

A NEW SPECIES OF *MORMOLYCA* FENZL (ORCHIDACEAE)
FROM BOLIVIA

John T. Atwood*

Mormolyca fuchsii J. T. Atwood, sp. nov. (Plate 1)

Mormolyca ringentis (Lindl.) Schltr. similis, sed scapis brevioribus crassioribusque, bracteis scaporum majoribus conspicue conduplicatis remanentibus et floribus majoribus differt.

Plant epiphytic, caespitose to 20 cm tall. Roots 2 mm in diameter; rhizome very short and inconspicuous; pseudobulbs with about 4 fugaceous basal sheaths, ovoid, unifoliate, flattened laterally, 3 cm long, 1.6 cm wide. Leaves narrowly elliptic, conduplicate at the base, apex obtuse, to 15 cm long, 2.2 cm wide. Scapes 1 or 2 arising laterally from the flush of new growth, provided with 6 or 7 strongly conduplicate bracts, about 20 mm long, one-flowered. The ovary 3-winged, 25-30 mm long including the pedicel. Flowers green spotted with maroon on the bases of all appendages and the column. Dorsal sepal linear with somewhat revolute margins, a sharp keel and acute apex, somewhat incurved in natural position, 23 mm long, 4 mm wide. Lateral sepals lanceolate, lacking keels, apex acute, 20 mm long, 5 mm wide near the base. Lateral petals linear to slightly oblanceolate, ligular with 3 nerves, the two outermost nerves joining with the midnerve near the acute to obtuse slightly mucronate apex, about 16 mm long, 2 mm wide. Lip hinged to the base of the column, 3-lobate, the lateral lobes terminating at the middle and up-turned around the column, the mid-lobe spatulate with a rounded emarginate apex, the disk with a longitudinal groove, about 17 mm long and 10 mm across the lateral lobes when spread out. Column clavate, arcuate, somewhat concave ventrally, about 12 mm long, 3 mm wide. Anther consisting of two furrowed, slightly flattened pollinia connected to a saddle-shaped rostellum.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of the discoverer, Robert F. Fuchs of Homestead, Florida.

TYPE: *BOLIVIA*: Collected by F. J. Fuchs, 75 km southwest of Santa Cruz at 980 m elev., herbarium specimen prepared from pickled material, 18 October 1978, *J. T. Atwood 7888* (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

Vegetatively this is very similar to *Mormolyca ringens* (Lindl.) Schltr. and *M. peruviana* C. Schweinf., but differs from both in the stouter inflorescences concealed by bracts which are strongly keeled. *M. ringens* has much smaller flowers, and *M. peruviana* has a distinctly deeply 3-lobed lip, not shallowly 3-lobate.

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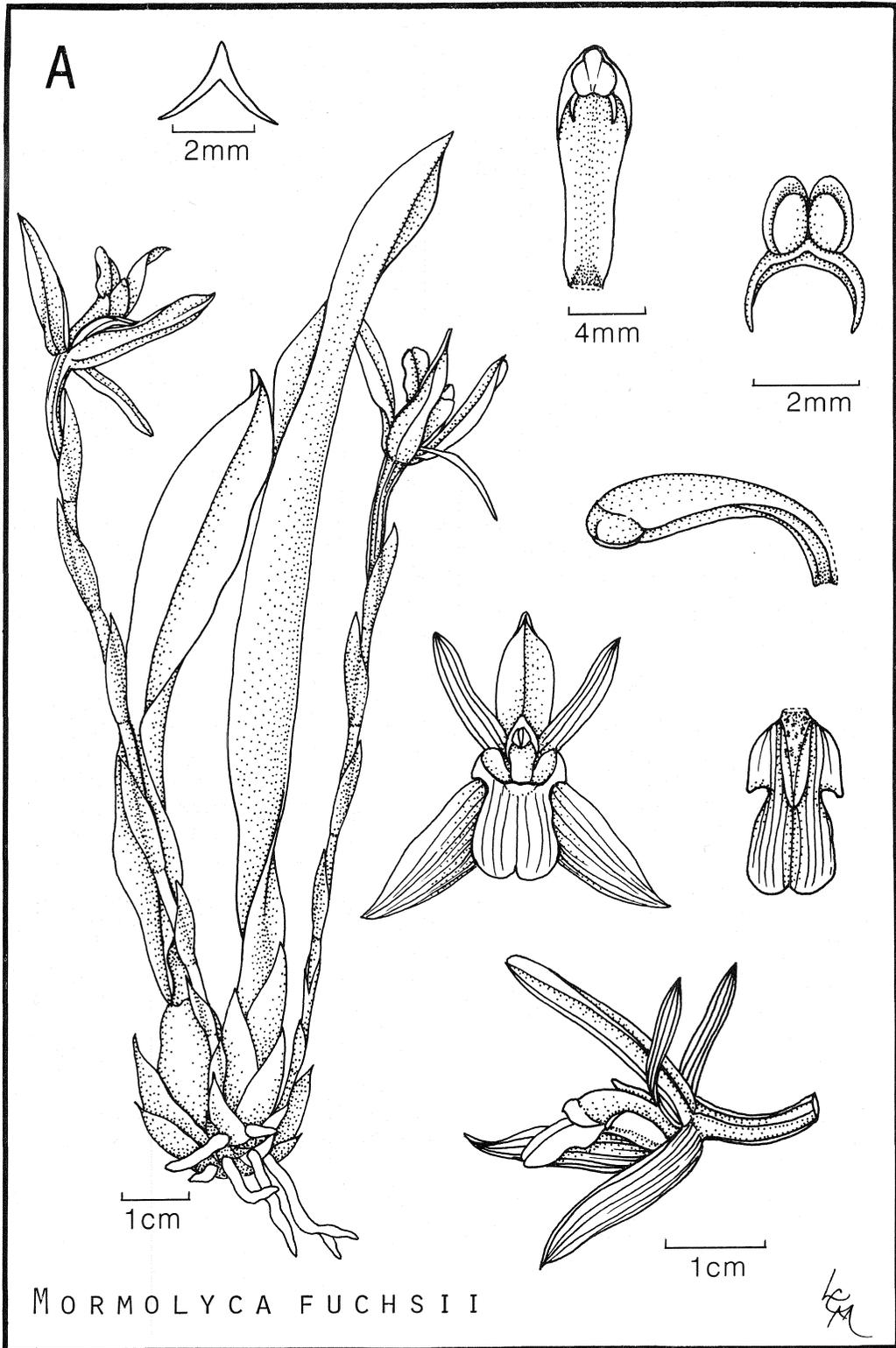


Plate 1