

Lepanthes incantata Luer, sp. nov.

Planta parva caespitosa, inflorescentia racemosa minutiflora congesta disticha folio ovato brevior, sepalis ovatis obtusis minutissime denticulatis, petalis transverse bilobatis, lobo superiore oblongis obtusis, lobo inferiore minore triangulari, labello bilobo laminis ellipticis, corpore lato cum appendice membranacea intricata longiciliata.

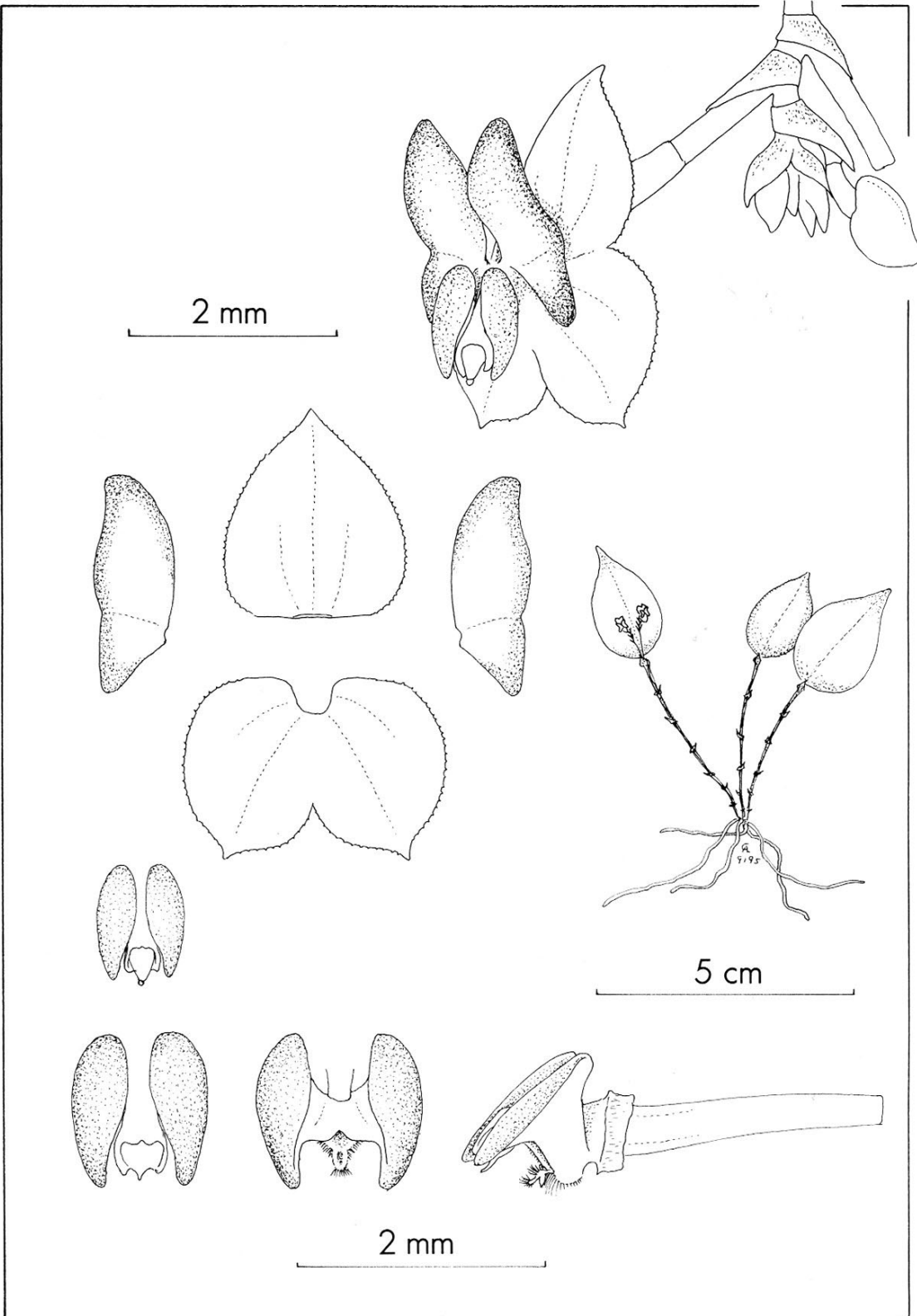
Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls slender, erect, 2-3 cm long, enclosed by 5 or 6 minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths. Leaf erect, coriaceous, ovate, acute, slightly acuminate, 20-27 mm long, 10-14 mm wide, the rounded base contracted into a petiole 1-2 mm long. Inflorescence a congested, distichous, successively several-flowered raceme up to 3 mm long, borne on top of the leaf by a filiform peduncle 6-8 mm long; floral bracts 1 mm long; pedicels 1.25 mm long; ovary 2 mm long; sepals yellow, broadly ovate, obtuse, carinate, with cellular-denticulate margins, the dorsal sepal 2 mm long, 1.75 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 0.5 mm, the lateral sepals oblique, 1.75 mm long, 1.25 mm wide, connate 1.5 mm; petals orange with the border purple, microscopically pubescent, transversely bilobed, 0.8 mm long, 2 mm wide, the upper lobe oblong-ovate, obtuse, the lower lobe much smaller, triangular, obtuse; lip purple, cellular-pubescent, bilaminar, the blades elliptical-ovate, obtuse, 1.25 mm long, the connectives broadly oblong, forming a broad body, connate to the base of the column, the sinus obtuse with a broad, membranous, slightly concave, long-ciliate appendix; column 1 mm long, the anther dorsal, the stigma ventral.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *incantatus*, "charmed," alluding to the supposedly alluring qualities of the appendix.

TYPE: PANAMA: Prov. of Panama: epiphytic in cloud forest on Cerro Jefe, alt. 900 m, 1 Dec. 1983, C. Luer, J. Luer & A. Maduro 9195 (Holotype: SEL).

This little species does not vary remarkably from the average for the genus, but the combination of its characters permit its recognition. The small leaf is ovate, slightly acuminate, upon which lies the abbreviated raceme of very small flowers. The broadly ovate sepals are microscopically denticulate, the

triangular lower lobe of the petals is considerably smaller than the oblong upper lobe. The lobes of the lip are not remarkable, but the appendix is broadly membranous, concave, with tufts of cilia, the longest beneath.



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