

ADDITIONS TO THE GENUS *DRESSLERELLA* (ORCHIDACEAE)

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Two transfers from *Restrepiella* Garay & Dunsterv. and two new species may now be added to the four species previously attributed to the genus *Dresslerella* Luer.

*Dresslerella hirsutissima* (C. Schweinf.) Luer, comb. nov.

*Pleurothallis hirsutissima* C. Schweinf., Bot. Mus. Leaflet. 15:94. 1951.

*Restrepiella hirsutissima* (C. Schweinf.) Garay & Dunsterv., Venez. Orchids Illustr. 4:266. 1966.

DISTRIBUTION: Peru.

*Dresslerella pilosissima* (Schltr.) Luer, comb. nov.

*Pleurothallis pilosissima* Schltr., Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. Beih. 19:289. 1923.

*Restrepiella pilosissima* (Schltr.) Ames & Schweinf., Bot. Mus. Leaflet. 4:100. 1937.

*Restrepiella pilosissima* (Schltr.) Garay & Dunsterv., Venez. Orchids Illustr. 4:266. 1966.

DISTRIBUTION: Costa Rica.

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *DRESSLERELLA*

1. Leaves with trichomes only along the margins.
  2. Hairs of the pubescence of the sepals simple.
    3. Claw of the lip with an acute callus.
      4. Apex of the dorsal sepal not protruding beyond the synsepal; petals obtusely angled above the middle. . . . . *D. pertusa*
      - 4a. Apex of the dorsal sepal protruding beyond the synsepal; petals linear, not angled above the middle. . . . . *D. elvallensis*
    - 3a. Claw of the lip with a rounded callus.
      5. Synsepal cymbiform (the margins not incurved. . . . . *D. hispida*
      - 5a. Synsepal scrotiform. . . . . *D. powellii*
  - 2a. Hairs of the pubescence of the sepals stellate . . . . . *D. stellaris*
- 1a. Leaves covered with trichomes on both surfaces.
  6. Dorsal sepal and petals not clavate; disc of the lip not papillose . . . . . *D. caesariata*
  - 6a. Dorsal sepal and petals clavate; disc of the lip papillose.
    7. Anterior lobe of the lip subquadrate, the lamellae uncinata . . . . . *D. pilosissima*
    - 7a. Anterior lobe of the lip ovate, the lamellae obtuse . . . . . *D. hirsutissima*

*Dresslerella caesariata* Luer, sp. nov.

Figure 304

Habitu *D. pilosissima* (Schltr.) Luer similis, sed sepalo dorsali petalisque non clavatis et labello non papilloso differt.

Plant medium in size, epiphytic, caespitose, rosetted; roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems more or less horizontal, terete, 4-8 cm long, the juveniles contained within 2-3 tubular, imbricating, pubescent sheaths, shed with

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increasing age, unifoliate. Leaf horizontal, thick, rigid, coriaceous, dark green, covered with white trichomes, elliptical, 4-7 cm long, 2-2.5 cm wide, the entire apex subacute, the base cuneate, sessile. Inflorescence composed of solitary flowers produced successively from the axil of the leaf; peduncle 3 mm long; floral bract inflated, obtuse, 6 mm long, 5 mm wide, villous, enclosing the pedicel, ovary and the basal portions of the sepals; pedicel 2 mm long; ovary 2.5 mm long, covered by dense, villous hairs; sepals fleshy, rose mottled with darker rose, with white pubescence externally, glabrous within, united to near the middle with the synsepal, the dorsal sepal triangular, the apex acuminate, attenuate, 17 mm long, 5 mm wide, the lateral sepals connate into a scrotiform synsepal, the apex obtuse, incurved, 16 mm long, 8 mm wide unspread; petals glabrous, similarly spotted with rose, ovate, oblique, the apex narrowly acuminate, 10 mm long, 3 mm wide; lip panduriform, 7.5 mm long, sagittate and purple above the isthmus with serrate margins, 3 mm wide, the apex obtuse, white mottled with pink below the isthmus, 4 mm wide, the lobes broad, erect, shortly uncinata, each with a rounded forward-projecting lamella, the base unguiculate, minutely biauriculate, with an erect, white, subacute callus at the center; column white marked with purple, clavellate, 6 mm long, with a thick obsolescent foot.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *caesariatus*, "covered with hair" (from *caesaries*, "a head of hair"), in reference to the dense mat of hairs covering the plant.

TYPE: *ECUADOR*: MORONA-SANTIAGO: epiphytic in cloud forest east of Paute, alt. ca. 1800 m, 10 July 1977, cult. at SEL, greenhouse acc. no. 77-2629, flowered in cult. 1 March 1978, C. Luer, J. Luer, G. Luer & A. Andreetta 2780 (HOLOTYPE: SEL).

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED: *ECUADOR*: ZAMORA-CHINCHIPE: epiphytic in cloud forest between Loja and Zamora, alt. ca. 1700 m, flowered in cult. at MO, 1 Apr. 1971 (depauperate specimen), C. H. Dodson 390 (SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Southeastern Ecuador.

Several rosettes of this heavy-leaved, hairy species were found growing in deep mossy humus high on the trunk of a felled cloud forest tree on a steep slope in the Oriente by George Luer. All external surfaces of the unusual plants were covered by a dense pubescence. One of the plants has subsequently flowered in cultivation.

The pyriform flowers are rose-colored with a fine, white pubescence. The attenuate apex of the dorsal sepal parts only slightly from the concave synsepal. The acuminate apices of the petals adhere to the inner surface of the dorsal sepal. The anterior lobe of the intricate lip is fringed, the lateral lobes with rounded lamellae are broad and shortly hooked at the apex, and the claw is furnished with an erect, pointed callus.

*Dresslerella hispida* (L. O. Wms.) Luer, Selbyana 3:4. 1976.

A large form of this species has been discovered recently in the lowlands of western Colombia. Secondary stems to 4 cm long; leaves to 6.5 cm long, 2.5 cm wide; dorsal sepal to 10 mm long, 3 mm wide; synsepal to 11 mm long, 5.5 mm broad unspread; petals to 7 mm long, 2 mm wide; lip to 4 mm long, 2 mm wide.

*COLOMBIA*: Dept. of CHOCO: Bahia Solano, "Mutatá arriba," alt. 300 m, Apr. 1977, G. Misas, R. Estrada & L. C. Vieira s.n., cultivated at SEL,

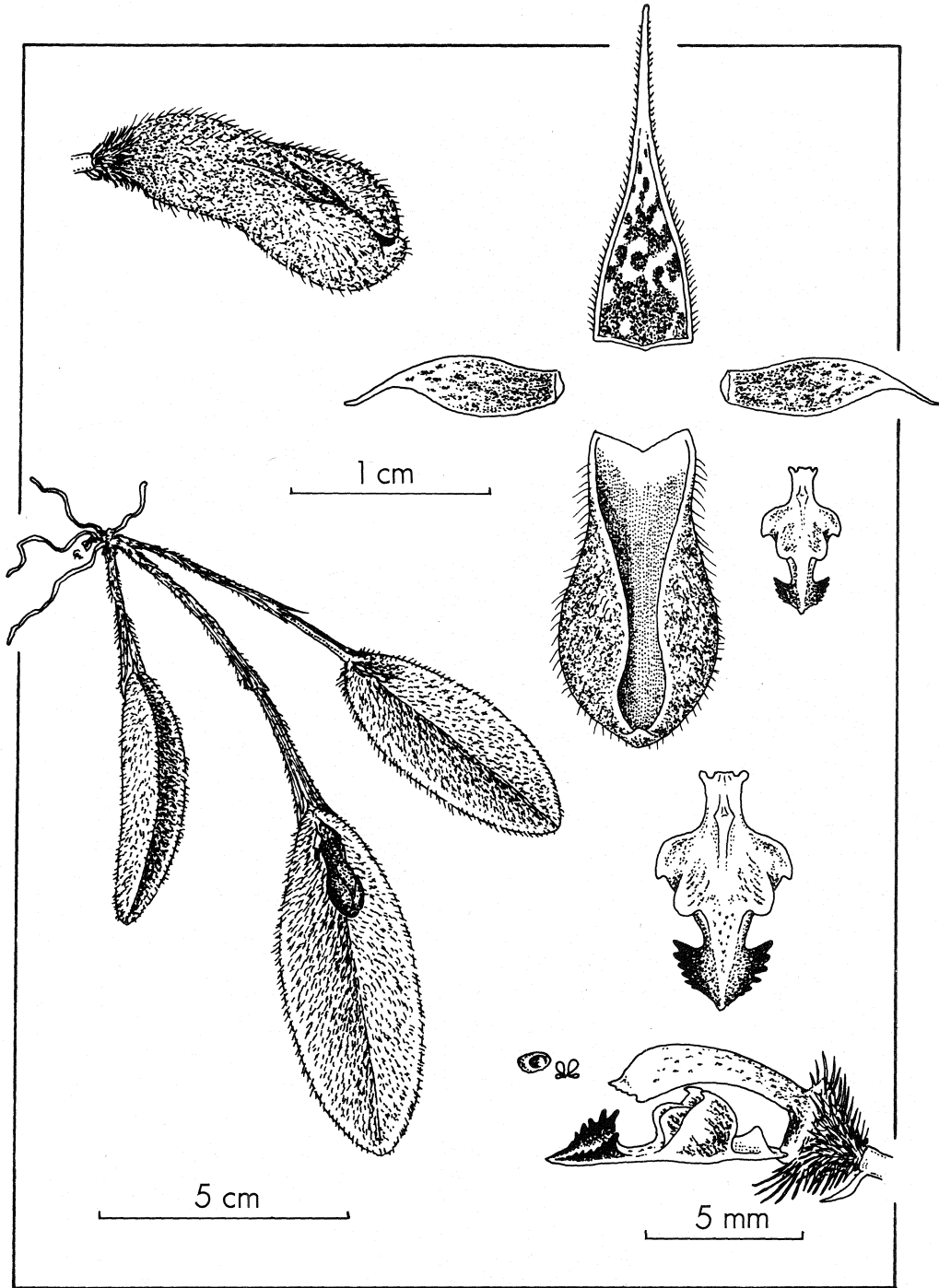


Figure 304. *DRESSLERELLA CAESARIATA*

greenhouse acc. no. 77-2943, flowered in cult. 14 Dec. 1977, *C. Luer* 2262 (SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Nicaragua, Panama, and Colombia.

*Dresslerella stellaris* Luer & Escobar, sp. nov.

Figure 305

Planta pro genere grandis, vaginis caulium secundariorum brunneo maculatis, foliis crassis anguste ovatis minute ciliatis, flore magno successivo marronino trichomatibus densis stellatis, sepalis profunde concavis, petalis anguste attenuatis minute pubescentibus, labello ovato acuto infra medium biangulato disco crasso verrucoso bicarinato.

Plant large for the genus, epiphytic, caespitose, rosetted, roots slender, flexuous. Secondary stems more or less horizontal, terete, 5-10 cm long, concealed by 4-5 loose, imbricating, brown-spotted sheaths, shed with increasing age, unifoliate. Leaf horizontal, thick, rigid, coriaceous, dark green, longitudinally veined, minutely ciliate along the margins, narrowly ovate, 8-12 cm long, 3-4 cm wide, the apex entire, acute, the base subcordate, sessile. Inflorescence composed of solitary flowers produced successively from the base of the leaf; peduncle ca. 1 cm long with 2-3 loose, brown-spotted sheaths; floral bract brown with darker brown spots, ciliate, cucullate, 15 mm long, enclosing the pedicel, ovary and lower part of the flower; pedicel green, shortly pubescent, 5 mm long, the filament well-developed; ovary 4 mm long, covered by white, villous hairs; sepals fleshy, dark red-purple, densely covered by stellate trichomes, the dorsal sepal glabrous within, elliptical, concave with involute margins, subacute, 24-27 mm long, 6-10 mm wide unspread, connate to the synsepal for 6-7 mm and loosely adherent for 14-15 mm, the apex contracted, the lateral sepals connate into an oblong, concave synsepal, 25-30 mm long, 12-15 mm wide unspread, with involute margins, papillose within and long-hirsute near the margins; petals purple, very narrowly ovate, the apex long-attenuate, 20 mm long, 2 mm wide, minutely pubescent; lip white suffused with pink, ovate, 8 mm long, 3 mm wide, acute, with obtuse, erect angles below the middle, the disc lightly rugose between, with a thick, curved callus above the base extending forward as tuberculose carinae onto the anterior portion, the base minutely biauriculate; column white marked with purple, curved, clavellate, 8 mm long, with a short, thick foot.

ETYMOLOGY: From the Latin *stellaris*, "stellate," in reference to the stellate trichomes that cover the sepals.

TYPE: COLOMBIA: Dept. of ANTIOQUIA: Munic. of Yarumal, "El Oro," alt. 2050 m, 3 Jan. 1974, R. Escobar, O. J. Arango & W. Teague s.n., cultivated at SEL, greenhouse acc. no. 77-2944, flowered in cult. 14 Dec. 1977, *C. Luer* 2261 (HOLOTYPE: JAUM; ISOTYPE: SEL).

DISTRIBUTION: Colombia.

This, the largest of all known species of *Dresslerella*, has been discovered recently in the central cordillera of Colombia. The long, hard, thick leaves are only minutely ciliate and the cauline sheaths are merely spotted. The huge, dark red flower is covered by a dense mat of stellate trichomes, all of the same height. The filaments from the apex of each stalk protrude in a horizontal plane so that a distinct layer of stellate filaments, like a canopy, is held evenly above the surface of the sepals. The petals are very slender and minutely pubescent. The lip is similar to that of *D. hispida* (L. O. Wms.) Luer and *D. powellii* (Ames) Luer.

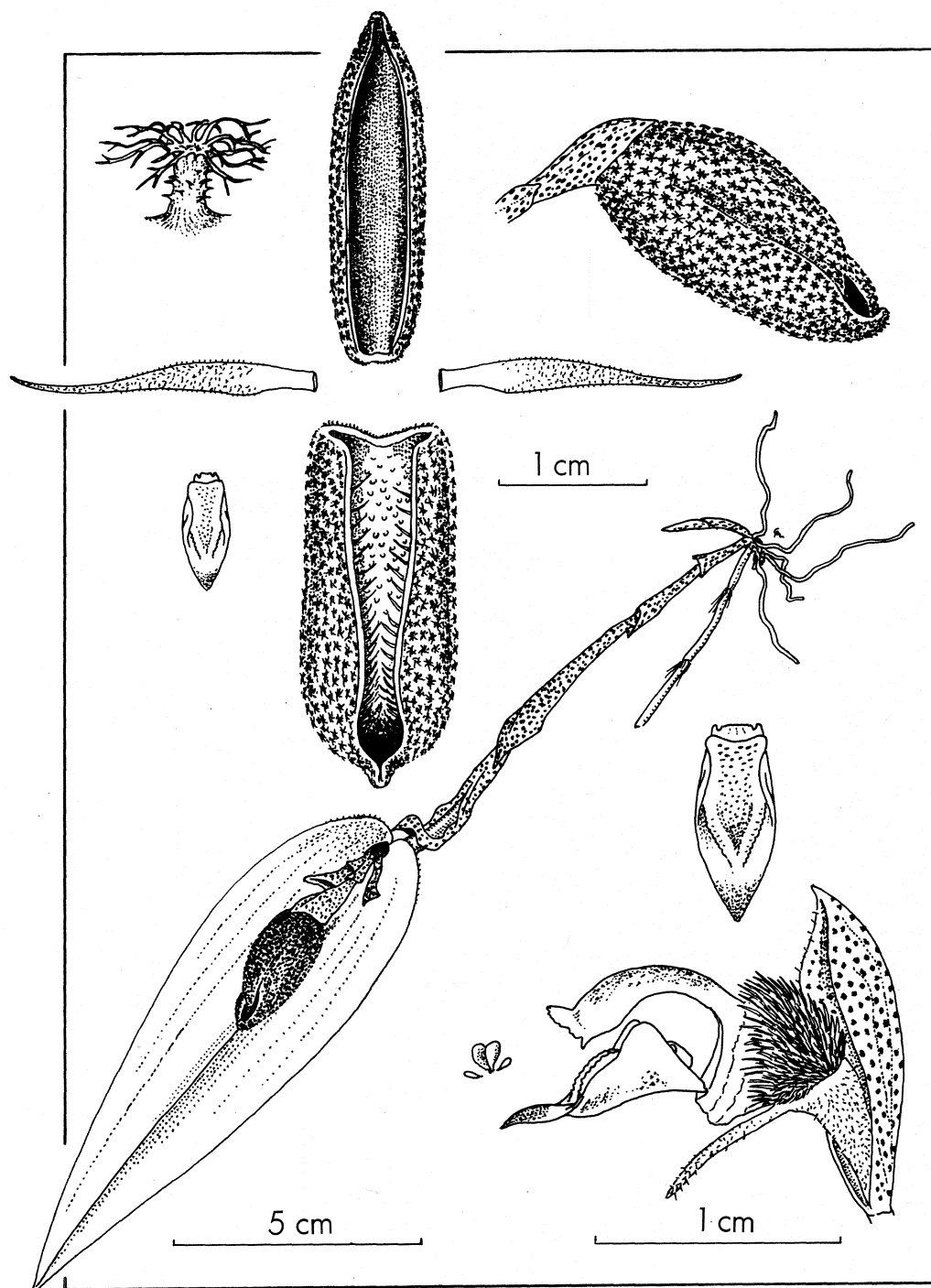


Figure 305. *DRESSLERELLA STELLARIS*