

Pleurothallis acicularis A. & S. *sp. nov.* Herba nana, pusilla, dense caespitosa. Caules perbreves, monophylli, vaginis pluribus imbricatis maxima pro parte velati. Folia acicularia, triquetra ut videtur. Pedunculi quam folia longiores, filiformes. Racemi abbreviati, 2- ad 4-flori. Sepala carinata, intus superne pubescentia. Sepala lateralia alte connata, acuta. Sepalum dorsale lanceolatum. Petala multo minora, obliquissime oblanceolato-spathulata. Labellum ligulatum, in basi biauriculatum, prope medium lobulis similibus retrorsis utrinque ornatum, in apice rotundatum.

Plant very small, densely caespitose, about 4 cm. tall. Roots numerous, fibrous, flexuous, glabrous. Secondary stems very short, up to 5.6 mm. long, filiform, monophyllous, jointed at about the middle, mostly concealed by several tubular sheaths which are imbricating, scarious and evanescent. Leaves acicular, triquetrous in cross-section, about 1.6-2.1 cm. long, minutely bilobed and apiculate at the tip, channeled through the middle of the upper surface, gradually narrowed below. Inflorescences solitary, somewhat surpassing the leaves. Peduncle filiform, up to 2.7 cm. long, with 2 remote minute tubular sheaths. Raceme abbreviated, usually 2- to 4-flowered. Floral bracts minute, scarious, infundibuliform. Sepals 3-nerved, conspicuously pubescent within near the margins of the anterior portion, sharply carinate on the outer surface. Lateral sepals lanceolate, connate to a point beyond the middle or nearly to the apex into an elliptic lamina which is 5.1-6.1 mm. long, 3-3.5 mm. wide in the middle, apices acute. Dorsal sepal lanceolate, 5-6 mm. long, about 1.6 mm. wide, acute, 3-nerved, concave. Petals much smaller, very obliquely spatulate-oblanceolate, about 2.2 mm. long and 1 mm. wide near the apex, sharply acute, 2-nerved. Labellum ligulate in outline, about 2.9 mm. long, up to 1 mm. wide near the apex, with a pair of short triangular retrorse auricles at base, a similar retrorse lobule on each side below the middle, anterior third rounded or elliptic with broadly rounded apex and erose margins. Disc bicarinate near the middle, finely papillose on the inner surface. Column about 2 mm. high at the back, winged above, dentate on the upper margin.

Pleurothallis acicularis is closely allied to *P. vittariifolia* Schltr., but it differs in having several flowers in a short raceme, glabrous peduncle, sepals which are glabrous without and pubescent within and distinct basal lip-auricles. Its smooth peduncles and smaller outwardly glabrous flowers distinguish this plant from *P. glandulosa* Amés.

The description was drawn from herbarium specimens.

COSTA RICA, La Palma, A. M. Brenes (159) 490, December 1, 1922. 1150 meters altitude. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 31116.)