

Trisetella strumosa Luer & Andreetta, sp. nov.

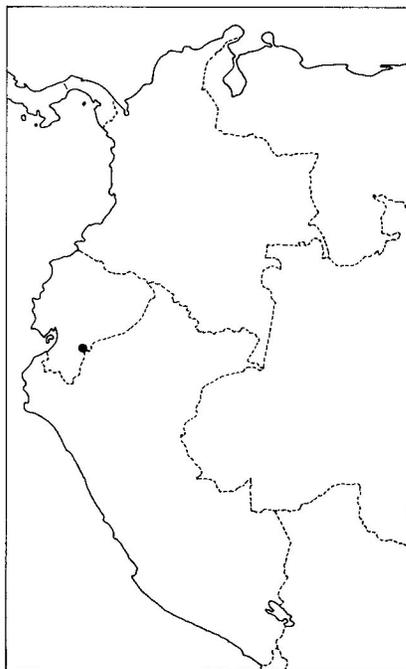
Ety.: From the Latin *strumosus*, "with a goiter," referring to the very large mentum.

Planta parva flore grandi, pedunculo scarbroso foliis crassis anguste linearibus longiore, ovario verrucoso, sepalis lateralibus in mentum profundum maxissimum connatis et sepalorum caudis clavatis.

Plant small, epiphytic, densely caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls 3-7 mm long, enclosed by 2-3 thin, tubular sheaths. **Leaf** erect, fleshy, linear, semiterete, acute, 2.5-5 cm long, 1.5-2 mm wide. **Inflorescence** a succession of a few single flowers borne in a congested raceme by an erect, slender, verrucose peduncle 7-10 cm long, with a bract below the middle, from low on the ramical; floral bracts 3-4 mm long; pedicel 6-8 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long, verrucose; **dorsal sepal** yellow-orange, minutely ciliate on the margins, transversely obovate, concave, 6 mm long, 9 mm wide expanded, connate to the lateral sepals for 4 mm to form a gaping, sepaline cup, the transversely obtuse apex conduplicate, abruptly contracted into a slender, erect, terete, clavate, yellow tail 12-15 mm long; **lateral sepals** yellow-orange, suffused with purple above the middle, minutely short-pubescent, 18-19 mm long, connate 23 mm around a large, retrorse, basal mentum 5-6 mm deep, into an ovate, acute synsepal, 10 mm wide expanded below, 5 mm expanded above, the apex acute, abruptly contracted laterally 4-5 mm below the apex into slender, clavate tails 10 mm long; **petals** translucent yellow, with a purple midvein, oblong, 3.5 mm long, 1 mm wide, the apex truncate-tridentate; **lip** red-brown, oblong-ovate, 4 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the apex narrowly obtuse, the disc with a pair of tall, rounded, approximate, longitudinal calli centrally above the base, flanked to either side by another low, longitudinal callus, the base cordate-cleft, hinged to the compressed apex of the column-foot; **column** yellow, semiterete, 3.5 mm long, the foot channeled, 1.5 mm long.

ECUADOR: Prov. of Morona-Santiago: Cordillera del Condor, epiphytic in forest east of Chuchumbletza, alt. 1650 m, 21 May 1988, C. Luer, A. Hirtz, W. Flores, A. Andreetta & W. Teague 13534 (Holotype: MO; Isotypes K, QCNE); collected by A. Andreetta & M. Portilla, flowered in cultivation at Paute, 16 May 1988, C. Luer 13380 (SEL).

Vegetatively this large-flowered species is very much like most of the other members of the genus. The long peduncle is scabrous except near the apex. The mentum of the synsepal is extraordinarily large, so large that it protrudes posteriorly. The sepaline tails are clavate. The petals and lip are not remarkably different from those of *T. triaristella* except for the pair of tall, central carinae.



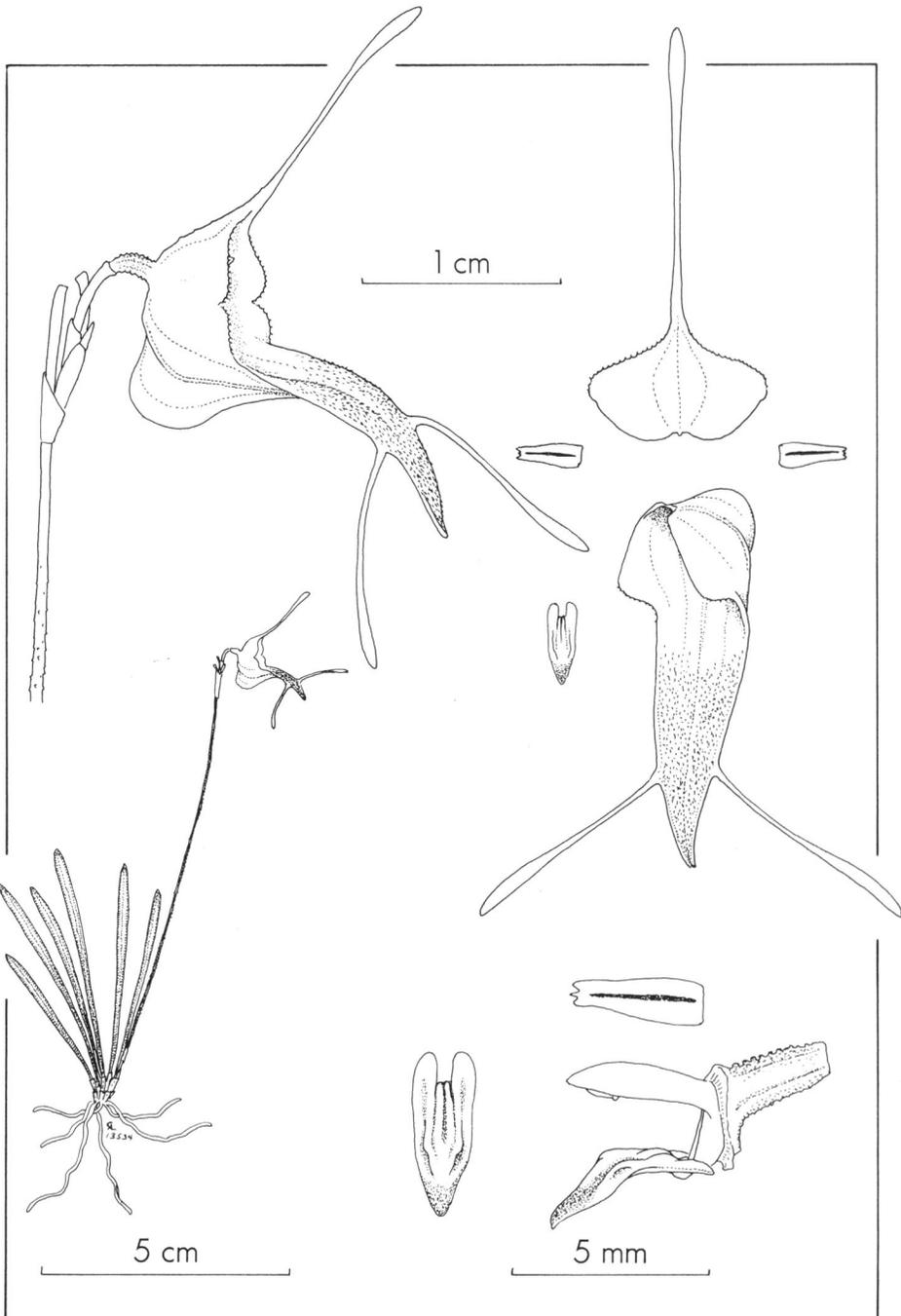


Plate 16. *Trisetella strumosa* Luer & Andreetta