

3. **PLEUROTHALLIS CIRCINATA** Luer, sp. nov.

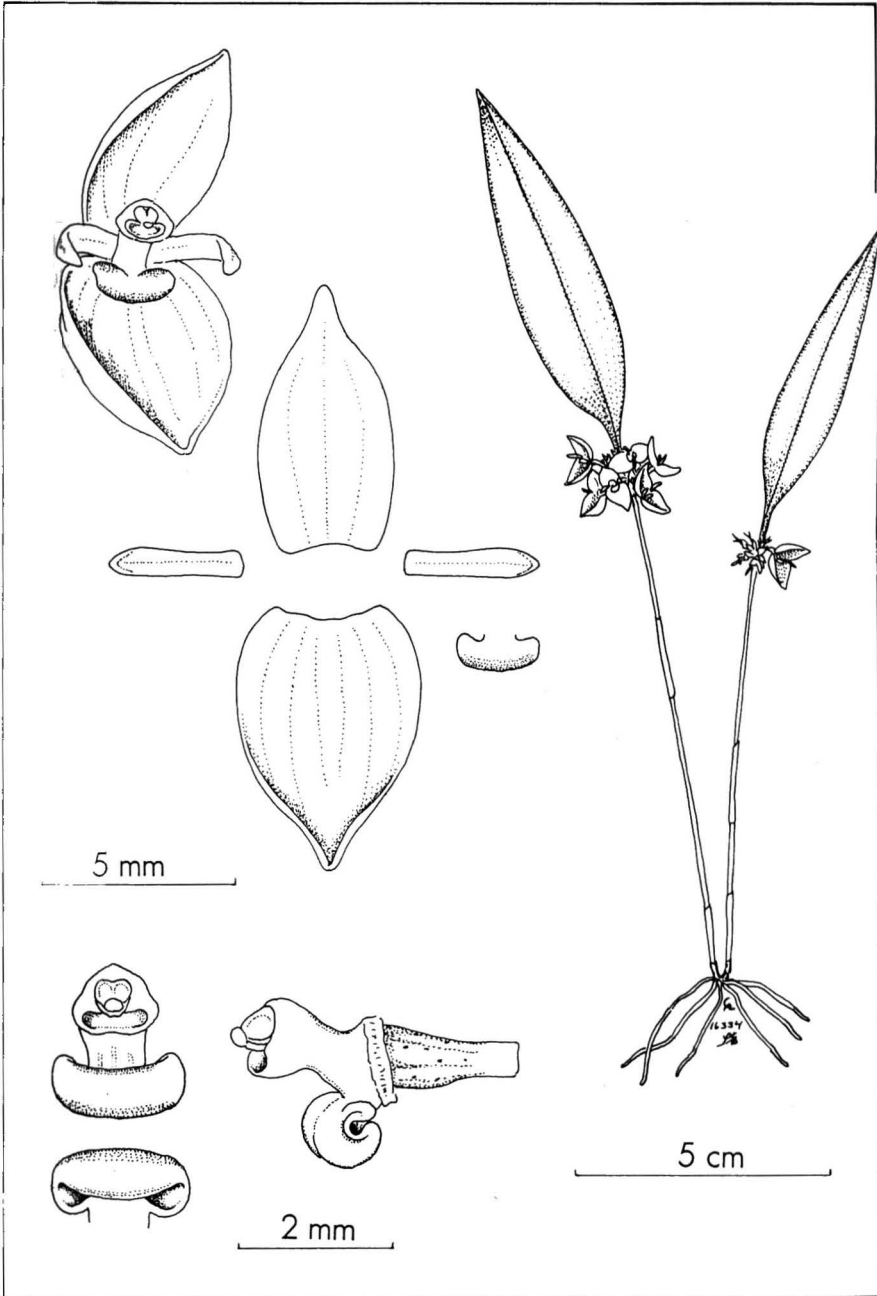
Species haec *P. ruscifoliae* (Jacq.) R. Br. affinis, sed foliis angustioribus, et labello in tubum transversum valde revoluto differt.

TYPE: Colombia: Dept. of Valle del Cauca: Munic. of El Cairo, Cerro del Inglés, frontera Valle-Chocó, Serrania de los Paraguas, epiphytic in cloud forest, alt. 2070-2430 m, 1 Apr. 1988, *P. Silverstone-Sopkin, N. Paz, R. Eriksson, et al. 3951* (Holotype: CUVC; Isotype: MO), C. Luer illustr. 16334; same area, alt. 2260-2300 m, 3 Jan. 1987, *P. Silverstone-Sopkin, N. Paz, R. T. González, I. Cabrera, D. Garcés & A. Henao 2908* (CUVC, MO). Dept. of Chocó: Munic. of San José del Palmar, Cerro del Torrá, on plane below the summit, alt. 2500 m, 12 Jan. 1984, *P. Silverstone-Sopkin, N. Paz, A. Duque & H. Bayona 1786* (CUVC, MO); same area, alt. 2500-2550 m, 13 Aug. 1988, National Geographic Society grant 3884-88, *P. Silverstone-Sopkin, N. Paz, R. T. González, J. E. Ramos, L. H. Ramos & A. Henao 4352* (CUVC, MO).

ETIMOLOGIA: Del latín *circinatus*, "enrollado", refiriéndose a la forma del labelo.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *circinatus*, "rolled up," referring to the shape of the lip.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 7-15 cm long, with a close, tubular sheath below the middle and 2-3 others at the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, narrowly ovate, acute, the blade 7-11 cm long, 1-2 cm wide, cuneate below into a slender petiole 0.7-1 cm long. **Inflorescence** a congested fascicle of short racemes, 2-4 mm long, 1- to 3-flowered, borne by peduncles 1-2 mm long, with a spathe 3-5 mm long, near the apex of the ramicaul; floral bracts inflated, 2 mm long; pedicels slender, 3-4 mm long; ovary 1.5 mm long; **sepals** translucent greenish white, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, concave, 6.5 mm long, 3 mm wide unexpanded, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate, subacute, concave synsepal, 6.5 mm long, 4.5 mm wide, 6-veined; **petals** white, glabrous, narrowly linear-oblong, thickened at the acute apex, 3.25 mm long, 0.75 mm wide, 1-veined; **lip** yellow, strongly revolute into a tube,



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2 mm wide, 0.6 mm long unexpanded, the apex broadly rounded in contact with the base, the base broad, subtruncate, fixed to the base of the column; **column** stout, clavate-terete, 1.5 mm long, footless, the anther, rostellum and stigma apical.

Esta especie está cercanamente relacionada con la común y ampliamente distribuida *P. ruscifolia*. Aún cuando *P. ruscifolia* es algo variable a lo largo de su hábitat, *P. circinata* de la Cordillera Occidental de Colombia es diferente. Se distingue por las hojas estrechamente ovadas; racimos cortos de una a tres flores; sépalos cóncavos más anchos; y un labelo fuertemente revoluto hacia un tubo transversal, fijo, en la base de la columna.

This species is closely related to the common and widely distributed *P. ruscifolia*. Although *P. ruscifolia* is somewhat variable throughout its range, *P. circinata* from the Western Cordillera of Colombia, is distinct. It is distinguished by the narrowly ovate leaves; flowers borne in short, one- to three-flowered racemes; broader, concave sepals; and a lip strongly revolute into a transverse tube fixed to the base of the column.