

*Dichaea richii* Dodson, sp. nov.

(Plate 13:C).

*Dichaeae panamensi* Lindl. similis, sed ovario muricato et plantis floribusque parvioribus differt.

Plant epiphytic. Stems simple or sparsely branched, commonly several, caespitose, erect or arcuate, to 10 cm long, entirely concealed by imbricating leaf sheaths. Leaves numerous, distichous, articulated, linear, acuminate, apiculate, spreading, 2.5 cm long, 0.4 cm wide. Inflorescences axillary, 1-flowered, much shorter than the leaves; peduncles filiform; flowers small, sub-campanulate, white, heavily blotched inside with purple; ovary and capsule muricate; dorsal sepal ovate, acute, concave, 3 mm long, 2.5-3 mm wide; lateral sepals oblique, triangular-ovate, acute, deeply concave below, 8 mm long, 3.5-4 mm wide; petals obliquely ovate, acuminate, 6 mm long, 2 mm wide; lip anchoriform, apiculate at the apex, 4.3 mm long, 5 mm wide across the lobules, the claw 1.5 mm wide; column short, stout, 1 mm long at the back, with a broadly triangular, glabrous ligule below the stigma, the rostellum flap-like, much protruding beyond the anther; stigma 1 mm wide.

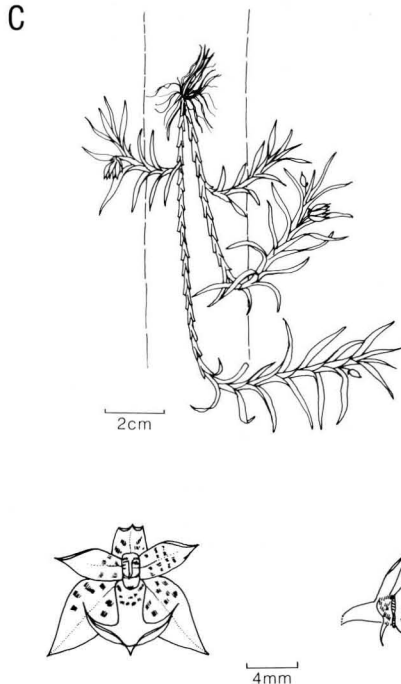
ETYMOLOGY: Named in honor of Dr. Earl R. Rich who helped in its collection.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: LOS RÍOS: Río Palenque Science Center, km 56 Quevedo-Santo Domingo, alt. 150-220 m, 5 March 1976, C. H. Dodson & E. R. Rich 6000, (HOLOTYPE: SEL, ISOTYPE: RPSC).

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED: *ECUADOR*: PICHINCHA: Río Baba, 28 km S of Santo Domingo, alt. 350 m, 3 Nov. 1961, C. H. Dodson & L. B. Thien 1151b (SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Western Ecuador.

*Dichaea richii* is similar to *D. panamensis* Lindl., but it is distinguished by a muricate ovary and much smaller flowers. *Dichaea richii* is also similar to *D. riopalenquensis* Dodson, but the former has smaller flowers, broader flower parts, a rostellum much projecting beyond the anther, and much shorter leaves.



*Dichaea richii*

CHD