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A New Species of *Muscarella* Luer (Orchidaceae), *Muscarella antioquiensis* is Described for Colombia.

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## Abstract

A new species of *Muscarella* Luer (Orchidaceae) is Described for Colombia From the Department of Antioquia.

## Introduction

Recently a species of *Pleurothallidinae* was discovered in Colombia, Department of Antioquia. The species was determined to be a *Muscarella* Luer. Bogarin *et al.* (2013) characterized *Muscarella* as a distinct genus having denticulate, fringed or fimbriate petals and pollinaria with caudicles. Karremans (2014) clearly describes *Muscarella* in a key to the genera. *Muscarella* in the key is described as having an inflorescence frequently lax-flexuous, sepals usually caudate, petals fimbriate, acute to caudate, column inornate to narrowly winged.

The characters of this species agree with the concept of most authors of *Muscarella*.

We here name this new species for the department of Antioquia where it was discovered.

***Muscarella antioquiensis* Sauleda, Uribe-Velez and Szlachetko, sp. nov.**

Type: Colombia, department of Antioquia. Exact locality unknown. Specimen made from cultivation, collector Jose Luis Aguirre Restrepo *s. n.*, 2019. (Holotype: HPUJ).

## Diagnosis

*Muscarella antioquiensis* appears to be similar in habit and general appearance to *Muscarella tsubotae* (Luer & R. Escobar) Luer (= *Muscarella barberiana* (Rchb. f.) Szlach. & Sawicka), and *Muscarella divexa* (Ames) Karremans & S. Vieira-Uribe. *Muscarella antioquiensis* differs in having the lateral sepals connate only basally for a very short distance (vs connate in the lower third), the petals are lanceolate in general outline with aristate apex (vs ovate-lanceolate, apex acuminate), and the labellum is 3-lobed in the basal quarter with flat middle lobe and prominent callus along midvein (vs labellum 3-lobed in basal quarter, with labellum middle lobe convex, with no prominent calli).

There is a group of *Muscarella* species having similar habit and form of petals and sepals to *M. antioquiensis*, but with different labella. The labellum of the Bolivian *Muscarella infinita* (Luer) Luer is 3-lobed distinctly above the middle and there is a pair of inconspicuous longitudinal calli along midvein. The labellum of *Muscarella lipothrix* (Luer) Luer from Ecuador is 3-lobed below the middle, and labellum callus is single, reaching half of the labellum length. In *Muscarella oblonga* (Luer & Hirtz) Luer from Ecuador the labellum is elliptic-rectangular, unlobed.

### Description

Plant epiphytic, caespitose, erect, up to 10 cm tall; roots slender, flexuous; ramicauls slender, erect, 1.1 cm long, basally enclosed by several thin, tubular sheaths becoming papery; leaves erect, oblong-elliptic, subacute, coriaceous, to 1.5 cm long, 0.5 cm wide; inflorescence an erect, successively flowered raceme, to 8 cm long, producing up to 6 flowers from the ramicaul, peduncle to 6 cm long, rachis to 4 cm long, floral bracts tubular, acute, to 0.2 cm; pedicel to 0.5 cm long, ovary to 0.3 cm long; flowers to 0.6 cm wide, 0.8 cm tall; sepals and petals maroon, hyaline; dorsal and lateral sepals lanceolate, acuminate, entire, to 0.5 cm long, 0.2 cm wide, connate basally for a short distance; petals lanceolate in general outline with aristate apex, basally densely fimbriate, hyaline, to 0.8 cm long, 0.2 mm wide; labellum is 3-lobed in the basal quarter with flat middle lobe and prominent callus along midvein, obtuse, to 0.4 cm long, 0.1 cm wide, lateral lobes obtuse, hinged to the column foot; column white, basally maroon, terete, widened apically, arcuate, footed, to 0.2 cm long, 0.1 cm wide; anther apical, to 0.25 mm; pollinarium with two pyriform pollinia with caudicle.

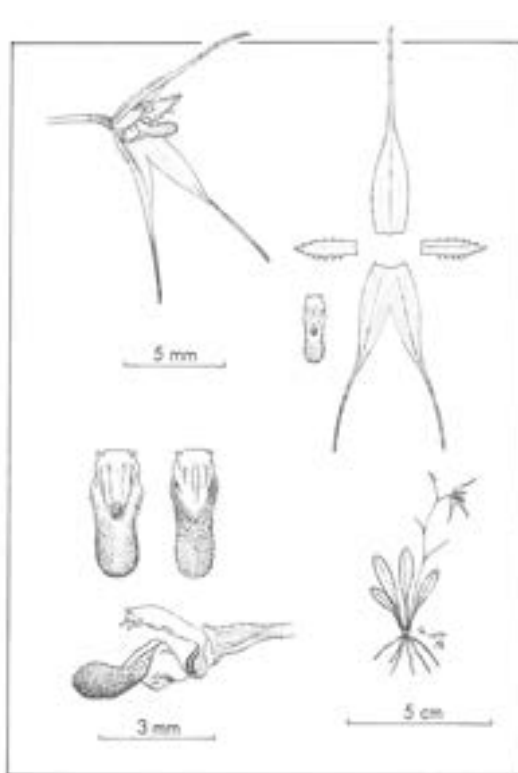


Fig. 49. *Muscarella aristata*

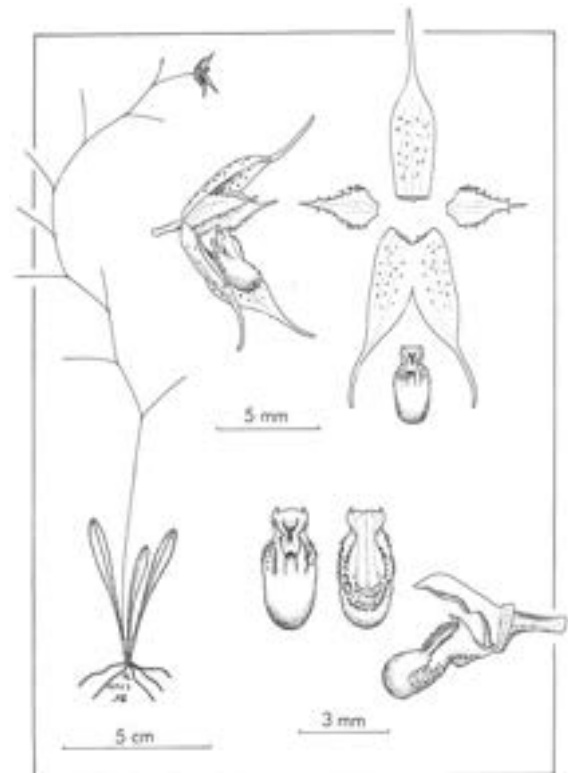


Fig. 90. *Muscarella tsubotae*

Illustrations from Carlyle A Luer, *Icones Pleurothallidarum XXVIII. A Reconsideration of Masdevallia, and the Systematics of Specklinia and Vegetatively Similar Taxa* (Orchidaceae). Missouri Botanical Garden Press.

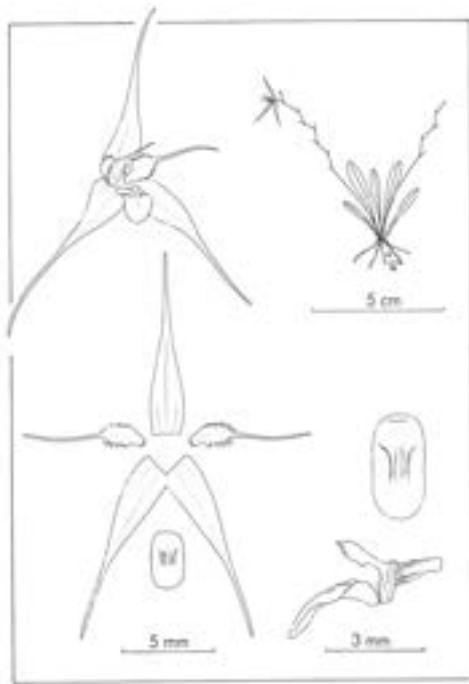


Fig. 77. *Muscarella oblonga*

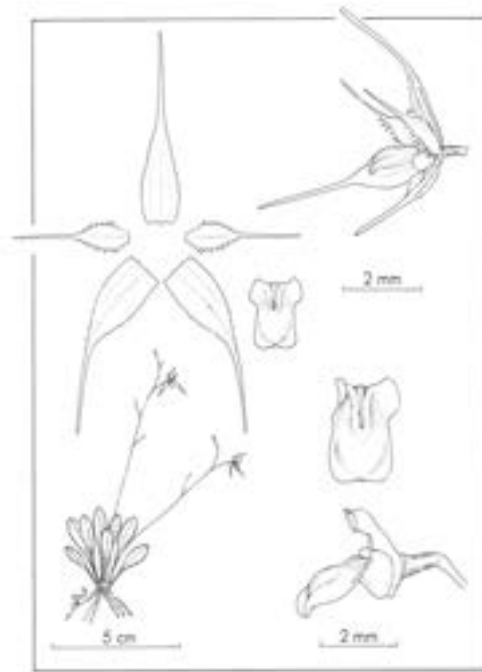


Fig. 71. *Muscarella lipothrix*

Illustrations from Carlyle A Luer, *Icones Pleurothallidarum XXVIII. A Reconsideration of Masdevallia, and the Systematics of Specklinia and Vegetatively Similar Taxa (Orchidaceae)*. Missouri Botanical Garden Press.



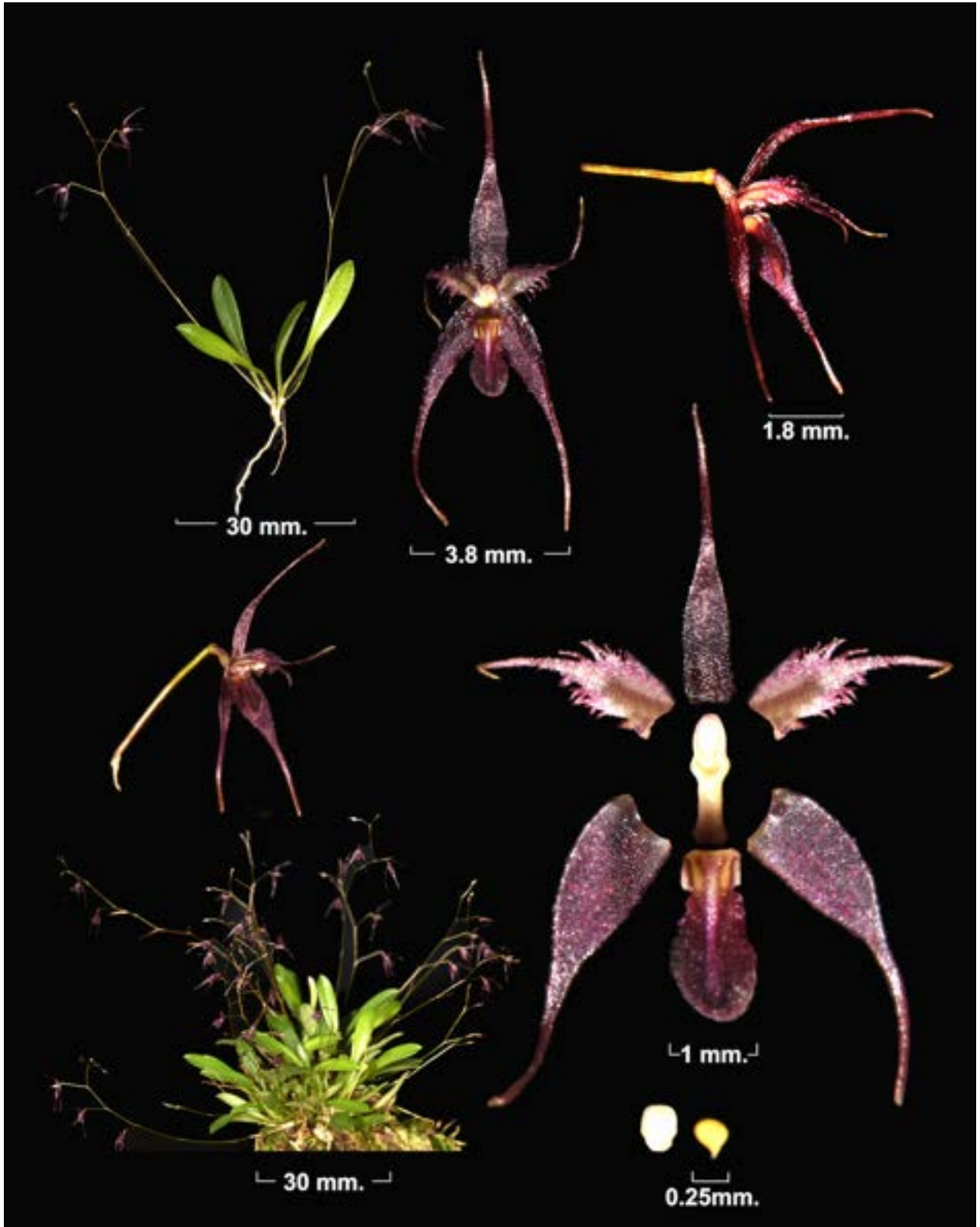
Holotype of *Muscarella infinita* (Luer) Luer at MBG with illustration.



*Muscarella antioquiensis* Sauleda, Uribe-Velez and Szlachentko.



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*Muscarella antioquiensis* Saulea, Uribe-Velez and Szlachentko.

## Literature Cited

- Bogarin, D., A. P. Karremans, R. Rincon and B. Gravendeel. 2013. A new *Specklinia* (Orchidaceae: Pleurothallidinae) from Costa Rica and Panama. *Phytotaxa* 115 (2): 31–41.
- Karremans, A. P. 2014. A New Genus in the Pleurothallidinae (Orchidaceae). *Lankesteriana* 13 (3): 319-332.