

2a. *Dichaea fragrantissima* Folsom, *Orchid Digest* 58: 99. 1994. TYPE: Panama. Coclé, Alto del Calvario, cont. divide, N of El Copé, 850–950 m, flowered in cult., 6 Apr. 1985, *J. P. Folsom 11283 NN* (holotype, PMA; isotype, MO). Figure 2.

Although the species was validly published (Folsom, 1994a), a complete description of this species was not provided, and so one is offered here: Epiphytic, caespitose, roots 1–1.5 m diam.; stems to 30 cm long, 17–21 mm wide across conduplicate sheaths. Leaf blades 4.5–6.5 × 0.7–1.4 cm, oblong, obtuse, retuse or apiculate; flowers axillary, peduncles 15–20 mm long; floral bracts 11–14 × 8–14 mm, ovate-orbicular, acuminate; secondary bract lanceolate, ca. 11 × 2 mm; sepals and petals white or ivory with 7 to 9 lilac stripes, midlobe of lip lilac; sepals and petals ovate-lanceolate, narrowly acute-acuminate, margins hispid-ciliate; dorsal sepal 12–14 × 6 mm, lateral sepals 13–15 × 6–7 mm, petals 11–14 × 4 mm; lip 10–12 × 5–7 mm, claw 5.5–6 × 3.5–4 mm, dorsally keeled, midlobe 5 × 6 mm, lateral lobes 1–2.4 mm long; column 3.5–4 mm long, with distinct foot, with a rounded callus between column foot and lip, ligule 1.5–2 × 1.5–2 mm, subquadrate, shallowly emarginate; ovary 2–3 mm long, muricate.

Dichaea fragrantissima is readily distinguished from *D. morrisii* by the short, obtuse, lateral lobes of the ecallose lip, by the subquadrate ligule, and by the long, narrow, subacuminate sepals and petals. The subspecies *fragrantissima* is known only from cloud forests in Coclé and Veraguas provinces in Panama and has been collected only a few times. It differs from the new subspecies *eburnea* (described below) primarily in flower coloration and in having somewhat larger lateral lobes, or retrorse angles, on the lip. The specimens of subspecies *fragrantissima* we have seen have a prominent callus between the column foot and the claw of the lip, and the claw of the lip has a distinct median keel. Both of these features are variable within Panamanian collections of subsp. *eburnea*.

Additional specimens examined. PANAMA. Coclé: trail to La Mina, Hills N of El Valle de Antón, *P. H. Allen 2874* (AMES), *A. Maduro & E. Olmos 189* (MO, PMA).