

Pleurothallis cynocephala Luer, sp. nov.

Herba perparva caespitosa, racemo laxe paucifloro foliis anguste obovatis longipetiolatis subduplongiore, floribus successivis pellucidis guttatis, sepalis ovatis longicaudatis clavellatis, petalis ciliatis caudatis, labello crasso subovato truncato bicallioso lobis lateralibus parvis erectis acuminatis ciliatis.

Plant very small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots fine, fasciculate. Secondary stems unifoliate, abbreviated, 3-5 mm long, enclosed by 2 white, ribbed, tubular sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, very narrowly obovate, indistinctly petiolate, 2-3.5 cm long including the 0.5-1.5 cm long petiole, 3-4 mm wide, the apex subacute, tridenticulate, the base gradually narrowed into the slender petiole. Inflorescence a loose, successively few-flowered raceme, 4-5 cm long including the filiform peduncle, from a node on the secondary stem; floral bract 1 mm long; pedicel 5 mm long; ovary 1 mm long; sepals translucent greenish white spotted with purple, the margins sparsely ciliate, uncarinate, the acute apices contracted into slender tails with gradually thickened apices, the dorsal sepal free, ovate in the lower third, 3 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, the tail 7 mm long, the lateral sepals connate basally, ovate in the lower third, 3 mm long, 1.75 mm wide, the tails 6 mm long; petals narrowly ovate in the lower third, both margins sparsely long-ciliate, the apex attenuated into a slender tail, the total length 5 mm, 0.5 mm wide; lip light green marked with purple, thick, more or less ovate, 2 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, the apex truncate, the keel beneath with a few excrescences, with a pair of erect, ciliate, acuminate marginal lobes between the middle and lower thirds, with a pair of calli extending forward on the disc to near the middle; column semiterete, 2 mm long, with a short foot.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek *kyon*, *kynos* (κυνων, κυνος), "a dog," and *kephale* (κεφαλη), "head," (Latin *-cephalus*, "headed"), hence "like the head of a dog," in allusion to the fancied appearance of the lip.

TYPE. *BOLIVIA*: COCHABAMBA: epiphytic in cloud forest between Cochabamba and Villa Tunari, alt. 1900 m, Nov. 1978, cultivated at SEL s.n., flowered in cult. 21 May 1979, *C. Luer 4065* (HOLOTYPE; SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Bolivia.

This little species may be recognized by the long, slender, sepaline tails slightly thickened toward the apices. The translucent greenish white blades are spotted with purple and the blades of the caudate petals are ciliated. Microscopically the minute lip resembles the head of a dog with erect ears.