

Sobralia (Abbreviatae) gloriana Dressler, sp. nov.

FIG. 2, 3

HOLOTYPE: PANAMA. Coclé: Area de El Valle de Antón, Alt. 800-1000 m. 23 julio 2001, sépalos y pétalos amarillo pálido, bañados por rojo-castaño, bordes y vena media amarillos, labelo rojo-rosado con borde rosado pálido y quillas amarillas. *A. Maduro & E. Olmos* 212 (MO, Isotype PMA).

Herba epiphytica foliis ellipticis, floribus ab glo-
mere bractearum conico-ellipsoideo productis, luteis,
sepalis petalisque castaneo-ferrugineo aspersis, sepa-
lis ellipticis vel lanceolato-ellipticis, petalis oblongo-
lanceolatis, labello obovato quinque carinis humilis
ornato.

Roots 3-5 mm in diameter; stems 20-80 cm, 2.5-4
mm wide, slightly compressed; sheaths striate, with
very short bristles to ca. 0.5 mm on both sheaths and
stem; leaves several, 8.5-11 x 3.7-4.3 cm, elliptic,
short-acuminate, strongly plicate; sheaths verrucu-
lose; inflorescence terminal, bract cluster ellipsoid,
ca. 3 x 0.8 cm, largely concealed by sheaths of upper
leaves (or foliar bracts); ovary and pedicel 20-25 mm;
Sepals and petals pale yellow, flushed with purplish
brick red, sepals with yellow median stripe, petals
with broader median stripe and yellow margins, lip
dull purple with yellow keels in throat; sepals 5-6 x
1.4-1.8 cm, elliptic or lance-elliptic, apiculate; petals
4-5 x 1.6-1.8 cm, oblong-ob lanceolate; lip 5.2-6.2 x
3.5-4 cm, cuneate, obovate, basal ridges 9 x 2 mm,
with 5 low ventral keels, 3-4 of these reaching nearly
to apex, margin distally undulate; column 2.6-3.2 cm.

When I first saw this attractive *Sobralia*, I thought
it might be a natural hybrid between *S. atropubescens*
and some other species with yellow or white flowers.
Now several plants of this kind have appeared, all
from the area of El Valle de Antón, and it is surely a
distinct species, though not very common. It is evi-
dently related to *S. atropubescens*, but the flowers are
larger and much more attractive with a distinct color

pattern. One hopes that it will be propagated from seed, and become more widely available for orchid collections and gardens.

The epithet *gloriana* honors Licenciada Gloria Maduro, the charming wife of Andrés Maduro. Since she was foolish enough to marry a rabid orchid nut, she deserves, at the very least, that there be an attractive new species named in her honor.