

A New Species of Dressleria



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Dressleria severiniana Hills, sp. nov.

Type PANAMA: Prov. Coclé, El Valle de Anton, leg. R. L. Dressler, 12 May 1990, hort FLAS #F1757 ex *H. G. Hills 90015*, [Holotype, AMES].

Perianthii partes valde reflexae. Labellum crasse carnosum, saccato circa 1.8 longo et 1.2 cm lato, margine cavitato elevato. Ostio sacci casi quadratus, circa 4.5 x 4.5 mm. Columna crassissima, circa 8.0 mm longa et 9.0 mm lata, labello omnino adnata.

Description Inflorescence racemose. Flowers erect with the lip upper-

Dressleria severiniana inflorescence (above left) and flowers (above).

most. Sepals and petals strongly reflexed against the pedicel. Sepals 23 mm long, 5 mm wide. Petals 18 mm long, 12 mm wide. Lip longer than broad, 18 mm x 12 mm. Top half of the lip flat or slightly reflexed. Callus of the lip elevated 1.5 mm to make the lip entirely adnate to the column. Column 8 mm high, 9 mm wide at the base. Ostio nearly square 4.5 x 4.5 mm. Margin of the opening a thin flap of tissue.

Distribution Endemic to Panama.

Etymology The species name hon-

ors Mrs. Henry J. Severin of Cupertino, California, known as Lil. A retired biology teacher, Lil has grown orchids for nearly 40 years, been an AOS judge for more than 20 years, and has accumulated orchids from 39 countries.

Dressleria severiniana has been consistently misidentified as *D. dilecta* which differs by the shape of the labellum opening and inflorescence. In *D. dilecta* the elongate labellum opening has an erose margin while in *D. severiniana* the margin of the nearly square opening is entire. The inflorescence of *D. severiniana* is a loosely-flowered raceme, unlike the densely flowered "subcapitate" raceme of *D. dilecta* with overlapping flowers.

The placement of Allen 4565, consisting solely of flowers in spirit, is problematic and may represent a hybrid with *D. dilecta* or an undescribed species.

Additional Specimens Examined

PANAMA: Prov. Colcé, El Valle de Anton, 28 May 1987, leg. R. L. Dressler, hort. FLAS #F1756 ex *H. G. Hills* 87180, [SEL]; same data, 9 May 1991 leg. R. L. Dressler, Hort. FLAS #F1757 ex *H. G. Hills* 91014 [NCU]; same data, 21 Apr. 1980 César Barsallo ex hort. Dressler s. n., [NCU]; same data, 9 Jan. 1972, A. Gentry & J. Dwyer 3681, MO; Prov. Veraguas: Cerro Tuté, region west of Santa Fé, 915m, P. H. Allen 4565, [AMES, P2723]. — Harold G. Hills, PhD, Research Building 4, VAMC, 509 Fulton Street, Durham, North Carolina 27705.