



R. escobariana Luer

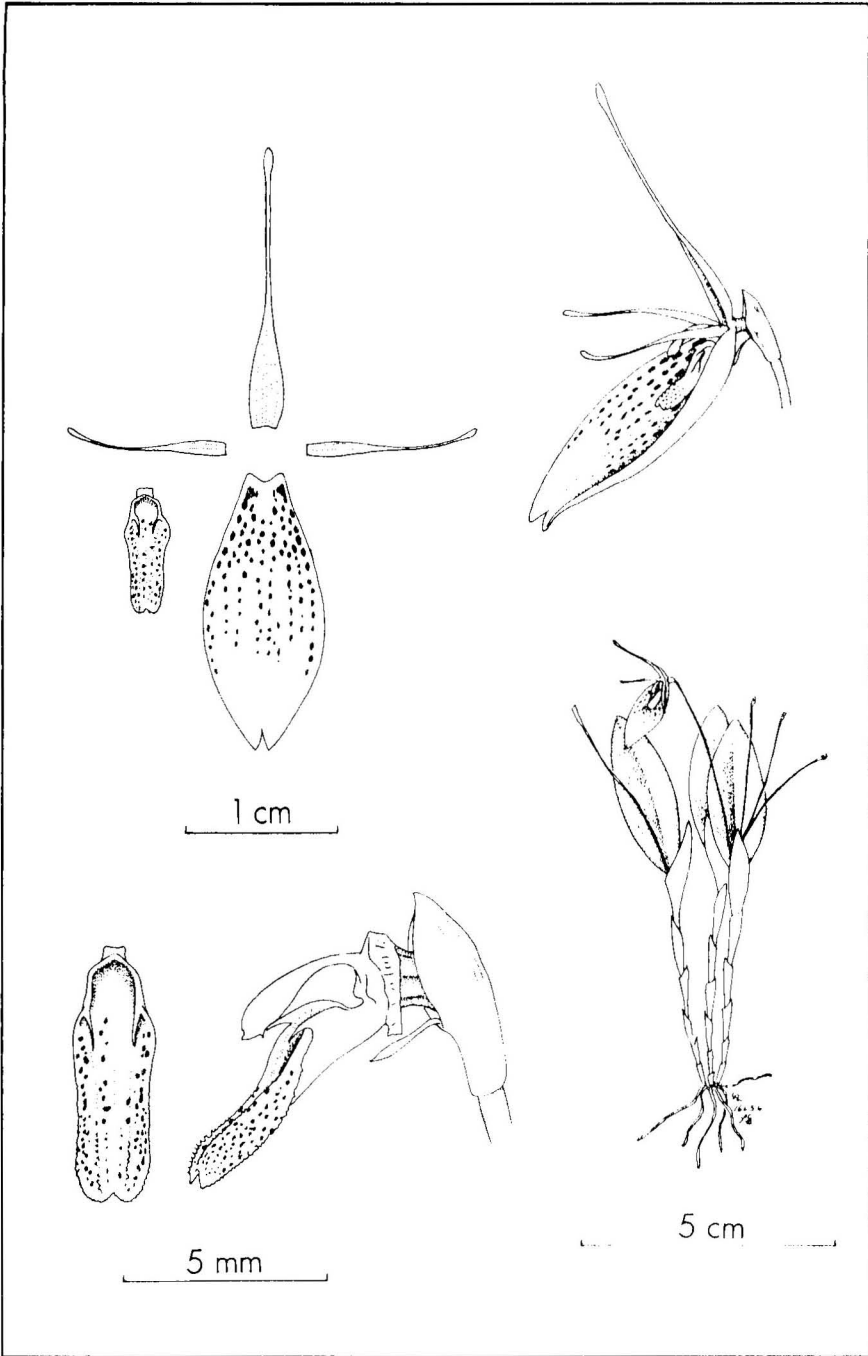
11. **RESTREPIA ESCOBARIANA** Luer, sp. nov.

ETIMOLOGIA: Nombrada en honor de Rodrigo Escobar Restrepo de Medellín, Colombia, una de las autoridades más destacadas en el género *Restrepia*.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Rodrigo Escobar Restrepo of Medellín, Colombia, one of the foremost authorities on the genus.

Species haec *R. eleganti* H.Karst. affinis, sed foliis crassis anguste ellipticis leviter subconduplicatis, synsepalo sparsim roseo punctulato et labello oblongo epichilio convexo differt.

Plant small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls erect, 3-5 cm long, enclosed by 5-7 thin, whitish, loose, compressed, more or less imbricating sheaths, the lowermost lightly spotted. **Leaf** erect, thickly coriaceous, subconduplicate, narrowly elliptical, acute, 2.5-3 cm long, 1-1.2 cm wide, the base cuneate into a twisted petiole 0.5 cm long. **Inflorescence** a solitary flower, produced successively in a fascicle behind the leaf; peduncle slender, 3-4 cm long; floral bract thin, tubular, 4-5 mm long; pedicel stout, 1.5 mm long, with a filament ca. 2 mm long; ovary lightly ribbed, 2.5 mm long; **sepals** membranous, the dorsal sepal free, erect, translucent white with the midvein rose, narrowly ovate below the middle, attenuated above the middle with the apex clavate-thickened, 18 mm long, 2.5 mm wide above the base, 5-veined, the lateral sepals connate to near the apex into a shallowly concave, elliptical lamina, pale rose, lightly spotted below the middle in rows with darker rose, 18 mm long, 8 mm wide expanded, multiple-veined, the apex subacute, minutely bifid; **petals** membranous, translucent white, narrowly linear-ovate below the middle, the margins smooth, attenuated above the middle with the apex slightly clavate-thickened, 13 mm long, 0.9 mm wide above the base; **lip** yellow, dotted with purple, 6 mm long, 2.3 mm wide, the blade oblong, wider than the hypochile, the epichile convex with the sides slightly deflexed, microscopically verrucose-denticulate, the apex rounded-retuse, the hypochile subquadrate, concave with thin, erect margins, each side with a capillary, uncinat process, with obtuse marginal angles below



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the processes, the disc with a pair of low carinae extending forward from the base of each process onto the epichile, the apex rounded, retuse, the base connected to the column-foot by a thick, rigid, cylindrical neck; **column** white, slender, clavate, 3.5 mm long, the base pedestal-like with a pair of obtuse calli.

COLOMBIA: Dept. of Risaralda: forest above Pueblo Rico, collected by E. Valencia, Feb. 1987, flowered in cultivation at Colomborquídeas, 5 May 1993, *C. Luer 16656* (Holotype: JAUM; Isotype: MO).

Esta especie es aparentemente endémica en la Cordillera Central de Colombia. Está cercanamente relacionada con el complejo de *R. elegans*, pero puede distinguirse más fácilmente por el hábito. La planta es pequeña y densamente cespitosa. Las hojas son erectas, rígidas, fuertemente coriáceas, angostamente elípticas, agudas y ligeramente subconduplicadas. Los pedúnculos portan pequeñas flores por encima del extremo de las hojas. Los sinsépalos son amarillos y abajo de la mitad se presentan manchados en hileras de puntos morado-café. Los pétalos carecen de proceso marginal. El labelo es oblongo con el epiquilo ligeramente convexo y más ancho que el hipoquilo.

This species is apparently endemic in the Central Cordillera of Colombia. It is closely allied to the *R. elegans*-complex, but most easily distinguished by the habit. The plant is small and densely caespitose. The leaves are erect, thickly coriaceous, rigid, narrowly elliptical, acute and slightly subconduplicate. The peduncles bear small flowers beyond the tips of the leaves. The synsepals are yellow and spotted in rows below the middle with purple-brown. The petals are free of marginal processes. The lip is oblong with the epichile slightly convex and broader than the hypochile.



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