

SUMMARY

A new species of *Tepuianthus* (Tepuianthaceae) is described from Serra Aracá in Amazonas, Brazil. Also discussed is the occurrence on this isolated tepui of two species of *Perissocarpa* (Ochnaceae). This is the first record of that genus in Brazil.

TEPUIANTHACEAE

Tepuianthus aracensis Steyermark & Maguire, sp. nov.

Arbor 4-5 metralis; foliis late oblanceolatis subtus omnino minuteque sericeis supra nervis conspicue subelevatis; sepalis foemineis apice subobtusis; staminibus 5, antheris suborbicularibus, connectivo apice appendice integro; fructu erecto.

Tree 4 m. Leaves petiolate, petiole 4-7 mm long; leaf blade coriaceous, broadly lanceolate, retuse at apex, subacutely narrowed to the base, 2.5-4 cm long, 1.3-2 cm wide, about twice longer than broad, upper surface shining, glabrous, midnerve above narrowly sulcate, lower surface ferruginous or in dried state buff, densely sericeous with finely appressed tomentum, including the midrib, main lateral nerves 10-13 each side, nervation above slightly elevated, slightly evident beneath, anastomosing about 1 mm from margin to form a marginal nerve. Pedicel (pistillate) solitary, 1.5-2 mm long in pre-anthesis, 3-4 mm long in fructification. Sepals (pistillate) coriaceous, suborbicular-ovate and subobtuse (in bud), 2.5-2.6 mm long, 2.5 mm wide (in bud), lance-oblong and obtuse (in fruit), 3.5-4.5 mm long, 1.7-2 mm wide (in fruit), densely sericeous without. Stamens 5, anthers suborbicular with the connective entire at apex; filaments 0.2 mm long. Ovary suborbicular, rounded at apex, densely sericeous, 3-sulcate; style not evident; stigmas 3, sessile; disk annular with shallow, cupular, plate-like, approximate, discrete glands 0.5 mm wide, 0.2 mm high. Capsule ovoid, 8 mm long, 7 mm wide; on short erect peduncle.

TYPE: Brazil. Amazonas: Serra Aracá, summit of southern Massif, 0°48'N, 68°18'W, elev. 1200 m, 18 Mar 1984, J. Pipoly et al. 6838 (HOLOTYPE: INPA; ISOTYPES: NY, MO).

PARATYPE: Brazil. Amazonas: Serra Aracá ou Serra Natal, 909 m, 27 Jan 1978, Rosa & Lira 2237 (INPA, NY).

Of the five previously known species of *Tepuianthus*, all but the Colombian *T. colombianus*

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are found in the Venezuelan Guayana, mainly on the summit of the high sandstone tepuis (Maguire & Steyermark, 1981). Now, the recently explored Serra Aracá of northern Brazil has yielded a sixth taxon. This Massif is a southern outlier of the Guayana Shield, and its flora reflects this affinity. In the case of the new taxon, the relationship is shown with *T. auyantepuiensis* from the summit of Auyantepui of the Estado Bolívar of southeastern Venezuela. Both taxa have five stamens, whereas in the other known taxa of the genus, the stamens vary from 12-16. From *T. auyantepuiensis* the new taxon differs in being a tree instead of a low shrub, obtuse or subobtuse sepals, and in having the pubescence of the lower midrib appressed-sericeous rather than spreading or loosely ascending. Additionally, the venation of the lower leaf surface is more conspicuous than in *T. auyantepuiensis*.

Perissocarpa (OCHNACEAE)

The genus *Perissocarpa* has hitherto been known to occur only in Venezuela (Steyermark, 1984), where it is found on the summits of some of the sandstone tepuis of the Guayana Highland, as well as scattered disjunctly in the Coastal Range of northeastern Venezuela and on sandy low slopes on the Andean foothills of western Venezuela. Of the two species known, one, *P. steyermarkii*, is a tree of wet montane forest of northeastern and western Venezuela. The other, *P. umbellifera*, is a small shrub of dwarf forest and rocky, open sandstone terrain of southern Venezuelan Guayana. The habitats, habit, and type of inflorescence, as well as floral details, are quite in contrast between the two taxa. *Perissocarpa umbellifera* has an umbellately or subumbellately branched, epedunculate inflorescence, whereas *P. steyermarkii* possesses a paniculately branched, pedunculate inflorescence. Moreover, in *P. steyermarkii* the apex of the petals is more deeply notched and emarginate, and the petioles are generally longer. In no instance do the two taxa occur in the same habitat or in the same geographical area.

However, on the recently explored Serra Aracá of northern Amazonas, Brazil, both taxa have been found surprisingly occupying the same geographical area, but restricted to completely different habitats. From the lower savanna and rocky open slopes on the lower portion of Serra Aracá *P. umbellifera* occurs, whereas *P. steyermarkii* grows only on the upper cloud-forested portion of the same mountain. In each case, the characteristic and differentiating type of inflorescence is evident. On the upper cloud-forested zone, *P. steyermarkii* was noted to be the dominant tree.

The data for these collections are:

Perissocarpa steyermarkii (Maguire) Steyermark & Maguire. Serra Aracá, cloud forest, 0°51'-57'N, 63°21'-22'W, Prance et al. 29123 (NY).

Perissocarpa umbellifera Steyermark & Maguire. Serra Aracá, Tavares 62 (INPA); SE part of Serra Norte, Aracá, 0°51'N, 63°22'W, Amaral 1561 (INPA, NY); Prance 29080 (INPA, NY).

RESUMO

Está descrita uma nova espécie de Tepuianthus (Tepuianthaceae) de Serra Aracã, AM, também a primeira ocorrência no Brasil de duas espécies de Perissocarpa (Ochnaceae).

References

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