

ICONES PLEUROTHALLIDINARUM

ANDREETTAEA, A NEW GENUS IN THE PLEUROTHALLIDINAE (ORCHIDACEAE)

Carlyle A. Luer*

A monotypic genus in the Pleurothallidinae is proposed for a minute species because of the unique connivence of the three apices of the sepals, with partial separation of the lateral sepals for a dorsal entrance to a non-resupinate flower.

In *Cryptophoranthus* Barb. Rodr., the apical portion of the dorsal sepal is connate with the apical portion of the synsepal to create lateral windows in the flower. In *Dresslerella* Luer, *Physosiphon* Lindl., and in many species of *Masdevallia* Ruiz & Pav., all three sepals are more or less united into a tube, but the apices of at least the dorsal sepal are free. In *Physothallis* Garay, the dorsal sepal and lateral sepals are united except for the apices, and the lateral sepals part more or less from each other. In cleistogamous flowers of some species of *Pleurothallis* R. Br., the apices of the sepals connive, but there is no natural parting of the lateral sepals to permit pollinator entrance to the flower.

Andreettaea Luer, gen. nov.

Flores non-resupinati, apicibus sepalorum conniventibus, sepalis lateralibus supra medium partitis, labello infra medium profunde concavo villosa, lobis lateralibus uncinatis, columna tereti, polliniis duobus hemisphaericis.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Padre Angel Andreetta of Cuenca, Ecuador, who participated in the discovery of the genus.

Andreettaea ocellus Luer, sp. nov.

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Planta pusilla lithophytica caespitosa, caulibus secundariis abbreviatis unifoliatis, foliis crassissimis ellipticis petiolatis, racemo paucifloro, floribus successivis non-resupinatis marroninis, sepalis glabris semiconnatis ovatis apicibus breviter acuminatis conniventibus, sepalis lateralibus supra medium partitis, petalis ellipticis acuminatis serratis, labello carnosio oblongo subtruncato infra medium profunde concavo villosa, lobis lateralibus parvulis uncinatis.

Plant very small, lithophytic (epiphytic?), caespitose; roots slender, fasciculate. Secondary stems abbreviated, 4-7 mm long, covered by 2-5 thin, ribbed, tubular sheaths, unifoliate. Leaf erect, thick, fleshy, elliptical, the apex obtuse to subacute, tridenticulate, the base cuneate into a grooved petiole 0.5-1 cm long, 1.5-2.5 cm long including the petiole, 4-5 mm wide. Inflorescence a short (1.5-2 cm), erect, few-flowered (2-3) raceme, the peduncle filiform, from a node on the secondary stem; floral bract infundibular, about 1 mm long; pedicel 1.5 mm long; ovary about 1 mm long; flowers produced singly in succession, non-resupinate, saccate, maroon; sepals glabrous, semiconnate, the apices of all 3 connivent, the lateral sepals parting below the apex to near the middle to create a dorsal opening to the interior of the flower; middle sepal concave, ovate-elliptical, the apex shortly acuminate, acute, 6.5 mm long, 2 mm wide, connate to the lateral sepals for 3 mm; lateral sepals connate for 2 mm, ovate, the apices oblique, shortly acuminate, acute, each 6.5 mm long, 2 mm wide; petals elliptical, acuminate, acute, 4 mm long, 1 mm wide, finely serrate, translucent purple; lip uppermost,

*The Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, 800 S. Palm Ave., Sarasota, Florida 33577 U.S.A.

maroon, fleshy, oblong, 4 mm long, 1.5 mm wide unspread, with small, incurved, oblique, acuminate, uncinete lateral lobes near the middle and subtended by a pair of carina extending onto the middle lobe, concave and verruculose above the middle, the apex broad, subtruncate-retuse, deeply concave below the middle with involute margins, the concavity provided with long, purple hairs, the base suborbicular, shortly united to the column-foot; column terete, yellow, spotted with purple, 2 mm long with a thick foot 1.5 mm long, the anther-cap white, minutely papillose; pollinia 2, hemispherical, with short, granular, elastic caudae.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *ocellus*, "a little eye," in reference to the splitting of the lateral sepals on the dorsum of the flower.

TYPE: ECUADOR: MORONA-SANTIAGO: lithophytic, east of Paute, alt. ca. 2800 m, 10 July 1977, C. Luer, J. Luer, G. Luer & A. Andreetta 1661 (HOLOTYPE: SEL); AZUAY: lithophytic above Machangara northwest of Cuenca, alt. ca. 2900 m, 8 Feb. 1978, C. Luer, J. Luer & A. Andreetta 2495 (SEL).

Twice this small, tufted plant has been found growing on a relatively dry, somewhat mossy, vertical rock. Both times the majority of the plants bore single, minute, short-tubular, deep maroon flowers on short peduncles. At first it was thought that all were in bud, but the binocular microscope indicated that most were at full anthesis.

The apices of all three sepals merge together into a forward-directed point, but on top of the flower a slit, like a little eye, is present. The flower is not rotated, the slit being formed by a partial parting of the uppermost lateral sepals. In addition to the unique habit of the flower, the morphology of the labellum also indicates no known near relatives. Uncinate lateral lobes are not uncommon in *Pleurothallis*, but the deeply concave, bowl-shaped, basal half of the lip containing long purple hairs is apparently unique.