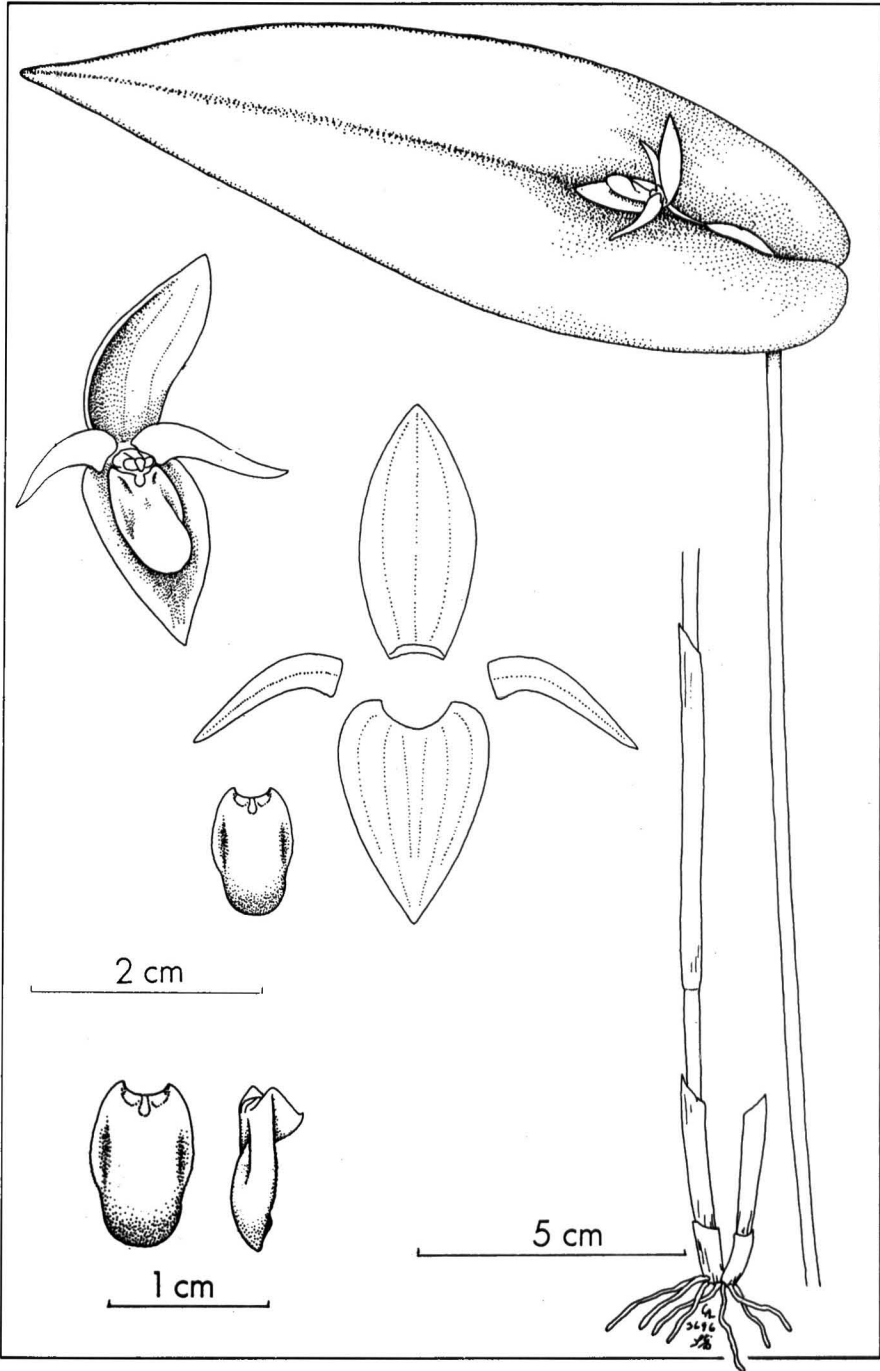
Inter species sectionis *Macrophyllae-Fasciculatae* folio oblongo acuto, flore grandi, sepalo dorsali ovatis acutis trinervis, petalis anguste triangularibus laevis acutis, et labello oblongo obtuso convexo distinguitur.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Antioquia, El Retiro, Hda. Normandía above Colomborquídeas, alt. 2400 m, flowered in cultivation 15 May 1993, R. Escobar 5228 (Holotype: JAUM, Isotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 16927; Cerro del Padre Amaya, alt. 2900 m, 16 Jan. 1979, C. Luer, J. Luer & R. Escobar 3696 (SEL).

**ETIMOLOGÍA:** Del latín *canidentis* (en forma de diente canino), por el aspecto de los pétalos.

**ETYMOLOGY:** From the Latin *canidentis*, "dog-toothed," referring to the appearance of the petals.

**Plant** large, epiphytic, caespitose; roots coarse. Ramicauls stout, erect, 15-36 cm long, with a tubular sheath below the middle and 2 other sheaths at the base. **Leaf** suberect to spreading, coriaceous, oblong-ovate, acute, 13-17 cm long, 3.5-6 cm wide, the base sessile, deeply cordate. **Inflorescence** a successive, single flower, borne from a reclining spathe 1-1.5 cm long at the base of the leaf; peduncles 2-3 mm long, within the spathe; floral bracts thin, tubular, 8-10 mm long; pedicels 10-12 mm long; ovary 6-7 mm long; **sepals** glabrous, the dorsal sepal yellow, elliptical-ovate, subacute, 17-20 mm long, 9 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals suffused with purple, connate into an ovate, acute synsepal, 16-17 mm long, 11-12 mm wide, 6-veined; **petals** purple, narrowly triangular, acute, glabrous, entire, 11-13 mm long, 2.5-3 mm wide at the base; **lip** red-brown or orange, suffused with red, thin, ovate, 9-10 mm long, 5.5-6.5 mm wide, the apex rounded, the disc convex



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with a small glenion at the base, the base subtruncate, concave on the end, hinged to the column-foot; **column** stout, 2 mm long, 3 mm broad, the foot thick, 1 mm long, with the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

La especie se parece más que todo al complejo *P. bivalvis-P. cardium*. Se distingue por tener las hojas grandes, oblongas, con la base cordata, la flor grande, con el sépalo dorsal trinervado, los pétalos agudos, divergentes, «lisos como un diente de perro», y el labelo convexo, proporcionalmente grande, y más largo que la mitad del sinsépalo.

This species is most similar to the *P. bivalvis-cardium*-complex. It is distinguished by large, oblong leaves cordate at the base; a large flower with a three-nerved dorsal sepal; acute, diverging petals "slick as a hound's tooth," and a proportionately large, convex lip more than half as long as the synsepal.



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Fotografía: Rodrigo Escobar R.

Cultivo: Colomborquídeas