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A New Species of *Lepanthes* Sw. is Reported for Colombia.

## ABSTRACT

A new species of *Lepanthes* Sw. previously reported as *Lepanthes sanjuanensis* Bogarín & Karremans is described for Colombia.

The genus *Lepanthes* Sw. is represented in Colombia by over 300 species (WCSP, 2018). Colombia shares several species with Costa Rica, which has over 140 species (WCSP, 2018). In the area of Lago Calima (1400 m) a population of *Lepanthes* was observed sympatric with *Lepanthes calimae* P. Ortiz, *Lepanthes stellaris* Luer & Hirtz and what was identified as *Lepanthes confusa* Ames & C. Schweinf. The plants were originally identified as *Lepanthes sanjuanensis* Bogarín & Karremans (Sauleda, 2018). However, *Lepanthes sanjuanensis* Bogarín & Karremans is only known from southeast Costa Rica, on the Pacific watershed of the Talamanca mountain range (Bogarín *et al.*, 2012).

Comparison of several clones of the *Lepanthes* that were observed from near Lago Calima, Colombia, that were identified as *L. sanjuanensis*, using the type drawing and photograph of *L. sanjuanensis* (Bogarín *et al.*, 2012) shows them very similar except that in the Colombian plants the shape of the petals are different, the upper lobes of the petals overlap, the apex of each lobe of the labellum lacks conspicuous bristles and the flowers are non-resupinate. These are consistent and significant differences, which lead to consider the plants of this population as a new species distinct from *L. sanjuanensis*.

### ***Lepanthes darienensis* Sauleda and Uribe-Velez, *sp. nov.***

Type: Epiphytic in primary forest, near Lago Calima, municipio de El Darién, Valle del Cauca. Holotype: Voucher specimen deposited at HPUJ as *Lepanthes sanjuanensis* Bogarín & Karremans.

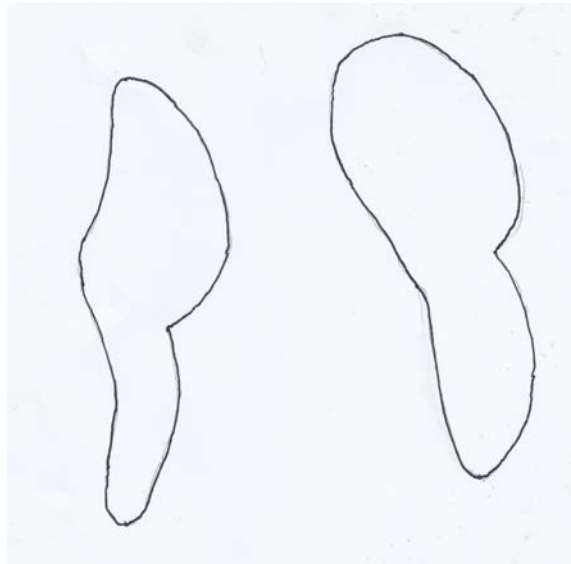
### Diagnosis

*Lepanthes darienensis* is similar to *Lepanthes sanjuanensis* Bogarín & Karremans. They differ in the shape and position of the petals. In *L. darienensis* the upper and lower portion of the petals is larger and more rounded than in *L. sanjuanensis*. In addition, the upper portion of the petals does not overlap in *L. sanjuanensis* where in all clones of *L. darienensis* examined they overlap significantly. In *L. sanjuanensis* the margin of the lobes of the labellum are minutely ciliolate and the apex of each lobe has conspicuous bristles while in *L. darienensis* the margin of the lobes of the labellum have short hairs

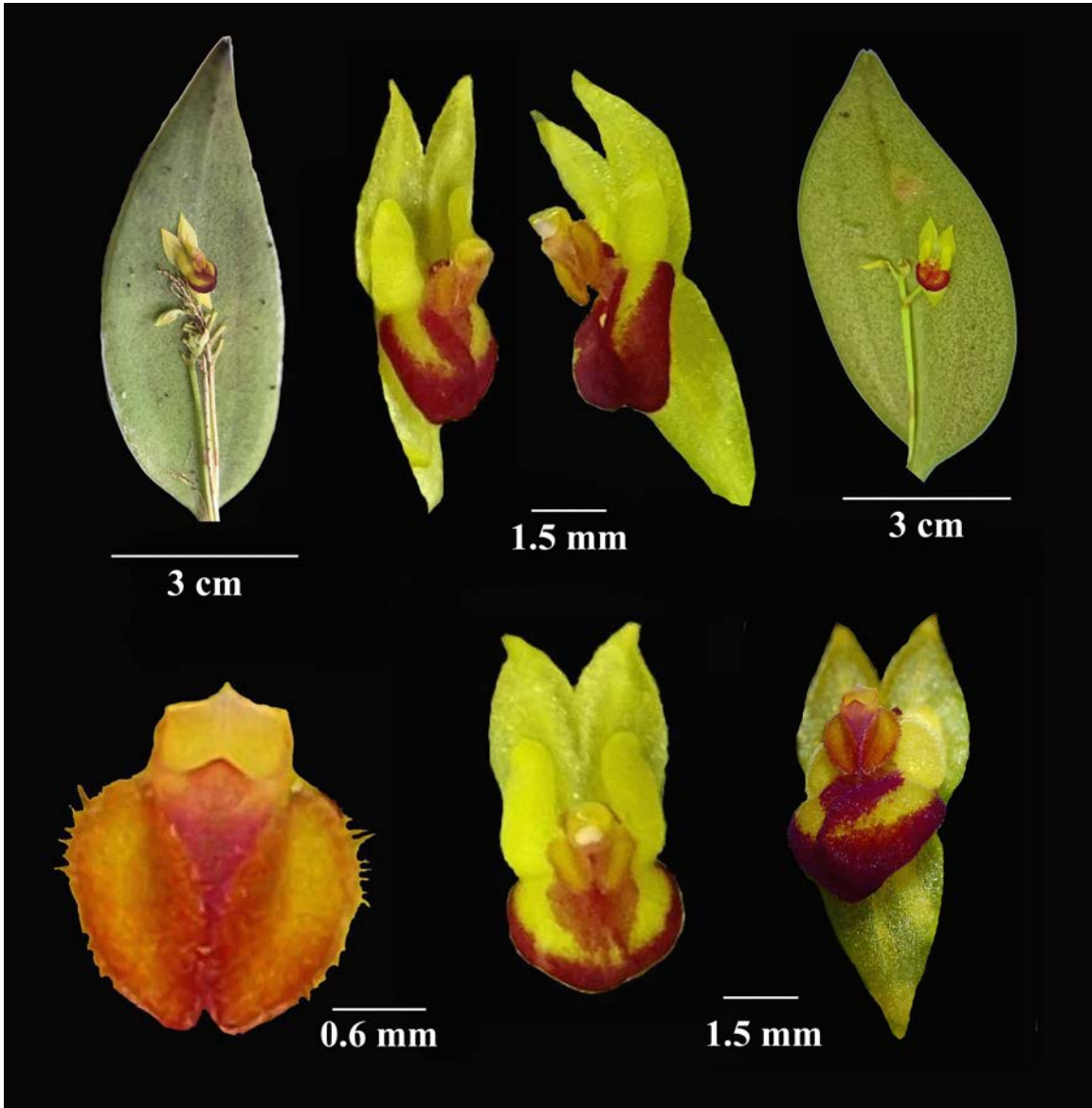
but lack the bristles. In addition, the flowers of *L. sanjuanensis* are resupinate according to the type flower and type illustration (Bogarín *et al.*, 2012), where the flowers of *L. darienensis* are non-resupinate.

### Description

Plant epiphytic, caespitose, erect, to 27 cm tall; roots slender, flexuous; ramicauls slender, erect, to 17 cm tall, enclosed by to 12 minutely ciliate, dark brown, lepanthiform sheaths, the ostia, ovate, acute; leaves coriaceous, subovate to elliptic, acute to acuminate, adaxially green, abaxially green to purplish-green, to 7 cm tall, 3 cm wide, basally narrowing into a short petiole, to 3 mm long; inflorescence racemose, distichous, glabrous, flowering successively on the underside of the leaf, appressed to the leaf, shorter than the leaf, up to 3.5 cm long, peduncle to 2 cm long, rachis to 1.5 cm long; floral bracts ovate, acuminate, conduplicate, membranaceous, to 1.5 mm long; pedicel to 5 mm long; ovary to 2 mm long, glabrous; flowers non-resupinate, dorsal sepal yellow, narrowly ovate, acute, connate to lateral sepals for 1 mm, to 3 mm long, 2 mm wide; lateral sepals narrowly ovate acute connate for 1 mm, to 3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide; petals transversely bilobed, yellow, to 3.5 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, upper lobe red or with red edge, overlapping, oblong, rounded, to 1.5 mm wide, lower lobe oblong, rounded, to 1 mm wide, entire; labellum bilobed, orange, adnate to column, lobes oblong, minutely ciliolate, ends rounded, to 1 mm long, 0.6 mm wide, connate to base of the column; column cylindrical, orange, to 1.5 mm long; anther cap oblong, to 0.6 mm wide; pollinia pyriform.



Left: Petal of *Lepanthes sanjuanensis* drawn in natural position from type photograph. Right: Petal of *Lepanthes darienensis* also drawn in natural position from a photograph.



*Lepanthes darienensis* Sauleda and Uribe-Velez.



*Lepanthes darienensis* Sauleda and Uribe-Velez near Lago Calima.



*Lepanthes darienensis* Sauleda and Uribe-Velez. Additional plant from near Lago Calima with different coloration but with same overlap of upper portion of petals and flowers non-resupinate.





*Lepanthes darienensis* ramicauls with minutely ciliate, lepanthiform sheaths.



*Lepanthes calimae* P. Ortiz



*Lepanthes calimae* P. Ortiz  
 Photograph by Robinso Galindo  
 Tarazona.



*Lepanthes calimae* P. Ortiz

#### Acknowledgements

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#### Literature Cited

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