

***Pleurothallis liripipia* K.W. Holcomb, sp. nov.**

Plant 3 to 5 cm tall, epiphytic, caespitose, roots slender.

Ramicauls 3 to 6 cm long, slender, erect, a thin tubular sheath below the middle and another at the base.

Leaf 2 to 3.4 cm long, 1.7 cm wide, coriaceous, ovate, acute.

Inflorescence a fascicle of long-pedunculate, solitary, resupinate flowers borne from a 4 mm long spathaceous bract at the base of the leaf, peduncle 2.7 cm long.

Labellum (Lip) 3 mm long, 2.5 mm wide, triangular, trilobed, margins undulate, dorsal surface glabrous, yellow with heavy speckling in a diamond formation from the base to the apex, acutely deflexed at the middle, the basal lobes rounded, flanking the column, apical lobe acute.

Dorsal Sepal 13.5 mm long, 3 mm wide, yellow, 3-veined, ovate, concave below the middle, acute.

Synsepal 13 mm long, 4 mm wide, yellow, 4-veined, ovate, concave below the middle, acute.

Petals 10.5 mm long, 3 mm wide, yellow, 2-veined, ovate, oblique, minutely ciliate margins, acute.

Column 2 mm long, 1 mm wide, semiterete, the anther apical, stigma ventral, the rostellum extended flanking the anther cap, the stelia extended over the base of the lip, each with a liquid globule at the apex.

Etymology: From the Medieval Latin *liripipium*, the term for the three points of a court jester's hat, each with a jingle bell attached at the end. This is a reference to the extended stelia which have liquid globules at the apex.

ECUADOR: Without collection data. Obtained from Tarzane Group. Flowered in cultivation by the author November 2021. *K. W. Holcomb (Holotype: GEO 18285)*

Diagnosis: *Pleurothallis liripipia* is most similar to *Pleurothallis quaternaria* (Luer 1998). However, it can be easily distinguished by the stelia that extend outward over the base of the lip, the prominent lateral extensions of the rostellum, and its yellow flowers which are almost the same length as the leaf.



Pleurothallis liripipia

Photos of the plant used to prepare the holotype.

References

Luer, C. A. (1998). *Icones Pleurothallidarum XVII: Systematics of subgen. Pleurothallis sect. Abortivae, sect. Truncatae, sect. Pleurothallis, subsect. Aconia, subsect. Pleurothallis, subgen. Dracontia, subgen. Unciferia.* Monographs in Systematic Botany from Missouri Botanical Garden, 72, 1–121.