

Pleurothallis angusta

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SCHEDUL. ORCHID. 8: 23. 1925

Type: Costa Rica, in cultivation at Las Conchas, probably native of Cachi. C. H. Lankester 850 (holotype, AMES).

Illustrated specimen: Costa Rica. Cartago: Turrialba, Tayutic, Moravia de Chirripó. On the road to Platanillo, in remaining forest on the side of the road. 1160 m. 15 December 2013. A.P. Karremans 6175 & M. Contreras Fernández (JBL-spirit; LCDP voucher).

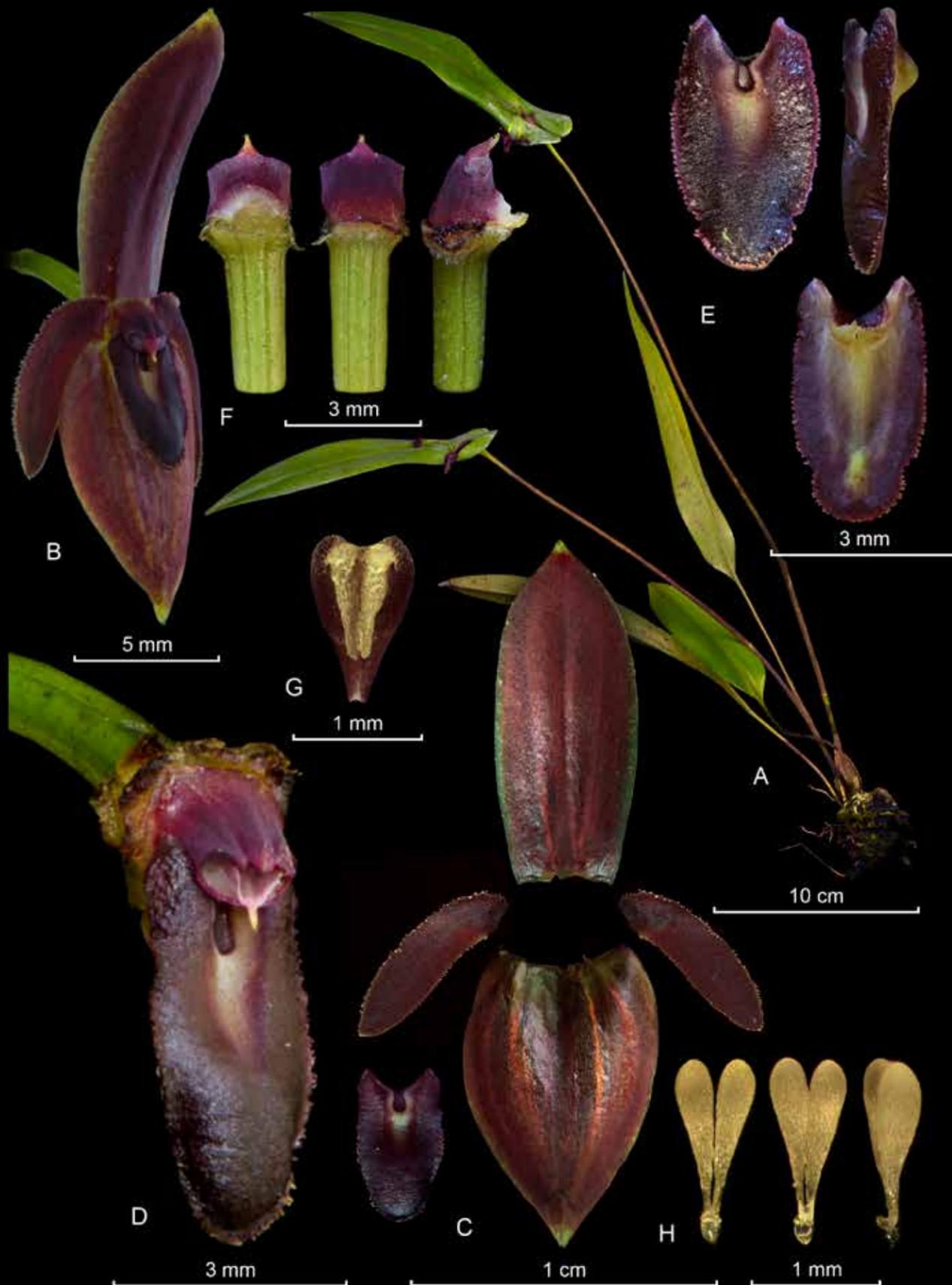
Plant epiphytic, caespitose, erect to suberect, to 50 cm tall. Roots slender, flexuous, ca. 1 mm in diameter. **Ramicauls** terete, slender, 24–35 cm long, 2–3 mm in diameter, green suffused with dark red, provided with a tubular, short, truncate sheath to 2.5 cm long at the base, and a longer, tubular, tightly adpressed, obtuse sheath below the middle, to 5–7 cm long. **Leaf** borne erect at the apex of the ramicaul, becoming horizontal and revolute along the margins in the basal half with age, coriaceous, sessile, lanceolate, acute, 8.0–16.5 × 2–3 cm, cordate at the base, the mid-vein channeled on the adaxial surface, prominent on the abaxial surface, grass-green to dark green. **Inflorescence** 1–2 flowered, from a prostrate spatheaceous bract ca. 1 cm long, brown, dry-papyraceous when mature, eventually dissolving with age. **Pedicel** terete, pale green, 11–14 mm long, bending towards the margin of the leaf. **Ovary** subclavate, terete, 5–7 mm long. **Flowers** dark purple, suffused with yellow on the margins of the sepals and petals. **Dorsal sepal** ovate, acute, 10.5–11.0 × 4.5–5.0 mm, 3-veined. **Lateral sepals** connate into a broadly ovate, acute synsepal, 9–10 × 5–6 mm, 5-veined. **Petals** falcate to subovate, obtuse, 6.3–7.0 × 1.5–2.0 mm, 1-veined, ciliate, often reflexed below synsepal. **Lip** unguiculate, hinged to the column foot, geniculate, thick, ligulate, minutely ciliate, basally bilobed, obtuse, 4–5 × 3 mm; glenion deeply recessed between the margins of the hypochile, ca. 0.51 mm long. **Column** short, transversely subrectangular, dorsoventrally complanate, ca. 1.2–1.8 × 1.8 mm, the anther apical, the stigma apical, bilobed. **Anther cap** obtriangular, truncate, bilobed at the base, 2-celled. **Pollinia** 2, narrowly oblong-pyriform, attached to an elliptic viscidium through a short, cylindrical caudicula.

Etymology: From the Latin *angustus*, “narrow”, probably referring to the narrow, oblong leaves of the species.

Pleurothallis angusta grows in humid montane forests. The plants are similar to those of *P. tonduzii*, but the lanceolate leaves become revolute with age. The pedicel bending towards the side of the leaf, and the minutely ciliate petals and lip, distinguish this species from its relatives.

References:

Ames, O. & Schweinfurth, C. 1925. New or noteworthy species of orchids from the American Tropics. *Schedulae Orchidiana* 8: 1-84.



LCDP: *Pleurothallis angusta* Ames & C. Schweinf. A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Perianth. D. Column and lip, three quarters view. E. Lip, adaxial, lateral, and abaxial views. F. Column, abaxial, adaxial, and lateral views. G. Anther cap. H. Pollinarium, abaxial, adaxial, and lateral views.

