

***Pleurothallis prolaticollaris* Luer, sp. nov.**

Planta parva epiphytica caespitosa, caulibus secundariis teretibus gracilimimis, unifoliatis, foliis patentibus ovatis acuminatis acutis base profunde cordatis, spatha erecta, floribus solitariis successivis longipedicellatis parvis flavis, sepalo dorsali synsepaloque ovatis acutis, petalis proportione grandibus oblongis acutis minute erosis, labello oblongo-cordato obtuso minutissime ciliolato.

Plant small to medium in size, epiphytic to terrestrial, caespitose; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems slender, terete, 8-20 cm long, with a tubular sheath below the middle and 1-2 at the base, unifoliolate. Leaf spreading, convex, coriaceous, ovate, acuminate, acute, tridenticulate, the base deeply cordate, sessile, 3-8 cm long, 2-4.5 cm broad. Inflorescence a fascicle of small, yellow, bilabiate, long-pedicellate flowers produced singly, successively, continuously, from an erect spathe 13-15 mm long from the base of the leaf; floral bract 2-3 mm long; pedicel 10-20 mm long; ovary 3 mm long; dorsal sepal ovate, acute 5-7 mm long, 3-5 mm wide, 3-veined, the veins prominent externally; lateral sepals united into an ovate, acute synsepal, 5-7 mm long, 4-5 mm wide, 4-veined; petals elliptical, acute, 4-5 mm long, 1.3-2 mm wide, 1-veined, the margins entire to microscopically erose; lip oblong to very broadly and bluntly triangular, the apex obtuse to rounded, the base shallowly cordate, the margins microscopically ciliate, the disc featureless, 2.25-2.5 mm long, 1.6-2 mm wide; column stout, about 1 mm long.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *prolatus*, "elongated," and *collaris* (*collum*, "neck"), hence "with a long neck," in allusion to the long-pedicellate flowers.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: PICHINCHA: terrestrial on the road cut near km 85 between Quito and Santo Domingo, alt. ca. 1500 m, 28 Feb. 1975, *C. Luer & R. Kent 334* (HOLOTYPE: SEL), greenhouse acc. no. 15-75-213, flowering continuously in cult.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED: *ECUADOR*: COTOPAXI: epiphytic in old guava grove between Quevedo and Latacunga, alt. 600 m, 5 March 1975, *C. Luer & R. Kent 308* (SEL), greenhouse acc. no. 15-75-278, flowering continuously in cult.

DISTRIBUTION: Western Ecuador.

This species was attributed to *Pleurothallis magnipetala* C. Schweinf. in SELBYANA 1:254, 1975. After reconsideration, I am convinced that this attribution was erroneous, and that the species illustrated in Figure 62 was undescribed. Although closely allied, *P. prolaticollaris* may be distinguished by the broader leaves, the rather conspicuous, erect spathe, the long, erect pedicels, larger flowers, and the broad, obtuse lip. The flowers of the two species are similar in possessing proportionately large petals. The caption on page 255 should read: Figure 62. PLEUROTHALLIS PROLATICOLLARIS Luer.

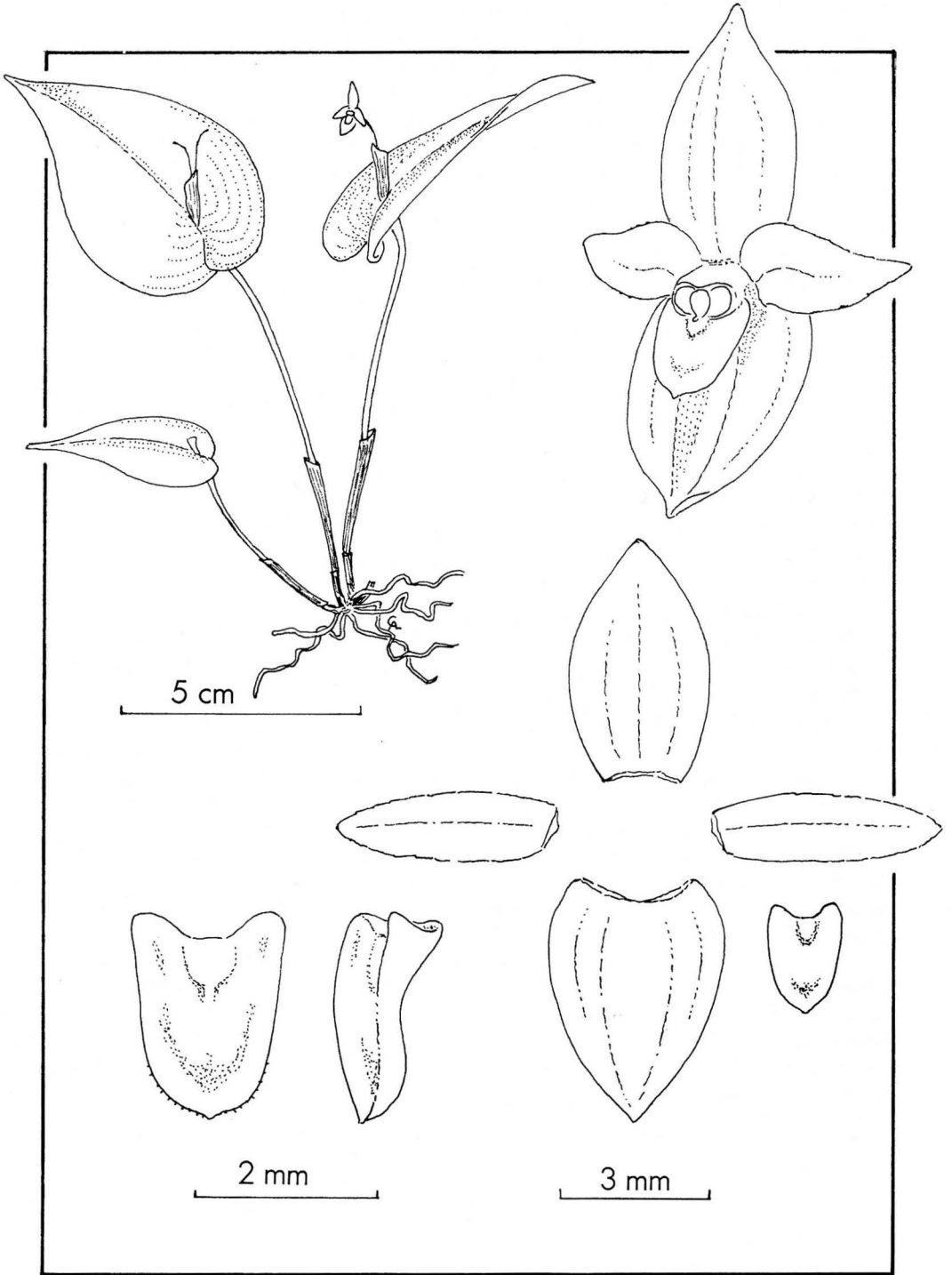


Figure 62. *PLEUROTHALLIS MAGNIPETALA* C. Schweinf.