



13. *PLEUROTHALLIS LOPEZII*

Luer & R. Escobar,

Fotografía: Rodrigo Escobar R.

Cultivo: Colomborquídeas

13. *PLEUROTHALLIS LOPEZII* Luer & R. Escobar, sp. nov.

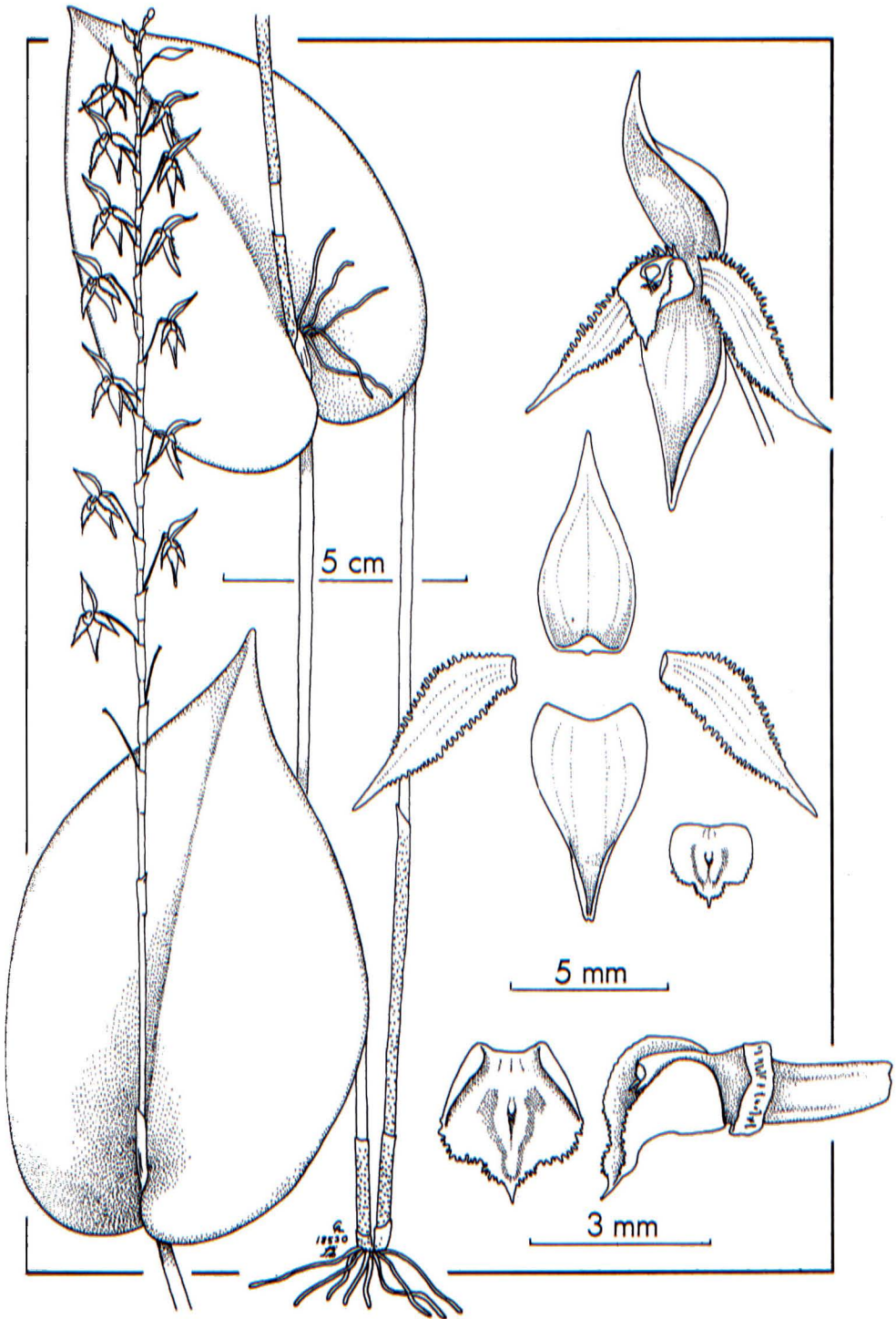
Planta grandis ramicaulibus superpositis, foliis late cordatis, racemo stricto elongato laxifloro, sepalo dorsali synsepaloque similibus acuminatis, petalis fimbriatis, labello late cordato distinguitur.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Antioquia; El Retiro, Hda. Normandia above Colomborquídeas, alt. 2500 m, May 1993, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 26 Mar. 1997, *R. Escobar 8291* (Holotype:JAUM, Isotype:MO).

ETIMOLOGÍA: Dedicada a Jorge López de Colomborquídeas, descubridor de la especie.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Jorge López of Colomborquídeas who discovered this species.

Plant large, epiphytic, prolific, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls stout, erect, superposed, 20-40 cm long, enclosed above the base by a closely



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fitting, tubular sheath, and another at the base. **Leaf** erect, coriaceous, ovate, subacute, acuminate, 12-16 cm long, 7-9 cm wide, the base sessile, deeply cordate. **Inflorescence** a loose, distichous, simultaneously many-flowered, strict 30-35 cm long including the peduncle 5-8 cm long, subtended by a reclining spathe 1.5-2 cm long; floral bracts thin, tubular, 5-9 mm long; pedicels 20 mm long below to 8 mm long above; ovary 2 mm long; **sepals** translucent white, glabrous, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, acuminate, deeply concave, 7 mm long, 4 mm wide, expanded, 3-veined, the lateral sepals connate into an ovate, subacute, acuminate synsepal, 7 mm long, 4 mm wide, 4-veined; **petals** white with light red markings, elliptical-ovate, oblique, acute, acuminate, 7 mm long, 2 mm wide, 3-veined, with the margins deeply fimbriate; **lip** yellow with the apex red, ovate-subtrilobed, 2.5 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, the sides below the middle broadly rounded and erect, with the margins minutely erose below the middle, fimbriate above the middle to the obtuse, apiculate apex, the disc with a minute, erect, rounded callus in the center, shortly channeled above the callus, the base broadly truncate, hinged to a rudimentary column-foot; column semiterete, stout, 1.5 mm long, bidentate at the apex, the anther apical, the stigma subapical, the foot thick, obsolescent.

Esta especie grande fue encontrada recientemente en el bosque ubicado arriba de Colomborquídeas. En el aspecto floral se parece básicamente a la mayoría de las otras especies de la sección, pero se distingue fácilmente por su hábito grande y prolífico. El racimo es laxo, largo, muy erecto, los pedicelos alargados. El sépalo dorsal y el sinsépalo se parecen y son ovados y acuminados. Los pétalos se presentan profundamente orlados. El labelo es anchamente cordato, con los lóbulos basales erectos, redondeados, los bordes del lóbulo medio diminutamente fimbriados; en el centro del disco hay un callo bien definido, diminuto y redondo.

Florally this large species, found recently in the forest above Colomborquídeas, is basically similar to most of the other species of the section, but it is readily distinguished by the large, prolific habit. The lax raceme is long, strict and erect, and the pedicels are elongate. The dorsal sepal and synsepal are similar: ovate and acuminate. The petals are deeply fringed. The lip is broadly cordate, with erect, rounded, basal lobes, with the margins of the middle lobe minutely fimbriate. In the center of the disc there is a well-defined, minute, rounded callus.