

# *Pleurothallis gonzaleziorum*

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**Type:** Costa Rica. Alajuela: Zarcerro, Palmira, Bosque de Paz Biological Preserve, growing in the orchid garden, 1534 m. 20 August 2016. *M. Díaz 269*, *N. Belfort & A.P. Karremans* (holotype, JBL-spirit; LCDP voucher).

*Plant* epiphytic, caespitose, erect to suberect, to 60 cm tall. *Roots* slender, flexuous, ca. 1 mm in diameter. *Ramicauls* terete, slender, 25–40 cm long, 2–3 mm in diameter, yellowish green, provided with two tubular, short, truncate sheaths to 4 cm long at the base, and a longer, tubular, tightly adpressed, broadly obtuse sheath below the middle, to 7–8 cm long, the bracts glumaceous, pale green when young, becoming brown, dry-papyraceous with age. *Leaf* borne horizontally at the apex of the ramicaul, becoming subpendent with age, thinly coriaceous, flexible, sessile, ovate, acuminate, 12–17 × 6–8 cm, deeply cordate at the base, grass green, matte. *Inflorescence* a solitary flower, usually produced singly, rarely in pairs, from a prostrate spathaceous bract 2–3 cm long, brown, dry-papyraceous when mature, eventually dissolving with age. *Pedice* terete, pale green, 17–22 mm long. *Ovary* subclavate, terete, 8–9 mm long. *Flowers* glabrous, solid pale yellow, short-lived (usually 5, rarely to 6 days), opening and closing several times during anthesis. *Dorsal sepal* broadly ovate, obtuse, 15–19 × 13–16 mm, 9–11-veined. *Lateral sepals* connate into a broadly ovate, obtuse to subacute synsepal, 14–16 × 13–16 mm, 10-veined. *Petals* narrowly triangular-falcate, acute, 11–12 × 3–4 mm, 3-veined. *Lip* unguiculate, hinged to the column foot, geniculate, peltate, basally truncate with rounded angles, obtuse, 5–6 × 5 mm, conduplicate at the base, the apical margins thickened; glenion deeply recessed between the thickened margins of the hypochile, ca. 1 mm long. *Column* short, transversely subrectangular, dorsiventrally complanate, ca. 2 × 3 mm, the anther apical, bent, the stigma apical, bilobed. *Anther cap* obtriangular, acute, bilobed at the base, 2-celled. *Pollinia* 2, narrowly oblong-pyriform, attached to an elliptic viscidium through a short, cylindrical caudicle.

**Eponymy:** The name honors Federico González's family from Bosque de Paz Biological Reserve where the species was found,

and who has avidly supported orchid research in the reserve since 2004.

*Pleurothallis gonzaleziorum* is similar to *P. cardiothallis*, from which it differs in the distinctly triangular lip (*vs.* peltate), glabrous on the underside (*vs.* papillose), with the apical margins non-involute. The general shape of the lip is more similar to that of *P. oncoglossa*, but in the latter species the lip apex is thickened into a conical callus, bent back as a hook, whereas in *P. gonzaleziorum* it is straight and thin.

#### References:

Pridgeon, A. P. 2020. *Pleurothallis*. Pp. 850–909 in: F. Pupulin (ed.). *Vanishing Beauty. Native Costa Rican Orchids. Vol. 2: Lacaena–Pteroglossa*. Koeltz Botanical Books, Oberreifenberg.



**LCDP:** *Pleurothallis gonzaleziorum* Pupulin, M. Díaz & Pridgeon. **A.** Habit. **B.** Flower. **C.** Perianth (with three views of the lip). **D.** Column and lip, lateral view. **E, F.** Column, three quarters and abaxial views. **G.** Anther cap and pollinarium.

