

Masdevallia misasii

BRAAS

DIE ORCHIDEE 33: 148, 1982

Synonyms: *Masdevallia reflexa* Misas, Orquideología 12: 149, 1977, non Schltr. 1923.
Byrsella misasii (Luer & R. Escobar) Luer, Monogr. Syst. Bot. Missouri Bot. Gard. 28: 8. 2006.

Type: Colombia. Santander: near Velez, 1977, *Sra. Berta S. de Laserna s.n.* (Holotype : JAUM).

Illustrated specimen: Colombia, Santander: Provincia de Vélez, Municipio de La Belleza, Vereda Vista hermosa, 2481 msnm. Mountain pluvial forest. 25 March 2016. *N. Gutiérrez 098* (LCDP voucher).

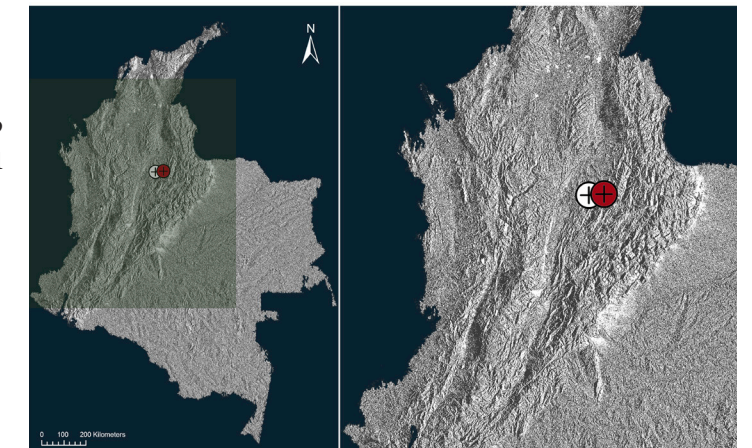
Plant large, epiphytic, caespitose, up to 19 cm tall. *Roots* coarse, up to 1 mm in diameter. *Ramicauls* erect, stout, up to 3–3.6 cm long, enclosed by 2–3 loose tubular sheaths. *Leaves* erect, dark green, thickly coriaceous, petiolate, obelliptic, obtuse, the base cuneate into sulcate petiole, 10.3–15.4 cm long including the petiole, 2.5–2.8 cm wide. *Inflorescence* a large, solitary flower, shorter than the leaves, 11 cm long. *Peduncle* terete, stout, erect to suberect, green, up to 6.4–7.7 cm long, with two tubular bracts, one near the base, from low on the ramicaul, and the other on the lower third. *Floral bract* tubular, 1.6–2.6 cm long. *Pedicel* stout, 3.4–3.8 cm long. *Ovary* not remarkable, spotted with dark green, 3.3 mm long. *Dorsal sepal* yellow, suffused with dark orange below the middle, ovate-quadrangle, glabrous, lamina 9.7 × 1.5 cm, connate to the lateral sepals for about 13 mm, to form a broad, cylindrical, sepaline tube, the free portion acute, contracted into suberect, svelte yellow tail 4.7 cm long. *Lateral sepals* yellow, suffused with purple spots below the middle, near the base the density of the spots is greater, obovate, glabrous, connate 20 mm, forming a deep mentum that covers the column foot, the synsepal lamina 3.0 × 2.1 cm, apex contracted into slender yellow tails, 4.7 cm long. *Petals* light green, cartilaginous, oblong, acute, glabrous, 8.6 × 2.1 mm, thicker along the labellar margin and obtusely angled. *Lip* cream, diffusely dotted with red-purple near the base and borders, rigidly fleshy, arcuate, obovate-spathulate, glabrous, 18.2 × 5 mm, narrowed with reflexed margins below the middle, ovate, obtuse and muricate above the middle with denticulate margins, the subtrun-

cate apex concave on both halves into nectariferous recesses, hinged beneath. *Column* light green, mottled with rose, semiterete, 6.5 × 2.1 mm, with an incurved foot 4.2 mm long. *Stigma* ventral. *Pollinia* yellow, two, ovoid. *Anther cap* white, cucullate, apical.

Dr. Misas was the first to describe *Masdevallia misasii* in 1978, but he used the epithet *reflexa*, that have been used by Schlechter as a synonym of the Costa Rican species *M. cupularis* Rchb.f. so then Brass in 1982, names it in his honor. Bertha de Laserna was the first to find it at the field, in one of the expeditions to Santander department in the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia, and it was rediscovered seven years later in 1984, in the same area, growing high in tall, mossy, cloud forest trees (Luer 2000).

References:

Luer, C. A. 2000. Icones pleurothallidarum XXI. Systematics of *Masdevallia*, Part Two. *M* subgenus *Masdevallia*, section *Coriaceae*, section *Dentatae*, section *Duriae*, section *Reichenbachianae*, *M.* subgenus *Pygmaeia*. *Monographs in Systematic Botany from the Missouri Botanical Garden* 82: 265-518.



LCDP: *Masdevallia misasii* Brass. **A.** Habit. **B.** Flower. **C.** Dissected perianth. **D.** Column and lip, semi-lateral view. **E.** Lip and petals. **F.** Colum side and ventral view **G.** Anther cap and pollinia.

