

99. **DRESSLERIA FRAGRANS** Dodson, sp. nov.

Similis *Dressleriae eburneae* Rolfe, a qua distinguitur fragantia florali, pollinationis agente, ampliore cavitate ad modum fissurae in basi labelli et labello ovato.

Orig. Coll: Ecuador: Bolívar: Babahoyo to Guaranda, above Balzapamba, 1400 m, 6 June 1960, *Dodson 100* (Holotype SEL; Isotype QCA).

OTHER SPECIMENS SEEN: Ecuador: Pichincha: Patricia Pilar to 14 de Mayo, Centinela, 650 m, 23 February 1985, *Dodson 15600* (MO); same locality, 8 May 1987, *Dodson 17103* (MO); same locality, 600

m, 16 June 1960, *R. Perry* 304 (SEL); Santo Domingo Bypass, Cooperativa Santa Marta, 550 m, 24 July 1979, *Dodson et al.* 8555 (SEL); same locality, 450 m, 7 September 1986, *H. Hills* 86204 (SEL, AMES, FLAS, MO); same locality, *M. Whitten* 1249 (MO).

ETIMOLOGÍA: Nombrada por la fuerte fragancia a aceite de clavo de olor producida por las flores.

ETYMOLOGY: Named in reference to the powerful fragrance of clove-oil produced by the flowers.

Epiphytic. Plant with swollen, oblong pseudobulbs of 8-10 internodes, on a very short rhizome. Each node with a leaf and surrounded by the base of the leaf, the leaves arranged distichously, thin, with obvious parallel veins on the underside, narrowly oblong-elliptic to oblong-obovate, acuminate at the apex, articulated to the leaf sheath at the base, to 35 x 7 cm, green, with a persistent foul odor. Inflorescence produced from the basal nodes of the pseudobulb, to 20 cm tall, erect, surrounded by 3 to 5 triangular sheaths, with 5 to 18 flowers produced simultaneously. Flowers nonresupinate, fleshy, light green. Sepals elliptic-oblong, reflexed along the ovary, to 2.2 x 0.8 cm; petals elliptic-oblong, obtuse, to 2.2 x 0.7 mm; lip sessile, united to the underside of the column, the blade broadly ovate, deeply saccate at the base, the mouth of the cavity forming a broad slit; the column shorter than broad, the pollinia 2, waxy, yellow.

NOTAS: Esta especie se da en la vertiente occidental de los Andes ecuatorianos, en bosque nublado, desde el nivel del mar hasta los 1500 metros de altura. Por su parecido a *Dressleria eburnea* (Rolfe) Dodson se pensaba antes que se trataba de esa especie. Pero las plantas provenientes de la vertiente oriental andina producen una fragancia diferente y son polinizadas por machos de la especie *Eufriesia concava* de abejas, mientras que *D. fragrans* lo es por machos de *Eulaema cingulata*. El doctor Harold Hills ha adelantado amplios estudios—aún inéditos—sobre este grupo de orquídeas, y coincide con la opinión de que las poblaciones de la vertiente oriental no pertenecen a *D. eburnea*.

NOTES: This species occurs on the western side of the Andes in Ecuador in cloud forest at elevations from near sea level to 1500 m. It is similar to *Dressleria eburnea* (Rolfe) Dodson and was previously considered to be the same as that species. However, the plants from the eastern side of the Andes produce a different fragrance and are pollinated by male bees of *Eufriesia concava* while *D. fragrans* is pollinated by male bees of *Eulaema cingulata*. Dr. Harold Hills has done considerable

research on this group and considers the populations on the eastern side not to belong to *D. eburnea* either. His research remains unpublished.