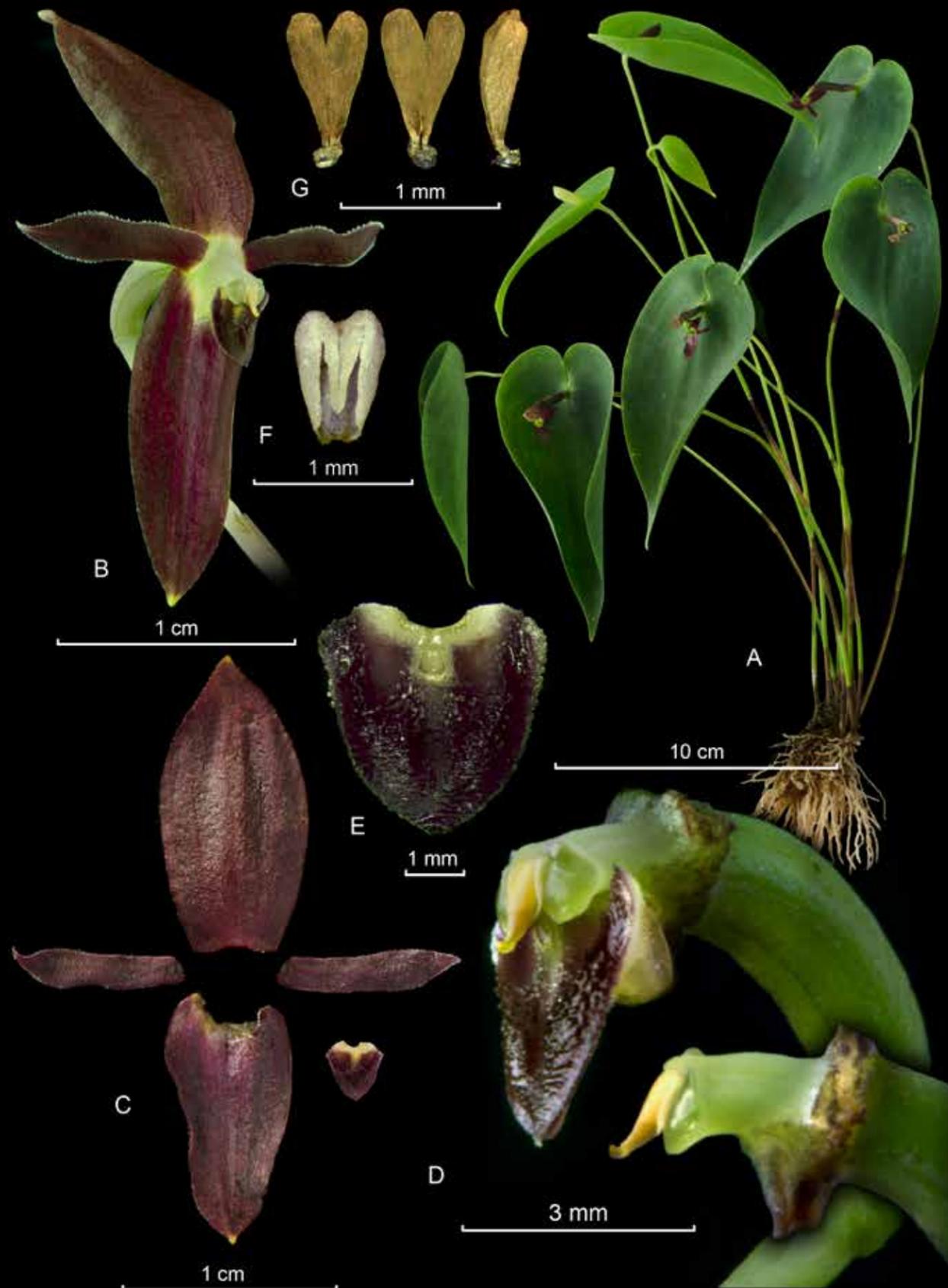


Pleurothallis phyllocardia

RCHB.F.

BEITR. ORCHID.-K. C. AMER. 97. 1866



Synonyms: *Humboltia phyllocardia* (Rchb.f.) Kuntze, Revis. Gen. Pl. 2: 668. 1891.
Zosterophyllanthos phyllocardius (Rchb.f.) Szlach. & Marg., Polish Bot. J. 46(2): 120. 2002.
Acronia phyllocardia (Rchb.f.) Luer, Monogr. Syst. Bot. Missouri Bot. Gard. 103: 173. 2005.

Type: Costa Rica. Desengaño, 31 May 1858, *Wendland s.n.* (lectotype, W).

Illustrated specimen: Costa Rica. Puntarenas: Coto Brus, Parque Pittier, June 1995, *G. Carnevali s.n.* (JBL; LCDP voucher).

Plant epiphytic, caespitose, erect to suberect, to 26 cm tall. **Roots** slender, flexuous, ca. 1 mm in diameter. **Ramicauls** terete, slender, 16–26 cm long, 1–2 mm in diameter, yellowish green, 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 3.7–4.5 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, coriaceous, sessile, ovate, acute, 9.0–10.5 × 3.5–4.5 cm, deeply cordate at the base, grass-green, matte, becoming dull green with age. **Inflorescence** a solitary flower, from an erect spathaceous bract 1.4–1.6 cm long, green, dry-papyraceous when mature, eventually dissolving with age. **Pedicel** terete, pale green, bending down throughout anthesis, 13–16 mm long. **Ovary** subclavate, terete, 4–6 mm long. **Flowers** solid dark purple. **Dorsal sepal** ovate, acute, minutely papillose on the adaxial surface, reflexed, 13–14 × 5–7 mm, 5-veined. **Lateral sepals** connate into an ovate, acute synsepal, minutely papillose on the adaxial surface, reflexed, 10–13 × 4–5 mm, 5-veined. **Petals** linear-oblong, subfalcate, acute, bent backward throughout anthesis, the margins ciliate, 8–9 × 1–2 mm, 3-veined. **Lip** unguiculate, hinged to the column foot, geniculate, deltoid, obtuse, 3.5 × 2.5 mm, verrucose on the adaxial surface of the apical half, minutely papillose on the margins and around the glenion; glenion recessed between the elevated edges of hypochile, ca. 1 mm long. **Column** short, transversely subrectangular, dorsiventrally complanate, ca. 2 × 1 mm,

the anther apical, bent, the stigma apical, bilobed. **Anther cap** obcordate, truncate, bilobed at the base, 2-celled. **Pollinia** 2, narrowly oblong-pyriform, attached to an elliptic viscidium through short, cylindrical caudiculae.

Etymology: From the Greek words *φύλλον* (*phúllon*), “leaf”, and *κάρδιᾶ* (*kardíā*), “heart”, in reference to the heart-shaped leaves.

Pleurothallis phyllocardia is recognized by the glabrous flowers borne from an erect bract with the peduncle and pedicel bent downwards, reclining the flowers toward the leaves, and the linear-oblong petals. The *P. phyllocardia* group from Costa Rica comprises about ten species that are mainly characterized by the large habit (longer than 15 cm), the inflorescence born from an erect to suberect spathaceous bract and flowers that remain open after reaching complete anthesis until they fade.

References:

Pupulin, F., Díaz-Morales, M., Fernández, M. & Aguilar, J. 2017. Two new species of *Pleurothallis* (Orchidaceae: Pleurothallidinae) from Costa Rica in the *P. phyllocardia* group. *Lankesteriana* 17(2): 153–164.



LCDP: *Pleurothallis phyllocardia* Rchb.f. A. Habit. B. Flower. C. Perianth. D. Column and lip (three quarters view), and column (lateral view). E. Lip, adaxial view. F. Anther cap. G. Pollinarium, adaxial, abaxial, and lateral views.

