

8. **PITYPHYLLUM HIRTZII** Dodson, sp. nov.

Species facile distincta pseudobulbis terminatis uno folio apicali (raro binis foliis), absentia vaginarum foliarium et labello trullato.

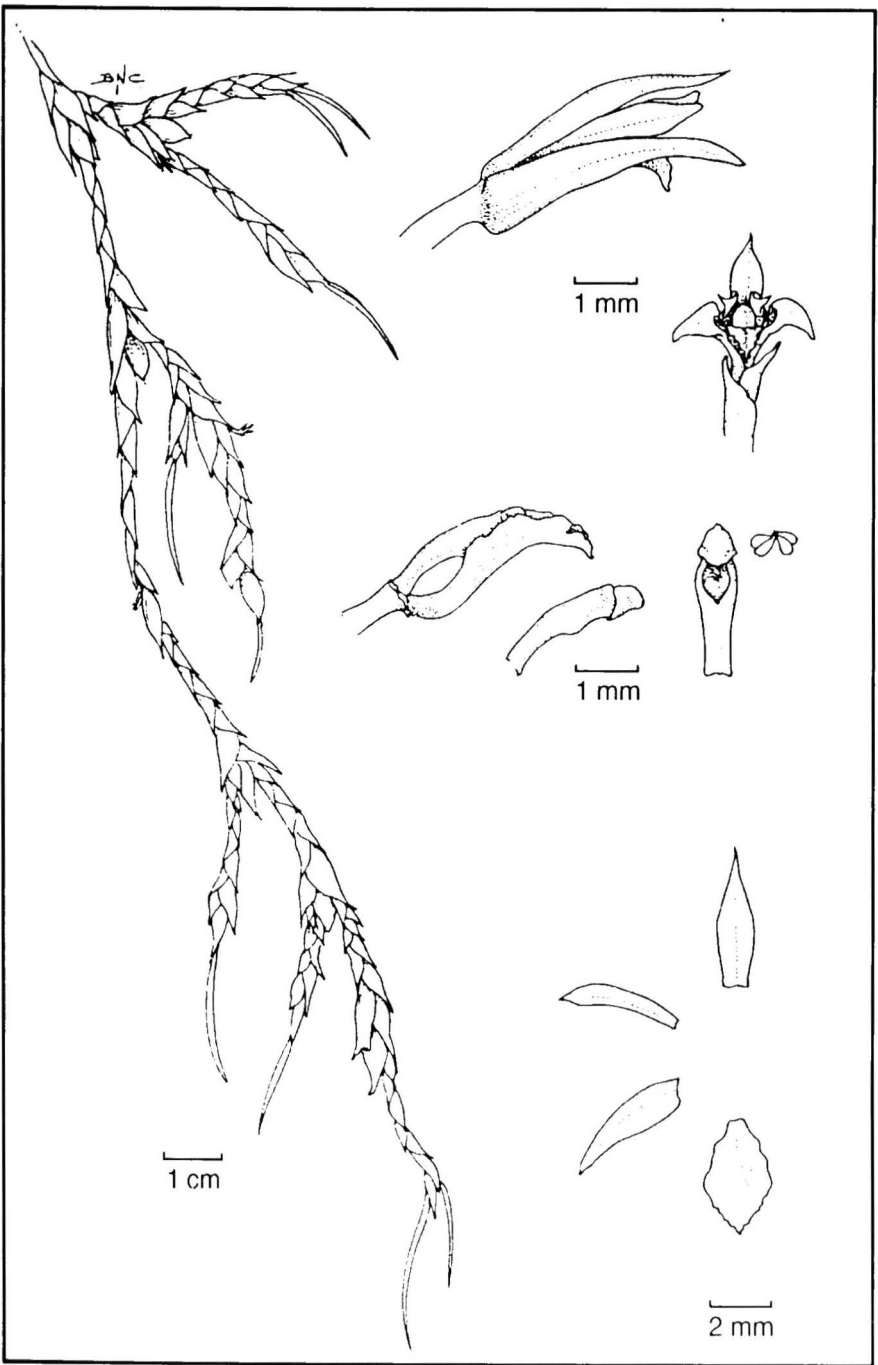
Orig. coll.: Ecuador: Zamora-Chinchipec: Loja to Zamora, km 16, beyond pass, *Hirtz 5757* (RPSC - holotype).

ETIMOLOGIA: Nombrado en honor del ingeniero Alex Hirtz, geólogo ecuatoriano, quien ha contribuido enormemente al conocimiento de las orquídeas del Ecuador.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Ing. Alex Hirtz Ecuadorian geologist who has made a major contribution to the knowledge of the orchids of Ecuador.

Plant pendant, caulescent, copiously branching. Stem slender, enveloped by close, distichous, imbricating sheaths, bearing pseudobulbs at intervals of 2-4 cm. Pseudobulbs pyriform, completely surrounded by scarious, dark brown, nonfoliate sheaths, 1-foliate (or rarely 2) at the apex. Leaves filiform, channelled, acute, to 3.5 cm long, commonly shorter. Scapes abbreviated, 1-flowered, barely emerging from the cauline sheaths. Flowers tiny, yellow, nonresupinate, segments subparallel, campanulate. Dorsal sepal narrowly ovate, acuminate, erect over the column, to 4 x 1 mm; lateral sepals obliquely ovate, acute, to 4 x 1 mm; petals oblong obovate, falcate, acute, to 3.5 x 1.2 mm; lip trullate in outline, long-clawed at the base, erose on the margin, to 6.4 x 2 mm; lateral lobes erect on each side of the column; column terete, slightly clavate, to 2 mm long; pollinia 4.

NOTAS: Esta especie se acomoda mejor en *Pityphyllum* por la ausencia de un pie de la columna y por la uña cóncava del labelo. La especie se reconoce fácilmente por los pseudobulbos con una sola hoja apical (raramente dos), la carencia de vainas foliáceas y el labelo trulado. Los otros miembros



PITYPHYLLUM HIRTZII Dodson.

del género normalmente presentan de varias a muchas hojas en el ápice del seudobulbo.

NOTES: This species fits best in *Pityphyllum* due to the lack of a column foot and the concave claw of the lip. The species is easily distinguished by the pseudobulbs with one apical leaf (rarely 2 leaves present), the lack of foliaceous sheaths, and the trullate lip. Other members of the genus normally have several to many leaves at the apex of the pseudobulb.