

***Sobralia citrea* Dressler, *sp. nov.***

HOLOTYPE: Panamá. Coclé: El Valle de Antón, 800–1000 m, flowered in cult. Aug. 2001, *R. L. Dressler* 6338, MO, Isotypes: FLAS, PMA, SEL.

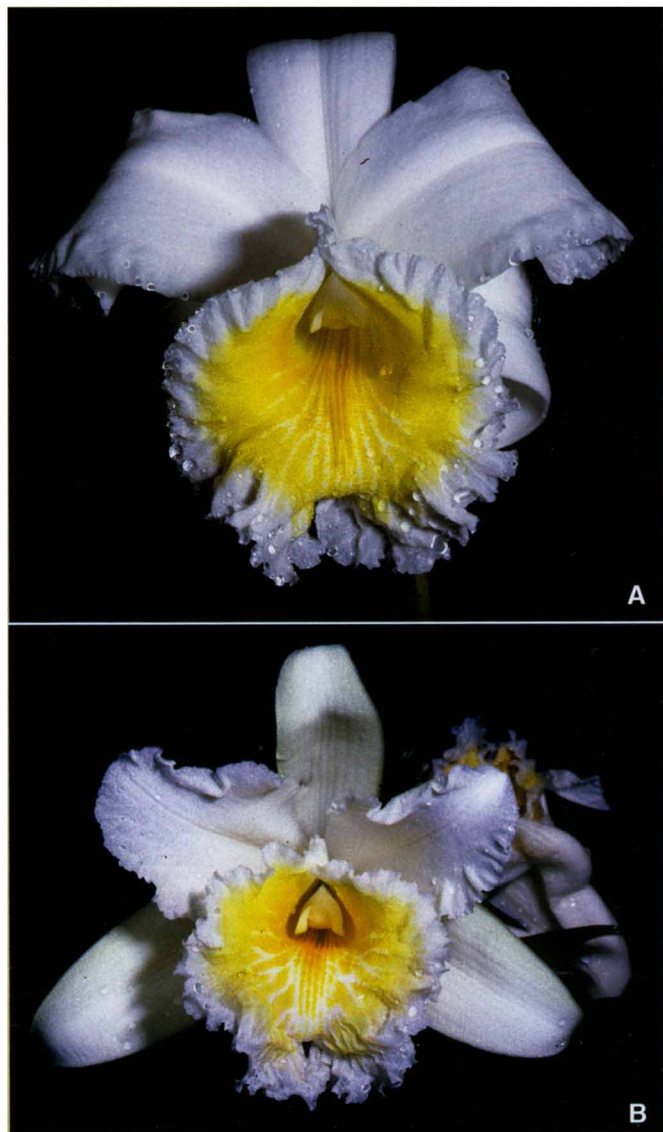


Fig. 1. *Sobralia citrea*. A. Type plant, in cultivation. Photograph: K. Dressler. B. Another plant from El Valle de Antón, showing variation. Photograph: K. Dressler.

and *S. chrysostoma*, which ranges from Nicaragua to Bocas del Toro, and perhaps farther east in Panama but only on the Atlantic (Caribbean) slope. A colleague has suggested that *S. chrysostoma* may be synonymous with *S. virginalis* of Antioquia, Colombia. Until (or unless) one can determine just what *S. virginalis* is, however, such speculation is futile.

ETYMOLOGY: The epithet *citrea*, or lemon-colored, refers to the color of the lip. Please note that the name *Sobralia citrina* is an old name for a very different plant, better known as *Cattleya*, *Euchile* or *Prosthechea citrina*. The type material of *S. citrea* was prepared from a plant that has been grown in the Florida Museum of Natural History greenhouse for many years that we have nicknamed “la pollera,” because of the ornately ruffled lip, reminiscent of the traditional *pollera*, or party dress, of Panama.

SPECIMENS: Other specimens seen from the same region: Aug.–Sept. 1996, *Dressler 6191* (FLAS); June–July 2003, *Dressler 6384* (MO).

Species *Sobraliae chrysostomae* Dressler similis, floribus aliquantum minoribus, labelo margine crispiore columnae brachiis porrectis vel subporrectis recedit.

Roots 3–5 mm in diameter; stems 60–75 × 0.5 cm basally; leaves 11–21 × 3.3–5.6 cm, narrowly ovate, acute-acuminate, short petiolate (1–1.5 cm); sheaths rugulose, scurfy-hispid; bract clusters about 5 × 1 cm, elliptic, scurfy-hispid; ovary and pedicel 2.8–3.5 cm; sepals and petals white, lip lemon yellow with white margins and white streaks on blade; dorsal sepal 6–7.5 × 1.9–2.2 cm, elliptic or ovate-elliptic, acute to apiculate; lateral sepals 6.5–7.7 × 2–2.9, oblong-obovate; petals 5.4–6.8 × 2.5–3.5 cm, oblong-obovate; lip 5.5–7.8 × 4–6 cm, obovate, blade markedly ruffled marginally, with several low keels; basal ridges ca. 8 mm long, verruculose between the ridges; column 4–4.2 cm., arms 3–4 × 2 mm, porrect or slightly upturned.

This is the common white *Sobralia* with yellow lip on the Pacific slope of Panama, ranging at least from western Panama to central Panama (Cerro Jefe). The flowers (Fig. 1, page 937) are somewhat smaller than those of *S. chrysostoma*, with a more strongly ruffled lip margin, and the column arms are either porrect or only slightly upturned. The color of the lip is lemon yellow, rather than the orange-yellow of *S. chrysostoma*. At the present, I see no evidence of intergradation between *S. citrea*