

**Masdevallia linearifolia** Ames sp. nov. Herba epiphytica, pusilla. Radices fibratae, albae. Caules secundarii abbreviati, vaginati, caespitiosi. Folia coriacea, linearia, apice bilobulata apiculo interjecto, usque ad basim angustata. Pedunculi abbreviati, cum floribus inter caules secundarios occulti. Flores parvuli, purpurei. Sepala lateralia vix ad medium cohaerentia, ovata, longe caudata, trinervia. Sepalum dorsale simile. Petala irregulariter et inaequaliter dolabriformia, obtusa, uninervia. Labellum unguiculatum, basi sagittatum, antice orbiculare, margine denticulato vel breviter fimbriato, utrinque prope unguem callosum. Columna gracilis, utrinque triangulari-alata, alis dependentibus acuminatis acutis; clinandrium post antheram longe productum.

A small epiphytic herb up to 4 cm. high, with the flowers more or less concealed among the secondary stems and leaves in the manner of *Masdevallia simula* Reichb. f. Secondary stems 6 mm. long, caespitose, monophyllous, vaginate. Sheaths equaling or exceeding the secondary stems, scarious. Leaf up to 3 cm. long, about 2 mm. wide, bilobulate at the tip with a short apicule between the lobules, narrowed toward the base, linear, coriaceous. Peduncle with the pedicellate ovary about 1 cm. long, slender, 1-flowered. Lateral sepals united almost to the middle, ovate, 5 mm. long to the tip, free portion up to 2 mm. wide, 3-nerved, caudate, the tail 2 mm. long being the prolongation of a carinate median nerve. Dorsal sepal 7 mm. long including the caudate tip, 2 mm. wide, the caudate tip 3 mm. long, tricarinate, the median keel prominent. Petals 2 mm. long, variable, about 2 mm. wide below the tip, dolabriform, emarginate on the anterior margin, obtuse; below the middle on the upper half — on the inner surface — a papilliform callus is situated on or near the anterior margin. Labellum 2.5 mm. long, 1.5 mm. wide near the tip, unguiculate, sagittately 3-lobed; the lateral lobes or auricles retrorse, parallel with or appressed to the claw, with a prominent complanate callus at the base of each lobe; middle lobe subacute, round-obtuse in front, the lateral margins denticulate or fimbriate. Column 3 mm. long, produced at base into a short foot, on each side near the summit with a deflexed or pendent triangular-acuminate acute wing; clinandrium obscurely crenulate, produced behind the anther into a linear denticulate membrane.

Closely allied to *Masdevallia simula* Reichb. f., but clearly distinguished from that species by the strongly caudate sepals, and by differences in the structure of the labellum and column. From *M. guatemalensis* Schltr. it differs also in having caudate sepals.

GUATEMALA, Department of Alta Verapaz, Cubilquitz, *H. v. Tuerckheim* 7784, August 1900. Flowers rose-brown. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 7341.)