



DICHAEA ANGUSTISEGMENTA Dodson
Text on reverse side.

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Dichaea angustisegmenta, Dodson, sp. nov.

Dichaea panamensis Lindl. similis sed ovario muricato et partibus floralibus angustissimis differt.

Epiphytic. Stems monopodial, cane-like, spreading, foliaceous, to 30 cm long, enveloped in the conduplicate bases of the distichously imbricating leaves. Leaf blades spreading, linear-ligulate, acute, coriaceous, to 4 x 0.4 cm, the blades articulated to the persistent, sheathing bases and ultimately deciduous below. Inflorescences short, slender, 1-flowered scapes about 2 cm long, produced from the leaf axils, terminating at the apex in a cucullate bract which envelopes the muricate ovary. Sepals white to pink, free, glabrous, narrowly ovate, attenuate, to 1.5 x 0.3 cm; petals narrowly ovate, attenuate, to 1.3 x 0.3 cm; lip bluish, with a ligular claw at the base, the blade dilated, 3-lobed, anchoriform, the lateral lobes acute, the apical lobe long-acuminate, to 1.2 cm long, to 0.8 cm across the lateral lobes; column stout, 0.3 cm long, the infrastigmatic ligule elongate, erect, triangular, minutely papillose at the apex; pollinia 4, inner pair smaller, hard.

Epifítica; tallos como carrizos con hojas muy juntas, deciduas, angostas, dísticas; sépalos y pétalos muy angostos, color blanco-verduzco; labio blanco, con punticos rojos; columna alargada; callo infrastigmático triangular, el ápice barbado; ovario muricado.

DISTRIBUTION: Western Ecuador.

ETYMOLOGY: Named for the very narrow floral parts.

TYPE: ECUADOR: LOS RIOS: Río Palenque Science Center, km 56 Quevedo-Santo Domingo, alt. 220 m, 17 Apr. 1973, Dodson & Luer 5252 (SEL).

ADDITIONAL SPECIMENS EXAMINED: ECUADOR: LOS RIOS: Río Palenque Science Center, km 56 Quevedo-Santo Domingo, alt. 220 m, 23 Apr. 1973, Dodson & Luer 5253 (SEL).

OBSERVATIONS: *Dichaea angustisegmenta* is distinguished by the deciduous leaves, muricate ovary and very narrow floral segments. The species is known only from the region of the Río Palenque Science Center in the provinces of Los Rios and Pichincha in western Ecuador at

elevations from 200 to 600 m. This species is listed in the "Flora of Río Palenque" as *D. gorgonensis* Rchb. f., but that species has a glabrous ovary.

HABITAT: Epiphyte in tropical wet forest.

FLOWERING SEASON: February to April.

ILLUSTRATION VOUCHER: Dodson 5253.

