

Maxillaria dressleriana Carnevali & J. T. Atwood *sp. nov.* TYPE: PANAMA. Chiriquí: Fortuna Dam, near Rambola. Flowering in cultivation at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens on January 3, 1995, *SEL-89-0368* (holotype: SEL; isotypes: AMES, INB, MO). Figure 1.

Species haec *M. hedwigae* Hamer & Dodson sed floribus atroruberrimis, labello longiore, lobulo centrali subquadrato latiore, habito multifloro recedit.

Epiphytic herbs, cespitose, 25–30 cm tall. **Rhizome** abbreviated, clothed by scarious sheaths; **pseudobulbs** clustered, 2.5–4 cm tall, 1–1.5 cm wide and thick, ovoid or ovoid-ellipsoid, section circular, hence pseudobulbs sub-conical; 1-leaved apically, surface shiny, longitudinally many ridged, then transversally closely and shallowly ridged, suggesting a network pattern, dull dark green but tinged with dull dark maroon basally in older pseudobulbs; sheaths enveloping the pseudobulb non-leaf-bearing. **Leaves** 24–27 cm long, 2–3 cm wide, erect on the pseudobulb, coriaceous, elliptic or rarely ovate-elliptic, acute, pseudopetioled; **pseudopetiole** 20–35 mm long, 4.6 mm wide, deeply channelled on the ventral face, on transversal section elliptic. **Inflorescences** erect, shorter than pseudobulb; **peduncle** 8–12 mm long, terete. **Floral bract** 17–21 mm long, 1.1–1.5 mm wide, broadly obovate or broadly obovate-elliptic, obtuse, apex provided with a 1 mm long mucro, basally loosely tubulose, open at the apical half and inflate. **Pedicellate ovary** 14–19 mm long, terete, shallowly ridged. **Flowers** deep dull red-maroon, the petals paler with a yellowish cast, labellum dark red maroon, apex dull deep yellow, column dull pale cream-yellow; resupinate, lasting 4–6 days. **Sepals** with 2–3 thick nerves at each side of midnerve, and 2–3 faint others, subfleshy; **dorsal sepal** 15–16 mm long, 6.5–7 mm wide, oblong-elliptic, apex obtuse-rounded, in natural position slightly concave and subparallel to the column, margins obscurely

rolled-up backwards; **lateral sepals** 15–17 mm long, 5–6 mm wide, oblong, slightly oblique, apex obtuse or obtuse-rounded, margins rolled-up backward, widely spreading in natural position; **petals** 14–15 mm long, 4.55 mm wide, narrowly obovate or narrowly obovate-oblong, apex acute or obtuse-rounded, 5–7-nerved, margins somewhat rolled-up backward; subparallel to column in natural position. **Labellum** 14–16 mm long, 7.5–8.5 mm wide between the forcefully expanded apices of the lateral lobes, **midlobe** 7.5–9 mm long, 4.5–5.5 mm wide at apex, subquadrate-oblong or subquadrate-pandurate, somewhat expanded apically, apex subtruncate, shallowly emarginate; **lateral lobes** 1–1.5 mm long, ca. 1 mm wide at base, falcate-uncinate, acute, emerging just below the middle portion of the labellum; basal margins of the labellum straight, diverging at an 35°–45° from the longitudinal axis of the labellum; **disc** bearing a farinose yellow callus reaching mid-length of the midlobe, thicker at base and at the insertion of the lateral lobes. **Column** 8–10 mm long, 4–5 mm wide near to the apex where it is broadly winged, hemiterete or somewhat dorsoventrally compressed on cross-section at mid-length, arcuate; column-foot 4–5 mm long. **Anther** 2.5–3 mm long, 1.5 mm wide, surface smooth; **pollinarium** typical for the *M. rufescens* group.

Other specimens seen: COSTA RICA. Alajuela: Cantón de Upala, along río Chimurria in vicinity of Colonia Puntarenas, ca. 11 km (by road) SE of Upala, 10°49'5"N, 84°53'W, 80 m, 16 Nov. 1988, *M. Grayum, G. Herrera & R. Evans 9042* (CR, MO)

The group formed by *M. richii* Dodson, *M. hedwigae* Hamer & Dodson, and *M. dressleriana* is characterized by the pseudopetioled leaves, and the conical pseudobulbs. Within this group, *M. dressleriana* is easy to recognize by its deep dull red-maroon flower color, the petals paler with a yellowish cast, labellum dark red maroon, apex dull deep yellow, and the column dull pale cream-yellow dark-red. In *M. hedwigae* the color of the flowers is essentially pale yellow or dirty white with an orange labellum. In *M. richii* Dodson the flower color is pink with a dark rose labellum. These two later species have labella that are conspicuously shorter than the sepals with a short, narrow, tapering midlobe, while in *M. dressleriana* the labellum is about the same length as the

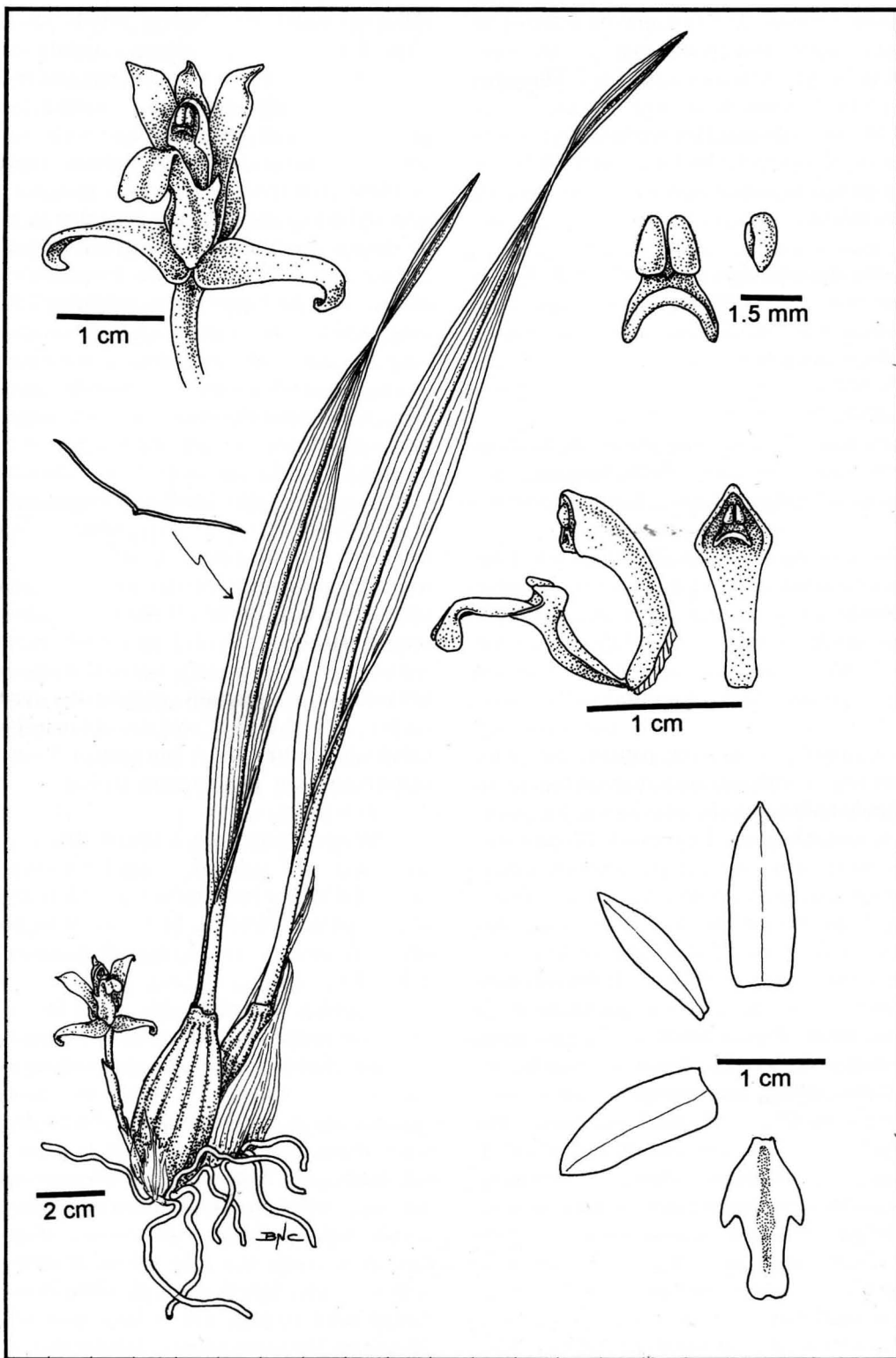


Fig. 1. *Maxillaria dressleriana* Carnevali & J. T. Atwood.

sepals with a long, broad, subquadrate-oblong or subquadrate-pandurate midlobe. In *Maxillaria hedwigae* and in *M. richii*, the lateral lobes of the labellum are narrow and porrect, while they are short, broad, and more or less perpendicular to the main axis of the labellum in *M. dressleriana*. *Maxillaria dressleriana* is also easily distinguished within the *M. rufescens* complex by its free production of simultaneous, erect, shortly peduncled flowers, often 2–3 flowers open simultaneously produced from the same subtending pseudobulb.

The specimen, *G. Herrera 1207* (COSTA RICA. Alajuela: Guatuso, 10 Nov. 1987, INB) probably also belongs here but the only flower on the specimen is glued to the herbarium sheet and cannot be determined with certainty.

The species is named after Dr. Robert L. Dressler, specialist in the orchid flora of Costa Rica and Panama, and the leading specialist in the supra-generic systematics of the Orchidaceae.