

Pleurothallis harpago Luer, sp. nov.

Pleurothallidi eumecocaulo Schltr. affinis sed sepala petalaeque minore, petalis ciliatis et labello ciliato concavo valde hamato differt.

Plant small, delicate, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender, fasciculate. Secondary stems erect, slender, terete below, compressed above, unifoliate, 5-13 cm long, with a long, close, tubular sheath below the middle. Leaf sub-erect, coriaceous, narrowly elliptical, 4-5 cm long, 12-17 mm wide, the acute apex tridenticulate, the rounded base sessile. Inflorescence a fascicle of erect, long-pedicelled, single, successive flowers from the base of the leaf, the spathe fugacious; peduncle filamentous, 17-22 mm long; floral bract 3-4 mm long; pedicel 10-11 mm long; ovary green, 2.5 mm long; dorsal sepal white with purple cells scattered within, ovate, narrowly obtuse, 4 mm long, 2.5 mm wide; lateral sepals white, connate into an ovate, subacute lamina 4 mm long, 2.5 mm wide; petals narrowly ovate, acute, 3.75 mm long, 1 mm wide, white with purple-ciliate margins and with short, purple hairs within; lip white marked with purple, ovate, concave, 3.25 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the margins ciliate, the apex inflexed into a prominent, hook-like process, the truncate base firmly fixed to the column-foot; column white dotted with purple, stout, 1 mm long, with an obsolescent foot.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *harpago*, "a grappling hook," in allusion to the uncinata lip.

TYPE: PANAMA: DARIEN: Cerro Pirre, July 1977, R. L. Dressler s.n., cultivated at SEL, greenhouse acc. no. 77-2600A, flowered in cult. 20 March 1978, C. Luer 2798 (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION : Eastern Panama.

This species may be distinguished from the closely allied *P. eumecocaulon* by the smaller flowers with ciliated petals and a markedly hooked apex of the lip.