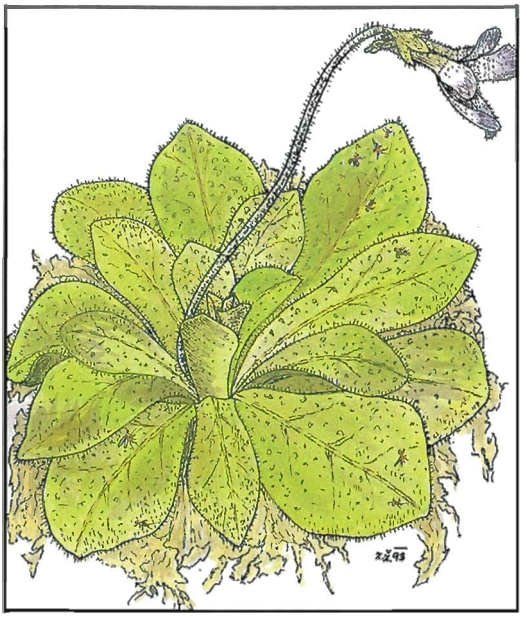

Fig. 1— *Pinguicula agnata.* Intermediate leaves, late autumn, in flower. Pen and ink drawing with water color by Zdenek Zacek.

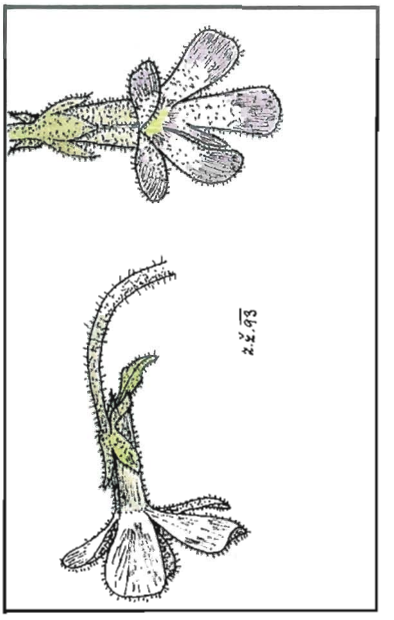

Fig. 2—*P. agnata.* View of asymmetric flower.

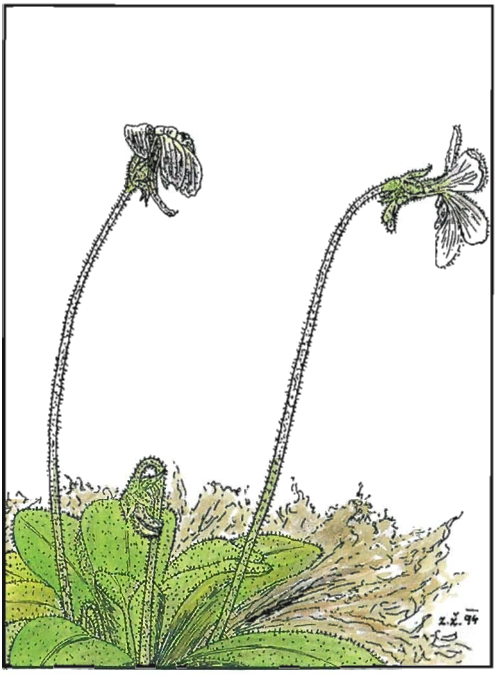

Fig. 3 — *P. agnata.* Multiflowered winter rosette.

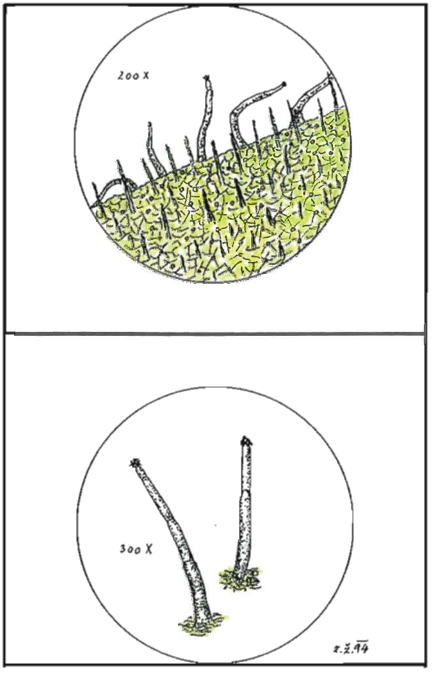

Fig. 4 —*P. agnata.* Microscopic views of glands on leaf surface.

LETTER FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC — II

by
Zdenek Zacek (Ustavni, 139, P8, Bohnice, 18100, Czech Republic)

Many greetings from Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. I am here again to write about and illustrate through drawings another carnivorous species I am growing, the Mexican *Pinguicula agnata*. have been successfully growing this butterwort for several years.

There are two seasonal leafy rosettes. The summer one has larger, longer leaves often overgrowing the edges of the pot. This growth variant never seems to flower. The winter rosette consists of much smaller, shorter almost succulent leaves and seems to flower continuously.

The flowering seasonal phase is shown on the cover. Flowering began in early October while, as the drawing shows, the leaves were in a somewhat intermediate stage, going into the winter phase. Brown remnants of summer leaves are seen around the edges of the pot.

As seen in the figures, all parts of the flower are hairy including the corolla. The spur is short and wide and quite flat. As soon as one flower fades another is starting to develop or open. In the midst of the flowering season, more than one open flower may be seen often, one flower to a stalk.

The corolla persist for several weeks, the stalk and calyx for several more weeks. The detail flower drawings show variation in petal symmetry or lobing. This winter flowering continues until spring when large leaves begin to form and flowering ends.

Both summer and winter leaves seem to be carnivorous in that they trap insects as shown in the figures. These are passive traps and even the glandular hairs do not move as they usually do in droseras.

To examine the adhesive surfaces of the leaf blades more closely, I placed portions under my field microscope to produce the detail drawings of these glands. The green background is of course chlorophyl. There are both stalked and sessile glands, the latter unstalked and directly on the leaf surface for enzyme secretion and absorption of digestion products. A look at the magnified surface gives a good impression of the chilly, terrifying forest awaiting a small insect.

I have never observed spontaneous vegetative reproduction or budding in this species which has been seen in some other Mexican butterworts.