

Dressleria bennettii H. Hills & Christenson,
sp. nov. (Fig. 3)

TYPE: PERU. Junin: Chanchamayo, N
side of Río Perené up the Ubiriki Valley, 3
hour walk by natives, 950 m, *O. del Castillo*
ex D. Bennett 5064 (HOLOTYPE: NCU;

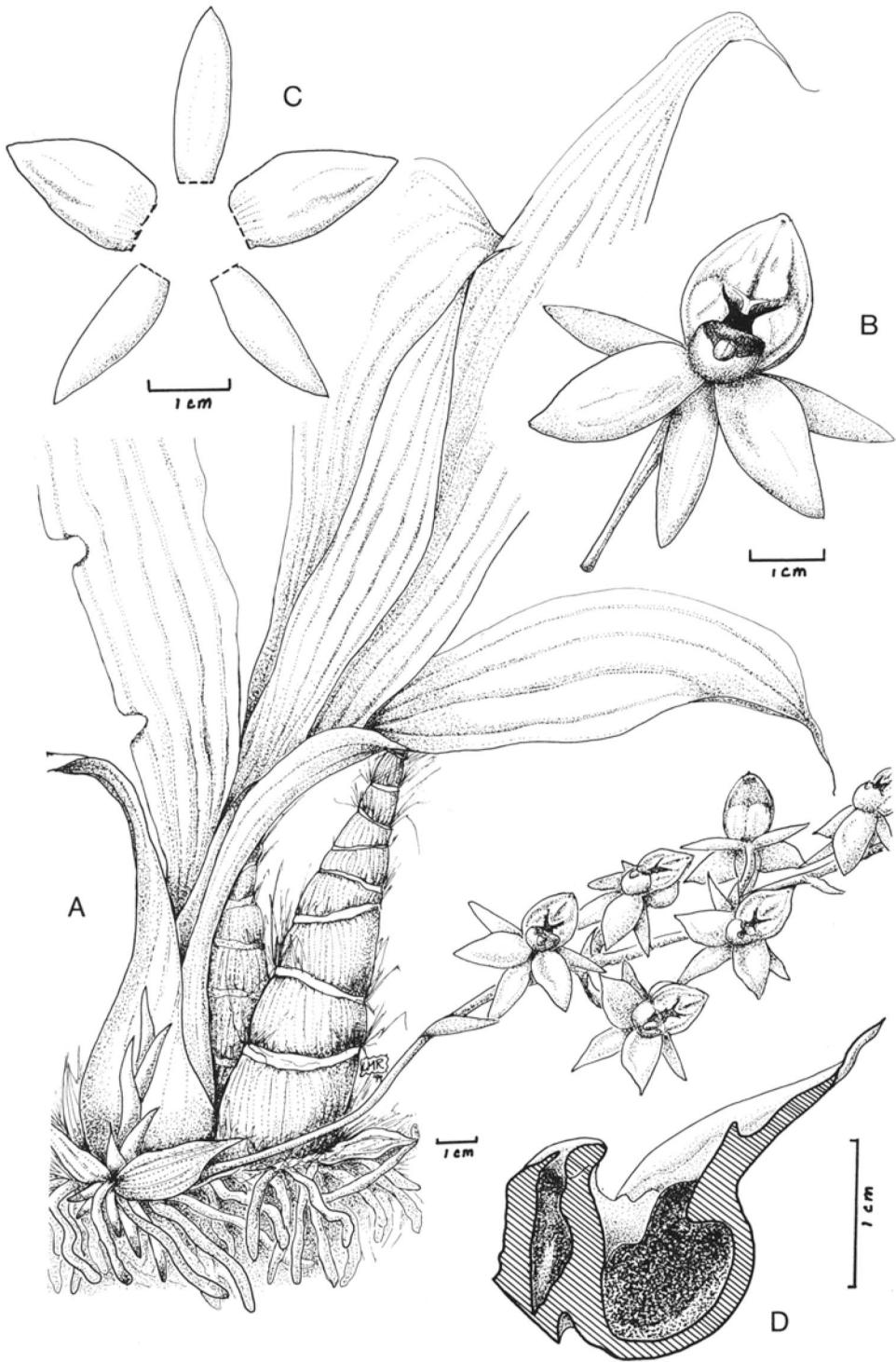


FIG. 3. *Dressleria bennettii* H. Hills & Christenson (drawn from *Bennett 5064*). A. Plant in flower. B. Flower. C. Floral dissection. D. Labellum, longitudinal section.

ISOTYPES: FLAS [spirit], NY, SEL [spirit], USM).

Species haec *Dressleriae eburneae* (Rolfe) Dodson similis ab ea callis lateralibus prominentibus differt.

Caespitose epiphyte to 35 cm tall. *Roots* thick, fleshy, white, fragrant. *Pseudobulbs* clustered, fusiform, 6–10 × 2.8–3.6 cm, covered with distichous, imbricating, articulated foliar sheaths. *Leaves* elliptic-lanceolate to oblanceolate, acute, the uppermost with a large, close, sheathing base soon tapering to a channeled petiole-like leaf base. *Inflorescence* an arching, stout, lateral, basal raceme. *Flowers* 5–10, nonresupinate, strongly fragrant, the sepals and petals pale greenish yellow, the labellum exterior pale buffyellow, the saccate interior greenish yellow, the column base greenish yellow becoming more yellow toward the apex, the anther white, the pollinia dark yellow, the stipe pale yellow with prominent hyaline basal auricles, the viscidium pale brownish lavender. *Sepals* subsimilar, elliptic-oblong, blunt, the dorsal sepal 3.1 × 0.75 cm, the lateral sepals 2.2 × 0.8 cm, with carinate, apiculate apices. *Petals* ovate, acute, 2.3 × 1.4 cm. *Labellum* ovate, obtuse, rigidly fleshy, 2.3 × 1.7 cm when expanded, base concave-saccate, with prominent triangular calli to each side of the labellum opening. *Column* extremely short and stout, 1.1 × 0.7 cm. *Anther* 4.2 × 3.2 mm. *Pollinarium* 4.2 × 2.7 mm, the stipe base divided at rear in two obovate, hyaline, concave, auricles spreading outward over the suborbicular viscidium.

Etymology: Named for David E. Bennett, Jr., who has been cataloging the rich Peruvian orchid flora.

Habitat: *Dressleria bennettii* grows in wet montane forests where it flowers from January to March.

Dressleria bennettii is most similar to *D. aurorae* H. Hills & D. E. Benn. and *D. eburnea* (Rolfe) Dodson. *Dressleria bennettii* has pronounced triangular calli to each side of the labellum opening while *D. aurorae* and *D. eburnea* have no lateral calli or at most a slight ridge. In *D. bennettii* the inflorescences are arching, unlike the stiffly erect inflorescences of *D. aurorae*, and the flowers

are consistently larger than those of *D. aurorae*.

A color photograph of the type plant of *D. bennettii* was published in Christenson (1994).