

**Pleurothallis archicolonae** C. A. Luer, sp. nov.

Planta epiphytica parva caespitosa, caulibus secundariis gracillimis teretibus unifoliatis, foliis coriaceis anguste ellipticis vel linearibus, inflorescentia fasciculata, floribus successivis solitariis vel racemis bifloris longipedicellatis bilabiatis flavis rubrovittatis, sepalo dorsali synsepaloque ovatis concavis acuminatis anguste obtusis, petalis oblongis falcatis subacutis vittatis marginibus erosis, labello crasso geniculate trilobato flavoviriscenti, lobo medio triangulari, lobis lateralibus subquadratis erectis.

Plant epiphytic, small, caespitose; roots filamentous, flexuous. Secondary stems very slender, terete, 3-6 cm long, with a tight-fitting tubular sheath below the middle and 1-2 others at the base, unifoliolate. Leaf coriaceous, narrowly elliptical to linear, acute, tridentulate, base cuneate to indistinctly short-petiolate, 3-8 X 0.8-1 cm. Inflorescence fasciculate; flowers solitary or in a 2-flowered raceme 2.5 cm long, from a spathe about 3 mm long in the axil of the leaf; peduncle filiform, 10-13 mm long; floral bract 2 mm long; pedicel about 5 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long; dorsal sepal ovate, concave, apex acuminate, narrowly obtuse, 4-5 X 3 mm, 3-veined, the central vein subcarinate externally, yellow, striped with red; lateral sepals united into a synsepal similar to the dorsal sepal, 4-5 X 3 mm, 4-veined, blotched with red along the veins; petals oblong, falcate, subacute, 3 X 1.25 mm, margins microscopically erose, translucent yellow with red stripes; lip thick, protruding, geniculate, broadly 3-lobed, middle lobe triangular, subacute, lateral lobes larger than the mid-lobe, rounded to subquadrate, erect, 1.5 X 2.25 mm spread, base shortly unguiculate, yellow-green with 3 red-purple stripes beneath; column stout, terete, 1 mm long, with a short foot.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Greek *archi-*, "chief," or "jefe," and *kolone*, "hill," or "cerro," in reference to the region where the plant was found.

TYPE: PANAMA: PANAMA: epiphytic on Cerro Jefe, alt. 1000 m, 2 March 1976, C. Luer, J. Luer, P. Taylor & H. Butcher 964 (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED: PANAMA: Cerro Jefe, 19 Nov. 1967, R. L. Dressler 3175 (SEL) and 6 Jan. 1968, R. L. Dressler 3328 (SEL); COLON: Río Iguanita, March 1976, N. H. Williams 5273 (SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Panama.

*Pleurothallis archicolonae* is apparently known only from eastern Panama. It is locally abundant on Cerro Jefe, a 1000 meter high "hill" only a short distance from Panama City. Several other endemic species have been discovered in the same area.

The very slender secondary stems bear a narrowly linear leaf which is usually a little longer than the stem. A fascicle of numerous, old, dry, arching peduncles is commonly found in the axil of the leaf. Little, long-pedicellate, yellowish flowers with red stripes are produced at irregular intervals either singly or on a weak, two-flowered raceme. The dorsal sepal and the synsepal, concave and shortly acuminate, spread opposite each other. The petals are broad and prominently striped. The lateral lobes of the minute, protruding lip curve up to either side of the column, while the thick middle lobe is deflexed.

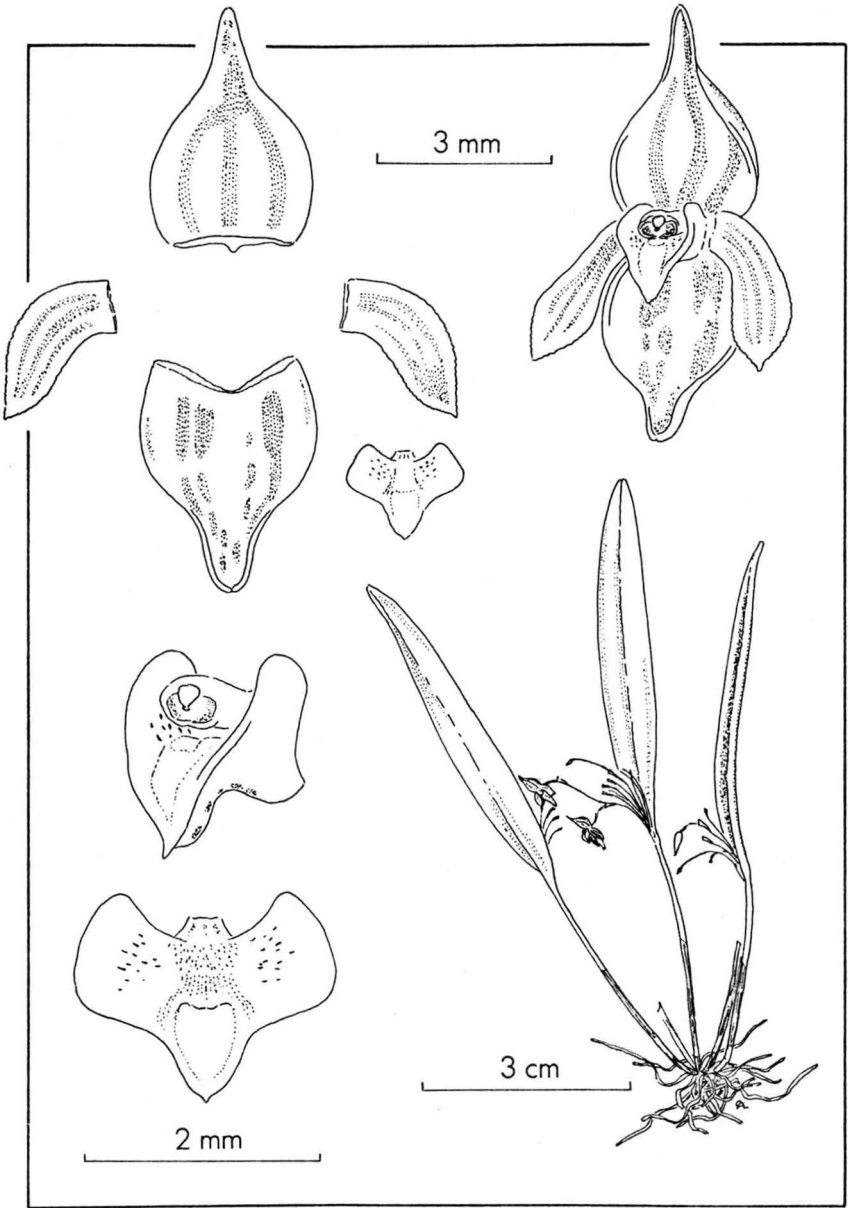


Figure 129. *PLEUROTHALLIS ARCHICOLONAE* C. A. Luer