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A New Species of *Zootrophion* Luer (Orchidaceae) From Antioquia, Colombia.

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Abstract

A new species of *Zootrophion* Luer is described from the department of Antioquia, Colombia.

The genus *Zootrophion* was established by Carl Luer in 1982 (*Selbyana* 7(1): 80) to accommodate flowers with lateral sepals fused and a dorsal sepal with the tip fused to the tip of the synsepals leaving a small opening for the pollinator to enter. With the fused tips of the sepals the flowers resemble an animal's head, hence the generic name which means menagerie. There are 28 recognized species with 12 reported for Colombia (WCSP, 2018). The species are native to Central America, South America and the West Indies.

Plants of a species of *Zootrophion* were discovered in the department of Antioquia, Colombia that differed from most of the other species by having an entire labellum, sepals without spots and with raised ridges with minute irregular hairs on the sepals. We here describe this population as a new species.

Zootrophion antioquianum Uribe-Velez & Sauleda, sp. nov.

Type: Colombia, Department of Antioquia. (Holotype, HPUJ).

Specimen made September 2019, from cultivation, collection of Pascal Arrodeau.

Description

Plants epiphytic, to 21 cm tall; caespitose; ramicauls slender, to 8 cm tall, rooting from base, enclosed by 5 close, tubular, acute sheaths, to 5 cm long, 5 mm wide; leaves erect, to 10 cm long, 9 cm wide, coriaceous, elliptical, abruptly acute, base rounded to broadly cuneate, base contracted into a petiole to 5 mm long; inflorescence a solitary dark red to maroon flower borne by a slender, erect peduncle, to 5 mm long; floral bract, to 3 mm long, acute; pedicel red, with 6 raised wavy green ridges, to 8 mm long, 2 mm wide;

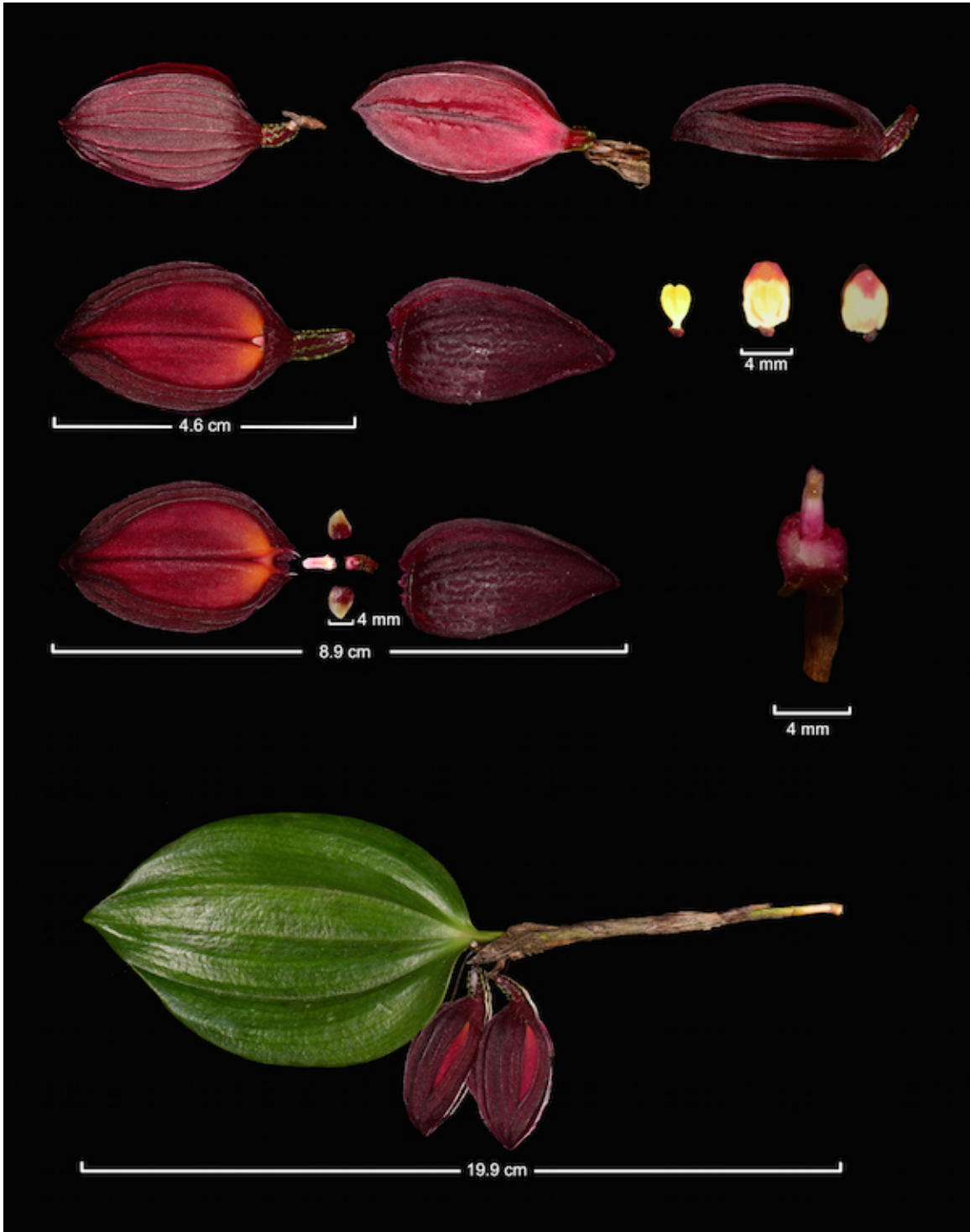
sepals dark reddish maroon, glabrous, with 7-9 raised veins with minute uneven hairs; dorsal sepal to 3.6 cm long, 2 cm wide unexpanded, elliptic, concave, acute, terminal 4 mm connate to the synsepal; lateral sepals connate into a concave, elliptic synsepal, to 3.6 cm long, 2.8 cm wide, unexpanded; petals ovate, acute, yellow basally red, to 4 mm long, 4 mm wide; labellum red, to 5 mm long, 2 mm wide, linear oblong, obtuse. lateral margins crenulate, white, with two parallel thin wavy keels, crest on labellum ovate, apex obtuse, white with crenulate lateral margins, apex red; column white, to 5 mm long, 2 mm wide, basally suffused with pink, narrowly elliptic; anther elliptic, yellow with red apex, to 4 mm long,

Diagnosis

Zootrophion antioquianum resembles *Zootrophion atropurpureum* (Lindl.) Luer (Greater Antilles and Brazil) but is easily differentiated by the 7-9 raised veins with minute uneven hairs on the sepals of *Z. antioquianum* where *Z. atropurpureum* is completely glabrous. In addition, the base of the sepals is yellow and the pedicle is green in *Z. atropurpureum*, the base of the sepals and pedicle of *Z. antioquianum* are red. It is also similar to *Zootrophion hypodiscus* (Rchb. f.) Luer (Valle del Cauca) but it has a white space between the veins on the sepals and has a white pedicle, *Z. antioquianum* has all red sepals and a red pedicle. *Zootrophion beloglottis* (Schltr.) Luer (Ecuador and Peru) is also similar but has a 3-lobed labellum, *Z. antioquianum* has a labellum that is linear oblong, not 3-lobed. Another differentiating character is that *Z. antioquianum* does not have spots on any of its segments where many species like *Zootrophion dayanum* (Rchb. f.) Luer have spots on the outside or on the inside of the sepals.



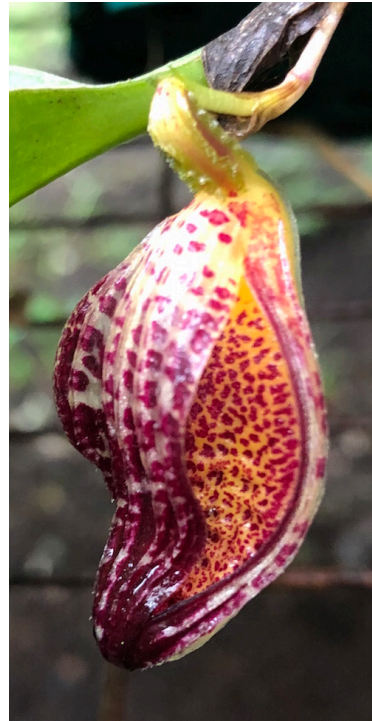
Zootrophion antioquianum Uribe-Velez & Sauleda.



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Zootrophion dayanum (Rchb. f.) Luer.

Literature Cited

WCSP (2018). World Checklist of Selected Plant Families.
Facilitated by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Published on the Internet.