Pleurothallis rotundata C. Schweinfurth sp. nov.

Herba parvula, caespitosa. Caules monophylli, vaginis tubularibus hispidis cum ostiis ovatis omnino tecti. Folium erectum, late ovale vel suborbiculare, apice basique rotundatum. Racemi axillares, numerosi, perbreves, biflori. Sepala anguste lanceolata vel triangulari-lanceolata, acuminata, lateralia per tertiam basalarem connata. Petala perparva, oblonga, marginibus superioribus longe fimbriatis. Labellum lanceolatum, acuminatum, trinervium, marginibus inferioribus ciliatis vel fimbriatis.

Plant small, caespitose, up to 13 cm. high to the apex of the erect leaf. Stems 2.2-10.1 cm. tall, entirely concealed by four to eleven tubular sheaths which are densely hispid on the nerves and terminate in ovate marginate hispid mouths. These mouths are spreading and successively larger upward. Leaf solitary, round-ovate, roundoval or suborbicular, abruptly short-petioled; lamina 2.5-3.7 cm. long, 2-3.5 cm. wide, broadly obtuse to slightly retuse at the broadly rounded apex, subtruncate to broadly rounded at the base, subcoriaceous, the mid-nerve and commonly two other nerves more or less prominent on both surfaces. Racemes numerous, abbreviated, about 2-flowered, the flowers reaching the middle of the erect leaf. Flowers membranaceous. Dorsal sepal narrowly triangular-lanceolate, about 5.8 mm. long, 1.8 mm. wide near the base, acuminate, 3-nerved. Lateral sepals about 5.1 mm. long, connate for about the basal third; free portion narrowly lanceolate, acuminate with recurved apex, 3-nerved. Petals much smaller, oblong, somewhat broadened at the base on the anterior margin, about 2.1 mm. long and 1 mm. wide at the base, long-fimbriate above, 1-nerved. Lip simple, lanceolate, acuminate, 3 mm. long, about 1 mm. wide near the middle, 3-nerved, minutely auricled at base; the margins of the lower half irregular and fimbriate. Column very short with a fimbriate clinandrium.

Pleurothallis rotundata appears to be unique among the Central American species of the Lepanthiform section of the genus in having very broad obtuse leaves and an acuminate lip. It differs from P. trachytheca Lehm. & Kränzl. in lacking the distinct terminal awn to the petals and in the much shorter lip.

The flower examined was on the summit of a swollen ovary and in an advanced stage of anthesis. The specific name is in reference to the form of the leaf.

Panama, Province of Coclé, mountains beyond La Pintada. At 400-600 meters altitude. February 16, 17, 1935. A.A. Hunter & P.H. Allen 561 (Type in Herb. Ames No. 42016).