

**Dresslerella portillae** Luer & Hirtz, sp. nov.

Ety.: Named for José Portilla who cultivates this species at Ecuagenera in Gualaceo, Ecuador.

Species haec *D. hirsutissima* (C.Schweinf.) Luer affinis, sed pedunculo multibreviore flore subsessile, synsepalis marginibus infra apicem contiguis, et labello pandurato longifimbriato differt.

**Plant** small, epiphytic, caespitose; roots slender. Ramicauls suberect, stout, 3-5.5 cm long, enclosed by 3 spotted, sparsely pubescent, tubular, imbricating sheaths. **Leaf** green, suberect to horizontal, erect in relationship to the ramicaul, thickly fleshy, pilose on both surfaces, elliptical, obtuse, 3-4.5 cm long, 1-1.5 cm wide, the base broadly cuneate, sessile. **Inflorescence** a succession of single flowers, borne by a stout, suberect, pubescent peduncle ca. 1 mm long, with a basal sheath at the base of the leaf; floral bract tubular, long-pubescent, 5 mm long; pedicel pubescent, 2 mm long; ovary densely long-pubescent, 1 mm long; **sepals** translucent dull yellow with dull purple spots, covered externally by a long, white pubescence, the dorsal sepal ovate, acute, acuminate, 11 mm long including the slender, apical portion 4 mm long, 3.5 mm wide, essentially free from the lateral sepals, the lateral sepals connate to the apex into a deeply concave, obtuse, scaphoid synsepal, 12 mm long, 6 mm wide unexpanded, with the margins touching for ca. 2 mm, 3-4 mm below the apex; **petals** spotted with purple spots, obovate below the middle, oblique, 9 mm long, 2.8 mm wide, the apex acute, acuminate, the slender apical portion 3 mm long; **lip** yellow, intensely dotted with purple toward the apex, trilobed, obovate-pandurate or pyriform, 7 mm long, 1.5-3 mm wide, the apex rounded, the margins long-fimbriate above the middle, the lateral

lobes on the basal quarter, thin, erect, uncinata, ca. 1 mm long, the disc with a low pair of converging carinae from the bases of the lobes, the claw with an erect, obtuse callus, the base truncate with minute marginal lobules, firmly hinged to the column-foot; **column** slender, semiterete, 4 mm long, the apex bidentate, the base developed into a thick, pedestal-like foot with the apex of the ovary.

ECUADOR: **Morona-Santiago**: near Chigiinda, alt. 1400 m, cultivated at Ecuagenera, Gualaceo, 5 Mar, 2001, *C. Luer 19665* (Holotype: MO).

This species, closely related to sympatric *D. hirsutissima*, has recently been discovered in southeastern Ecuador. The leaves of both species are thickly fleshy and covered by a long pubescence on both sides. The peduncle of *D. portillae* is very short, causing the slightly smaller flower to rest in the sulcus at the base of the leaf. The dorsal sepal and petals of *D. portillae* are similar to those of *D. hirsutissima*, but they lack the clavate tips of the attenuated apices. The margins of the boat-like synsepal meet a few millimeters below the apex to create an apical aperture separate from the main opening. The lip is long-fimbriate above the middle, but similar, uncinata, lateral lobes are present on the lower portion.