

NEW SPECIES AND COMBINATIONS IN  
*DRACULA* AND *MASDEVALLIA* (ORCHIDACEAE)  
FROM COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA

*Carlyle A. Luer and Rodrigo Escobar R.\**

***Dracula anthracina* Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.**

Inter species generis *Draculae* Luer species haec foliis anguste linearibus, pedunculo plus minusve horizontali paucifloro et flore mediocri anthracino bene expanso fere plano distinguitur.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems unifoliate, stout, 1.5-2 cm long, enclosed by 2 thin, tubular sheaths. Leaf erect, light green, thinly coriaceous, carinate dorsally along the midrib, narrowly linear-obovate, 11-19 cm long, 0.9-1.4 cm wide, the apex acute, tridenticulate, very gradually narrowed below into the conduplicate base. Inflorescence a congested raceme of 2-3 successive flowers borne by a brown, sparsely bracted, more or less horizontal peduncle, 5-10 cm long, from a node low on the secondary stem; floral bract brown-purple, tubular, 10 mm long, pedicel dark purple, 15 mm long; ovary dark purple, subverrucose, lightly pitted, 6 mm long; sepals deep purple-black externally and internally except for a narrow zone of white along the lower margins of the laterals, glabrous without, verrucose within with short hairs on the margins, broadly ovate, 15 mm long, 12-16 mm wide, the dorsal connate to the laterals for 5-6 mm to form a widely spread, more or less flat flower, the laterals connate for 12 mm to form a shallow, white mentum, the subacute apices contracted into slender, purple-black, filiform tails 3.5-6.5 cm long; petals cream, marked with brown, oblong, 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, the apex thickened and bivalvate, papillose between the laminae, the inner valve subacute, the outer rounded; lip white, lightly suffused with pink, spatulate, 7-7.5 mm long, 4.5-5 mm wide, the hypochile oblong, 3 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, with erect, rounded, marginal angles, cleft centrally, the concave base hinged to the column-foot, the epichile suborbicular, verrucose externally, 4-4.5 mm long, 4-5.5 mm wide, concave with incurved, denticulate margins, with a central carina, flanked on either side by a lesser carina and several, irregular, incomplete, raised veins; column yellow-white, semiterete, 5 mm long, with a thick foot.

**Etymology:** From the Greek *anthrakinos* (*ανθρακινος*), "coal black," in allusion to the color of the flowers.

**TYPE:** *COLOMBIA*: Without locality, obtained by J & L Orchids, Easton, CT, from H. Schmidt-Mumm, Bogota, Colombia, flowered in cult. 23 Oct. 1978, *C. Luer 3457* (HOLOTYPE: SEL; CLONOTYPES: *R. Escobar 1784*, JAUM; *C. Luer 2160*, SEL).

**Distribution:** Colombia.

This species may be distinguished from the others with a similar lip by the relatively small, widely spread, flat, deep purple-black flowers.

\*The Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, 800 S. Palm Avenue, Sarasota, FL 33577 U.S.A.

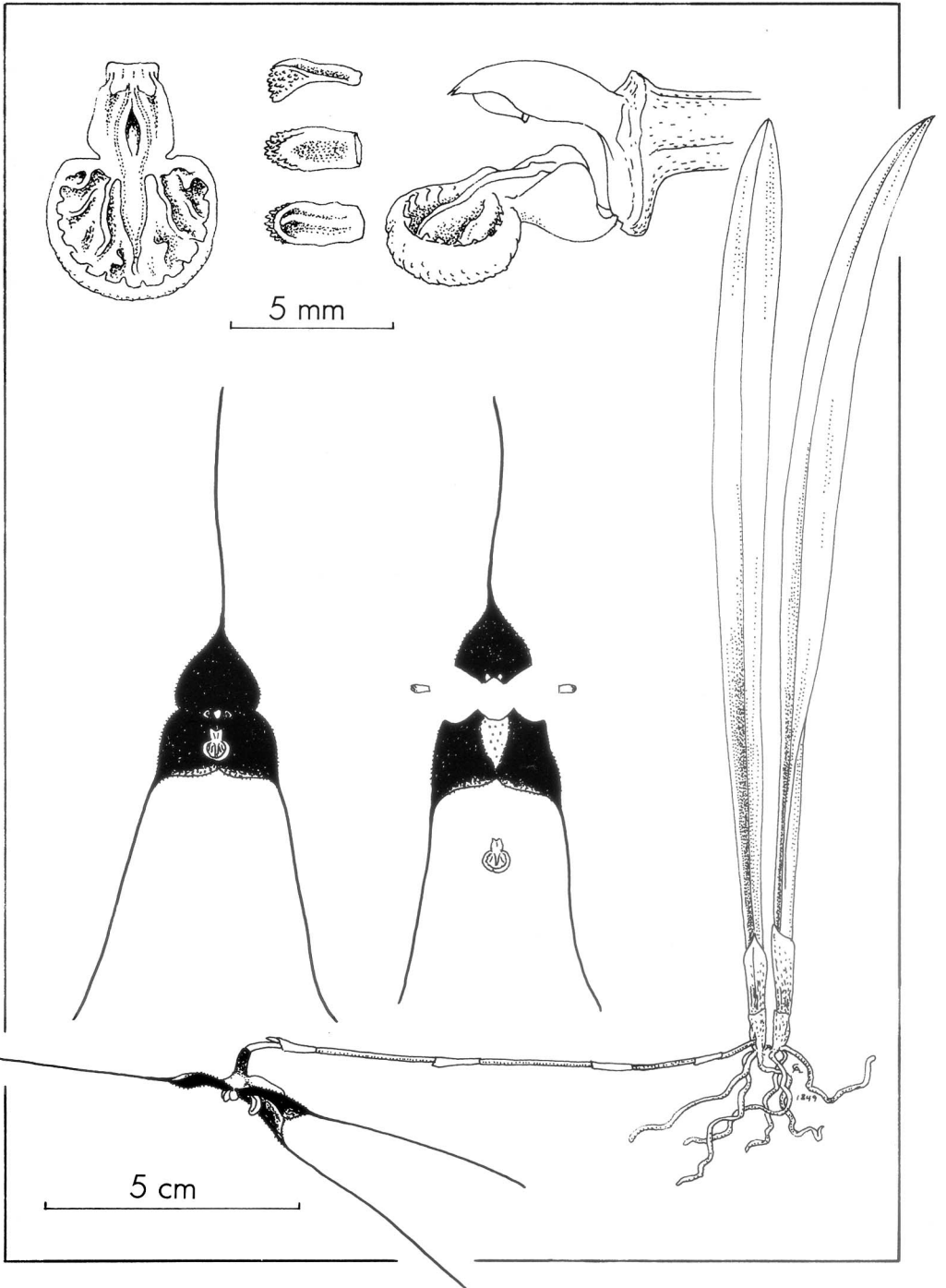


Plate 5. *Dracula anthracina* Luer & Escobar