

Pleurothallis holtonii Luer, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named in honor of I. F. Holton, who collected this species.

Species haec *P. macrophyllae* H.B.K. affinis, sed labelli parte apicali glabro angusto crasso subtrilobato differt.

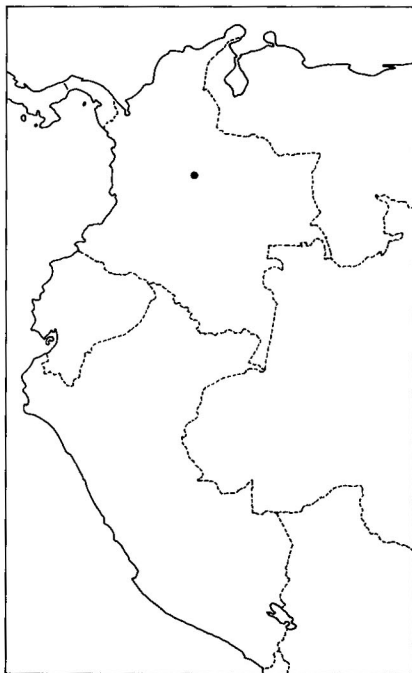
Plant large, epiphytic, presumably caespitose; roots coarse. Ramicauls stout, erect, 30 cm long or longer (incomplete), with a spotted tubular sheath below the middle. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, elliptical, subacute, sessile, up to 34 cm long, up to 8 cm wide, cuneate below to the base. **Inflorescence** an erect, loose, subsecund, simultaneously several- to many-flowered (?) raceme up to 17 cm long including the peduncle ca. 10 cm long, from a spathe 2 cm long, at the base of the leaf; floral bracts thin, infundibular, acute, 1.5 cm long; pedicels 2-2.5 cm long; ovary 16-17 mm long; **sepals** presumably darkly colored, glabrous (cellular-glandular externally), the dorsal sepal elliptical, subacute, concave, 24 mm long, 12 mm wide, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into an ovoid, concave, bifid(?) synsepal, 23 mm long, 14

mm wide expanded, 6-veined, the apices acute, free for about 8 mm; **petals** elliptical-obovate, subacute, 13 mm long, 7.5 mm wide, 3-veined; **lip** ovoid, glabrous, 14 mm long, 4 mm wide, concave below the middle with erect sides, narrowed above the middle with the sides thickened and revolute to form a solid, decurved, obtuse, subtrilobed apical segment, the disc sulcate below the middle between a pair of low longitudinal calli, tricarinate beneath, the base broadly subtruncate, transversely thickened, inflexibly attached to the column-foot; **column** broadly and obtusely winged above the middle, 7 mm long, the anther, rostellum and stigma ventral, the foot short, thick, pedestal-like.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Cundinamarca: "Bogotá," without more specific locality, 1852, *I. F. Holton s.n.* (Holotype: NY), C. Luer illustr. 15520.

In habit this large species is indistinguishable from that of *P. macrophylla* which is known only from the Western Cordillera of Colombia. This species is known only from the original collection made by I. F. Holton near Bogotá in the Eastern Cordillera in 1852. The specimen lay unidentified at NY for nearly a century and a half.

Pleurothallis holtonii differs from *P. macrophylla* in the morphology of the lip. As in *P. macrophylla*, the lip is scaphoid below the middle, but above the middle the lip is glabrous, narrowed and decurved. A longitudinally rounded, thickened, central carina, together with the thick, revolute sides, form a trilobed anterior segment.



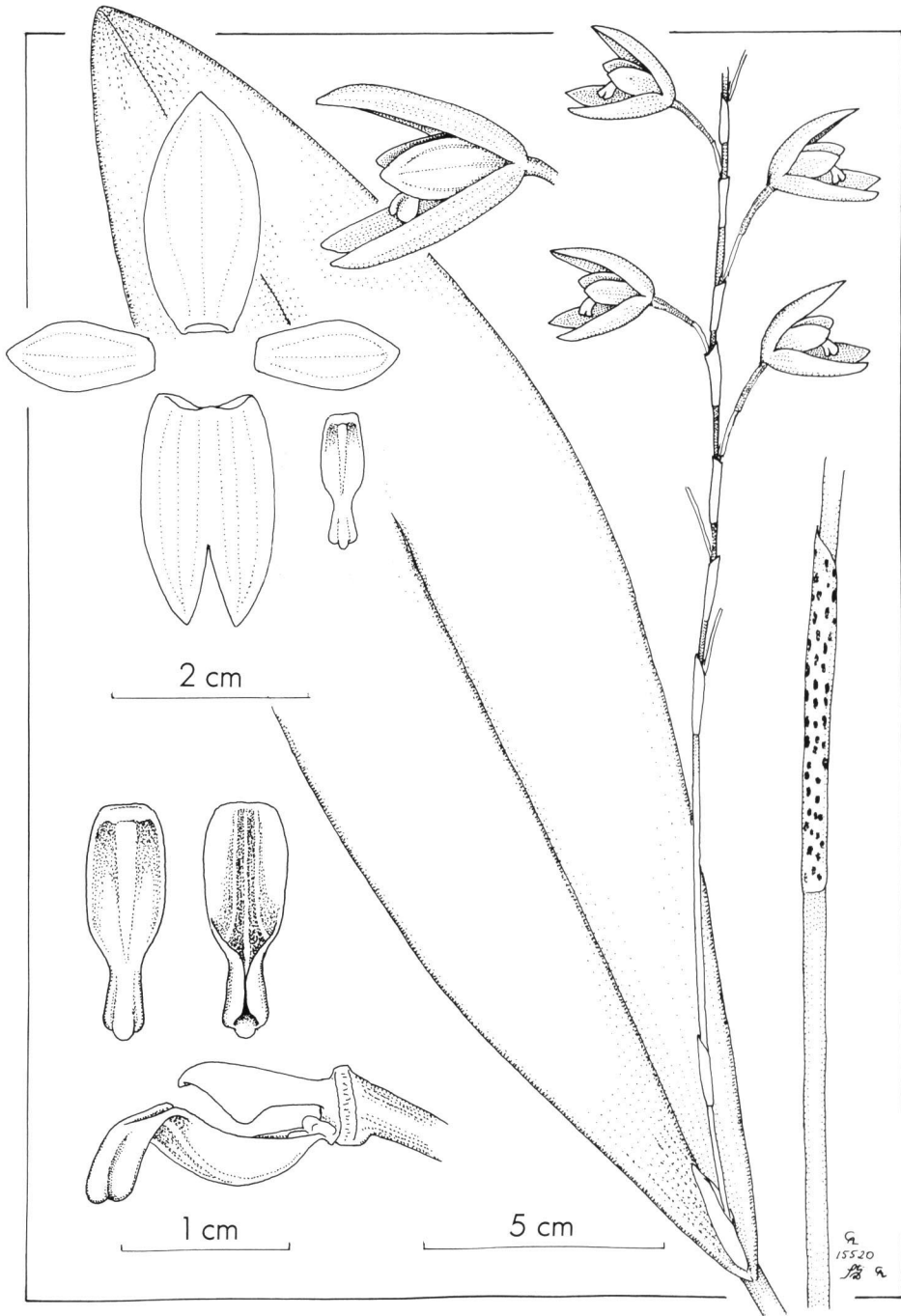


Plate 4. *Pleurothallis holtonii* Luer