



***Masdevallia spectrum* (Pleurothallidinae: Orchidaceae), and new combination with taxonomic and nomenclatural notes**

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Dracula spectrum (Rchb.f.) A.Doucette, comb. nov.

Basionym:—*Masdevallia spectrum* Rchb.f., Gard. Chron. 3: 429. 3 Apr 1875. Lectotype (designated by C. A. Luer in C. A. Luer & R. Escobar 1989: ad t. 12, as “type”): COLOMBIA: Antioquia: Medellín, s.d., *Shuttleworth s.n.*, W!. Note: In this case, it seems appropriate to consider Luer’s designation as a lectotype. The sheet consists of two elements—pressed flowers collected by Shuttleworth and a letter from Kramer including a sketch sent to Reichenbach for identification. The letter and sketch from Kramer does not appear to be original material.

Synonymy:—*Masdevallia lowii* Rolfe, Gard. Chron., ser. 3, 7: 416. 5 Apr 1890. *Dracula lowii* (Rolfe) Luer, Selbyana 2: 196. Sep 1978. Lectotype (designated by C.A. Luer in C.A. Luer & R. Escobar 1989: ad t. 9, as “type”): ENGLAND: Essex: Braintree, from material cultivated by S. Courtauld, 1889, *Courtauld s.n.*, K!. [Probably collected by F. C. Lehmann in Colombia, Prov. Cauca and obtained by S. Courtauld.] Note: Reichenbach stated in the protologue that he had material that “flowered during last autumn;” and then “obtained a second raceme” from Courtauld.

Masdevallia platycrater Rchb.f., Flora 69: 559. 11 Dec 1886. *Dracula platycrater* (Rchb.f.) Luer, Selbyana 2: 196. Sep 1978. Holotype: COLOMBIA. Caldas: Sierra de Belalcazar, 1500–1700, 27 Oct 1883, F. C. Lehmann 3363, W!.

Discussion

Dracula spectrum is characterized by flowers with a minute lip and narrow sepals heavily mottled with purple and ending in a yellow or pale green tail. Reichenbach used the sepal characters to distinguish *Masdevallia spectrum* from *M. severa* Reichenbach (1875: 170), but he redescribed the plant as *M. platycrater*. *Masdevallia spectrum* was later misidentified as *M. trinema* by Woolward (1896) in her monograph of the genus. *Masdevallia trinema* Reichenbach (1886: 558; F. C. Lehmann s.n., W!) is distinguished from *M. spectrum* by sepals fused for most of their length (vs. extended into long narrow lobes) and tails several times longer than sepals (vs. as long or shorter than sepals). *Masdevallia spectrum* was reduced to a synonym of *Dracula severa* when Luer (1978) coined *Dracula*, and the name subsequently was overlooked by later workers. *Dracula spectrum* is not to be considered a synonym of *D. severa* because its sepals are narrower, its tails are lighter in color, the lip is less than 9 mm long (the lip of *D. severa* is ca. 17 mm long), and the epichile is deflexed on the hypochile (Luer 1993). The narrow sepals, light tails, and small lip are all visible on the *M. spectrum* lectotype (*Shuttleworth s.n.*).