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Myoxanthus claudiana Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko (Orchidaceae), an Addition to the Flora of Colombia.

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Abstract

A new species of *Myoxanthus* is described for Colombia. The species was discovered in the municipality of Ciudad Bolivar, corregimiento de farallones, department of Antioquia.

The German naturalist and explorer Eduard Friedrich Poeppig collected the first species of *Myoxanthus* in 1830 in Peru. The genus was published in 1936 by Poepp. & Endl. (Nov. Gen. Sp. Pl. 1: 50) based on *Myoxanthus monophyllus*.

Myoxanthus has a long history of being ignored or rejected. Lindley, Reichenbach and Cogniaux implied that the characters used to define the genus *Myoxanthus* were insufficient and transferred the species into the genus *Pleurothallis* R. Br.

Lindley (1836) first transferred *M. monophyllus* to *Pleurothallis* rejecting *Myoxanthus*.

Hermann Karsten (1847) proposed *Duboisia* a genus homologous to *Myoxanthus*, which was illegitimate. Karsten (1848) then created the genus *Dubois-reymondia* to replace it with two species one of which was transferred to *Pleurothallis* by Reichenbach (1852) and the other to *Pleurothallis* by Schlechter (1919).

Barbosa Rodrigues (1882) established the genus *Chaetocephala* Barbosa Rodrigues homologous to *Myoxanthus* with two species, which were transferred by Cogniaux (1896) to *Pleurothallis*.

Brieger (1977) attempted to re-establish *Dubois-reymondia* transferring species from *Pleurothallis* or *Restrepia*. However, Brieger's proposal has been overlooked or ignored.

Luer (1992) revised the genus *Myoxanthus* dividing the genus into three subgenera:

Myoxanthus subgen. *Myoxanthus*,

with sections *Antenella* Luer, *Myoxanthus* Luer and *Scandentia* Luer

Myoxanthus subgen. *Satyria* Luer

Myoxanthus subgen. *Silenia* Luer

The molecular phylogenetic study of *Pleurothallidinae* by Pridgeon *et al.* (2001) and the anatomical studies by Pridgeon & Sterns (1982) supported the exclusion of the subgenera *Satyria*

and *Silenia* from *Myoxanthus* and *Pleurothallis* leaving as accepted only the subgenus *Myoxanthus* with three sections.

An undescribed species, which corresponds to the genus *Myoxanthus* subgen. *Myoxanthus*, section *Antenella* Luer was discovered in the department of Antioquia in the municipality of Ciudad Bolivar. The plant was at 2100 m, epiphytic on a very mossy tree, 2 m from ground level. The habitat was undisturbed and very wet with good circulation. Plants were abundant and all with permanent flowers. We here describe it as a new species.

Myoxanthus claudiana Uribe-Velez, Sauleda & Szlachetko, *sp. nov.*
subgen. *Myoxanthus*, section *Antenella* Luer.

Type: Colombia, Department of Antioquia, in municipality of Ciudad Bolivar. Corregimiento de farallones. Collector: Manuel Alejandro Berrio Restrepo, *s. n.*, April 16, 2013. Holotype: HPUJ.

Etymology

This species is named to honor Claudia Lorena Carmona of Pereira, Risaralda, owner and cultivator of the plant.

Diagnosis

This species is similar to the other species in the section *Antenella*. *Myoxanthus claudiana* is similar to *Myoxanthus hirsuticaulis* (Ames & C. Schweinf.) Luer being distinguished from *M. hirsuticaulis* in having an obscurely lobed labellum vs unlobed with small lobules hinged beneath, free lateral sepals not strongly falcate vs connate strongly falcate petals, ovate in the lower third with fimbriate margin vs ovate in the lower half with denticulate margins and narrowed into terete, linear, distal half.

Myoxanthus claudiana is also similar to the Ecuadorian *Myoxanthus affinoides* Luer. *Myoxanthus claudiana* differs in having an acute labellum apex vs rounded, labellum margins are fimbriate vs minutely denticulate, with single thick lamellae centrally vs a pair of low calli converging near the center, petals are lanceolate-triangular, thickened in the upper part with fimbriate margins, longer and denser near the middle vs petals ovate in the lower third, with erose margins, thickened and linear above, dorsal sepal sub-acute vs obtuse.

Another species similar to *M. claudiana* is the Ecuadorian species, *Myoxanthus ephelis* (Luer) Luer. *Myoxanthus claudiana* differs in having the margins of the labellum fimbriate vs erose, with a single raised lamellae in the center of the labellum vs a longitudinal pair of lamellae that meet in the midlobe, petals are ovate in the lower third with fimbriate margin vs ovate in the lower half with irregular margins.

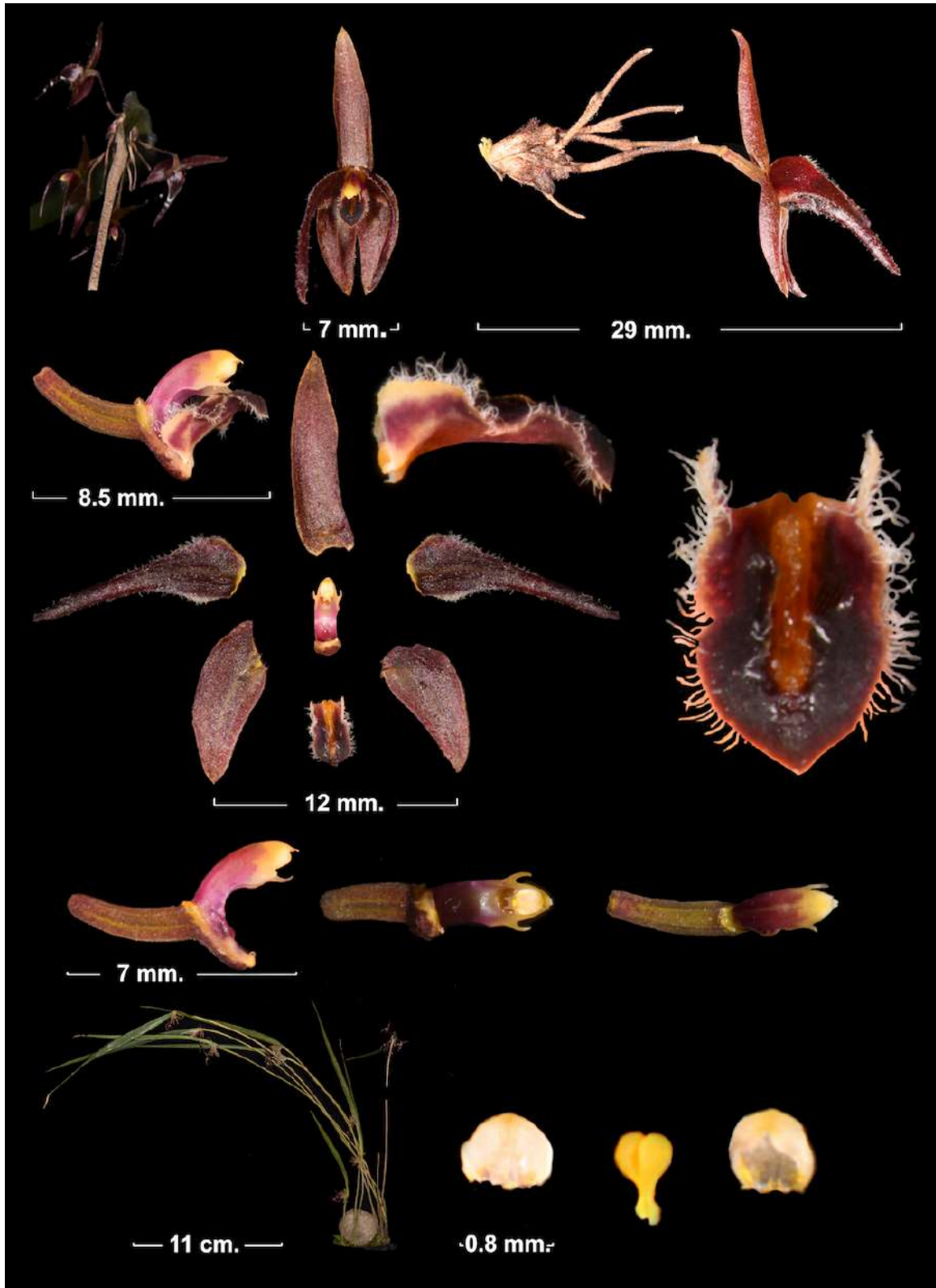
Description

Plant epiphytic, caespitose, semi erect, up to 35 cm tall on type specimen (up to 1.3 m in habitat); roots thick, coarse; ramicauls semi-erect, to 19 cm long, enclosed by loose, tubular sheaths; leaves semi-erect, thickly coriaceous, narrowly linear-lanceolate, cuneate, conduplicate, acute, to

14 cm long, to 2 cm wide; inflorescence a single flower produced successively at the apex of the ramicaul; peduncle tomentose, to 8 mm long, subtended by a papyraceous spathe, to 3 mm long; ovary pedicelate, to 3 mm long; densely pubescent; flowers reddish-purple, fleshy, glabrous; dorsal sepal linear-lanceolate, sub-acute, to 12 mm long, 3 mm wide; lateral sepals falcate, concave to 9 mm long, 3 mm wide; petals fleshy, ovate in the lower third, with fimbriate margin, thickened and linear distally, obtuse, to 12 mm long, 3 mm wide at base; labellum, hinged, obscurely 3-lobed, sub-acute, with fimbriate margin, to 7 mm long, 5 mm wide; disc with an erect, narrow, low, callus extending to near the apex; column arcuate, semi-terete, to 3 mm long, with narrow apical wings, foot 2 mm long; anther cap yellow, globose; pollinia obovoid, flattened, on a short caudicle.



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