

Pleurothallis crateriformis C. Schweinfurth sp.
nov.

Herba epiphytica, caespitosa, mediocris. Caules patientes, graciles, vaginis tribus arcte tubulatis pubescen-

tibus ornati. Folium late ovatum, abrupte acutum, basi profunde cordatum. Inflorescentiae abbreviatae, uniflorae, unicae vel plures. Flores parvi, bilabiati. Sepalum dorsale perlate ovatum, acutum. Sepala lateralia in laminam angustiore oblango-ovatum omnino connata. Petala lanceolato-linearia, leviter recurva. Labellum ovatum, profunde concavo-saccatum vel crateriforme, basi cordatum, caverna marginibus latis planis utrinque circumdata. Columna subgeneris, crassa, abbreviata.

Plant epiphytic, caespitose, medium-sized. Roots fibrous, numerous, glabrous. Stems spreading, slender, often with a decumbent base, up to 14.5 cm. high, provided with about three close tubular evanescent sheaths which are densely fine-pubescent, the lower two being small and imbricating and the upper one separated and much longer. Leaf horizontally spreading or more or less reflexed, broadly ovate, deeply cordate at base with overlapping lobules, abruptly acute with a minutely tri-denticulate apex, up to 8.7 cm. long from the apex to the tip of a basal auricle and 5 cm. wide. Inflorescences abbreviated, 1-flowered, one to several, in the axil of an evanescent conduplicate spathe. Flowers small, bilabiate, dark red outside with the inner side of the sepals and petals pale brown with dark red lines. Sepals sparingly pubescent without. Dorsal sepal round-ovate, acute with a minute incurved point, with three prominent veins on either side of the double central vein, about 8 mm. long and 6.9 mm. wide. Lateral sepals entirely connate into an oblong-ovate concave obtuse lamina which is 6-nerved and about 8.5 mm. long and 4.2 mm. wide in natural position. Petals lanceolate-linear, gently recurved, gradually narrowed to a subacute apex, 1-nerved, about 6.6 mm. long and 1.1 mm. wide below. Lip simple, ovate, deeply concave-saccate, subacute with a minute incurved point, cordate at the base, the cavity being surrounded

on each side by a broad fleshy flattened margin, about 4 mm. long and 3 mm. wide. Column stout, abbreviated.

This species is distinctive in its perplexing section of the genus *Pleurothallis* by reason of several floral characters. The dorsal sepal is much broader than the lamina of the fused lateral sepals and the deeply concave or bowl-shaped lip (which suggests the specific name) appears to be extraordinary.

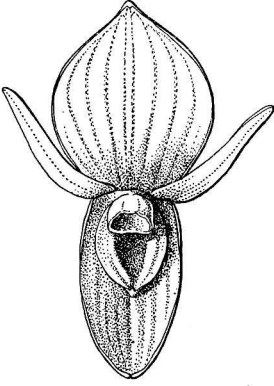
JUNÍN: Prov. of Tarma, Agua Dulce, at 2000 meters altitude, on a tree in low highland forest, March 17, 1948, *F. Woytkowski 35487* (TYPE in Herb. Univ. Calif.; ISOTYPES in Herb. Ames and in Herb. Mo. Bot. Gard.).

PLEUROTHALLIS

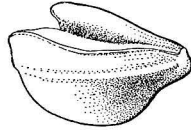
crateriformis

C. Schweinf.

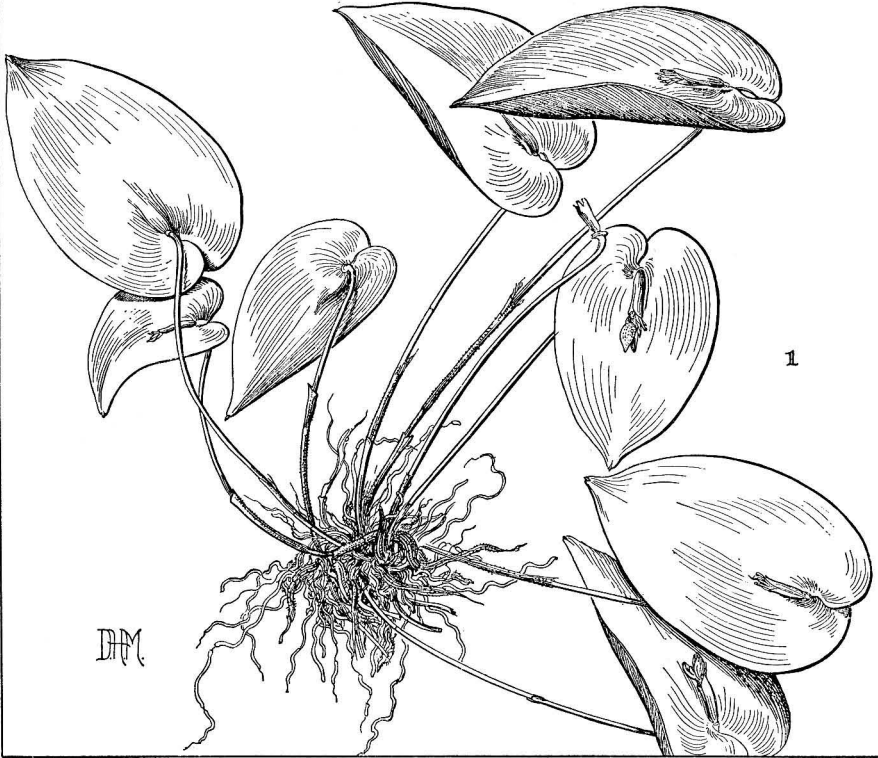
2



3



1



D.M.