

Pleurothallis condylata C. Luer, sp. nov.

Planta epiphytica parva caespitosa, caulibus secundariis abbreviatis unifoliatis, foliis anguste obovatis subacutis, inflorescentia subfasciculata pedunculo filiformi folio aequilongo, flore singulari successivo grandi aureo purpureo punctato, sepalo dorsali elliptico acuto, sepalis lateralibus ad medium connatis mentum formantibus apice acuminatis bicarinatis, petalis obovatis obliquis, labello marronino cuneiformi apice deflexo undulato, prope medium late angulato, base unguiculato, columna gracili pede aequilonga.

Plant epiphytic, small, densely caespitose; roots fasciculate, flexuous; secondary stems abbreviated, terete, 5-8 mm long enclosed by a loose, tubular sheath, unifoliolate. Leaf suberect, coriaceous, narrowly obovate, subacute, tridentulate, the base narrowly cuneate, gradually petiolate, sulcate, 4-8 cm X 8-12 mm. Inflorescence a contracted, subfasciculate raceme at the apex of a filiform peduncle 4-6 cm long, descending to suberect, from a node on the secondary stem, the flowers relatively large, yellow, speckled with purple, not wide-spreading, produced singly and successively; floral bract ribbed, brown, acute, 2-3 mm long; pedicel 4-6 mm long; ovary flecked with purple, 2 mm long; sepals and petals golden yellow, dotted with purple-brown; dorsal sepal elliptical-oblong, the apex thickened, acute, 13 X 6 mm, tricarinate; lateral sepals connate to near the middle, forming a deep mentum, obovate, the apices abruptly acuminate, acute, 13 X 8 mm together, bicarinate; petals obovate, oblique, subacute to obtuse, 4.5 X 2 mm, 3-veined; lip maroon, cuneiform, the apex truncate, retuse, undulate, deflexed, microscopically denticulate, with a low pair of obtuse angles just below the middle, the disc with a pair of low, parallel, rounded calli extending from the middle to the undulate apex, the base unguiculate, sulcate centrally; column slender, spotted, the apex denticulate, 5 mm long, with an equally long foot.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *condylatus*, "with knuckles, or knuckled" (Greek *kondylos*, "knuckle, fist"), in allusion to the appearance of the apex of the lip.

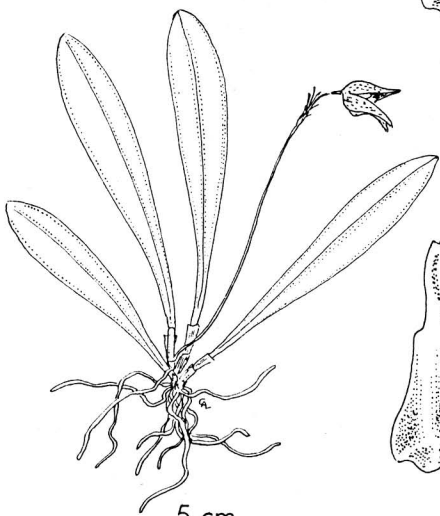
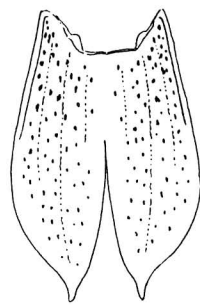
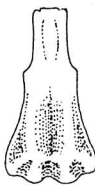
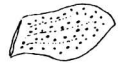
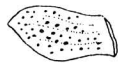
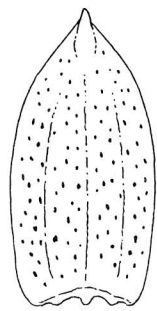
TYPE: PANAMA: CHIRIQUI: epiphytic in trees along the stream near San Vicente, alt. 500 m, between Concepción and Volcán, 11 Sept. 1976, C. Luer & Butcher 1198 (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Panama.

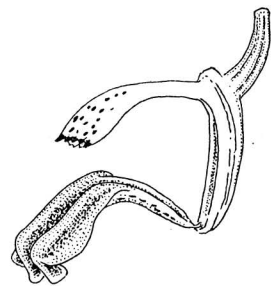
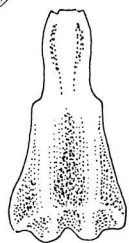
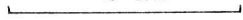
This species was found to be frequent on small limbs overhanging a rocky stream in western Panama. Vegetatively the plant is very similar to *Pleurothallis brighamii* and its allies, but the flower, similarly borne singly in a fascicle on a hair-like peduncle, is considerably larger and heavier. The golden sepals and petals are diffusely dotted with brownish purple and the lip is deep red-purple. From a narrowed base and above the low, obtuse angles near the middle, the lip is broadly dilated toward the deflexed apex. Two longitudinal calli terminate at the apex and curve down with the lamina. This gives the appearance of a two-knuckled fist in a gauntlet.



1 cm



5 cm



5 mm

