

Pleurothallis grandilingua

PUPULIN, M.DÍAZ & PRIDGEON
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Type: Costa Rica. San José: Tarrazú, San Lorenzo, ca. 4 km southeast of Santa Marta, road to Bajo Reyes, 1475 m. 20 November 2008, flowered in cultivation at Lankester Botanical Garden, 22 July 2016. *D. Bogarín 5638, R.L. Dressler, M. Fernández, R. Gómez & R. Trejos* (holotype, JBL-spirit; LCDP voucher).

Plant epiphytic, to 30 cm tall, caespitose. **Roots** slender, flexuous, ca. 1.5 mm in diameter. **Ramicauls** 11–18 cm long, enclosed by 1–2 tubular, obtuse, tightly adpressed, papyraceous, brown sheaths, the first one basal, ca. 2 cm long, the second inserted in the lower third of the ramicaul, 4–5 cm long. **Leaves** coriaceous, dark green, paler on the underside, narrowly lanceolate, acute to subacuminate, 9–12 × 2–3 cm, rounded at the conduplicate base, the midvein protruding abaxially into a rounded keel, slightly decurrent on the stem. **Inflorescence** a single flower, exerted from a narrow triangular, acute, brown, papery, prostrate spatheaceous bract 1.5 cm long; peduncle filiform, ca. 2 cm long. **Floral bract** triangular-ovate, subacute, glumaceous, to 2 mm long. **Pedice** terete, 2 cm long. **Ovary** terete-subclavate, rounded, stout, ca. 2 cm long. **Flowers** not completely spreading, with the sepals purple-red on a yellowish background, paler between veins, the apex green, the petals purple, marked with green along the margins, the lip uniformly purple, the column dark purple, the anther pink. **Dorsal sepal** elliptic, acute, with a rounded apicule, 13 × 8 mm, 5-veined. **Lateral sepals** fused into an ovate, acute, rounded-apiculate, 5-veined syssepal, 12 × 9 mm, yellow-hyaline at the base. **Petals** narrowly lanceolate-ligulate, subacuminate, 7–8 × 2 mm, irregularly denticulate-erose along the margins, the base thickened into a pad-like callus. **Lip** subrectangular-subpandurate, convex, with a shallow median groove, 7 × 4 mm, the geniculate base cordiform, the lateral lobes elliptic, minutely erose, apically slightly inflated-convex, the ipochile transversely hemielliptic, rounded, ca. 1 × 2 mm, provided with a minute apicule and a hemispherical, papillose callus underneath. **Column** short, thick, dorsiventrally flattened-cylindrical, with a median keel toward the apex, 2 mm long, with the anther apical, bent, and the stigma apical, bilobed. **Anther cap** ovate, cucullate, 2-celled. **Pollinia** 2, pyriform, apically attenuate-recurved, on a rounded viscidium.

Etymology: From the Latin *grande*, “large”, and *lingua*, “tongue”, in allusion to the large size of the lip in relation to other parts of the flower, uncommon in species of *Pleurothallis*.

Pleurothallis grandilingua is allied to the Costa Rican and western Panamanian endemic *P. tonduzii* Schltr., from which it can be distinguished by the broader leaves, the mostly purple flowers (*vs.* the sepals greenish yellow to pink, the petals rose), the narrower synsepal, the ligulate petals (*vs.* falcate), and the subrectangular, slightly convex lip with the apex extended (*vs.* sagittate, the apex abruptly bent upwards and then strongly geniculate).

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 grandilingua* 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 in three quarters and abaxial views. **G.** Anther cap and pollinarium.

