

A NEW SPECIES OF *FICUS* FROM SURINAME

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IN THE PROCESS of revising the genus *Ficus* for the *Flora of Suriname*, three specimens (taken from the same tree) were found which did not seem to match any of the previously known forms of the genus. Further study has convinced me that this tree represents an entity, sufficiently distinct from all others to be considered a species which has not been previously described.

It is perhaps of some interest to note that in the course of twelve years of intermittent study of *Ficus* in tropical America, this is the first time that it has been necessary for me to describe a new species in this group. Other undescribed taxa undoubtedly exist in tropical America—the highlands of Brazil probably harbor a few—but their numbers are unlikely to be large.

Ficus Lanjouwii, sp. nov.

Arbor, ramulis ca. 3–4 mm. diametro, crassis, brunneis, dense pubescentibus; stipulae 6–8 mm. longae, caducae, triangulares, acuminatae, dense adpressi-pubescentes; lamina oblanceolata 2.5–5 cm. lata \times 7–14 cm. longa, acuminata, basi ima acuta, nervis lateralibus utrinsecus ca. 10–15, petiolo ad 5–15 mm. longo, adpressi-pubescente; receptacula globosopyriformia 8–9 mm. diametro; pedunculi geminati, 1–2 mm. longi, dense pubescentes; involucrum bilobum 1 mm. latum, dense pubescente; ostiolo haud prominente, 1 mm. lato.

Tree. Twigs 3–4 mm. in diameter, densely pubescent with ascending trichomes on new growth. Stipules 6–8 mm. long, acuminate, deltoid, densely appressed pubescent. Lamina 2.5–5 cm. wide \times 7–14 cm. long, oblanceolate, apex acuminate, base cuneate; lateral veins 10–15 pairs, departing from the midrib at an angle from 20° to 30° ; basal veins 1 pair, departing from the midrib at an angle from 50° to 60° ; intercostals very slightly raised. Petiole 5–15 mm. long, $1/13$ – $1/15$ the length of the lamina, densely appressed pubescent. Figs 8–9 mm. in diameter \pm globose-pyriform, borne in pairs among the leaves; peduncles 1–2 mm. long, densely appressed pubescent; basal bracts semicircular, about 1 mm. across, densely appressed pubescent; ostiole plane with the surface of the fig, about 1 mm. in diameter. Female and gall flowers about 1–1.2 mm. long, with 3 narrowly lanceolate tepals with hyaline margins. Scales present between the flowers.

Leaf structure: cystoliths few on the upper surface, more abundant on the lower surface; sclereids present generally along the veins; lower

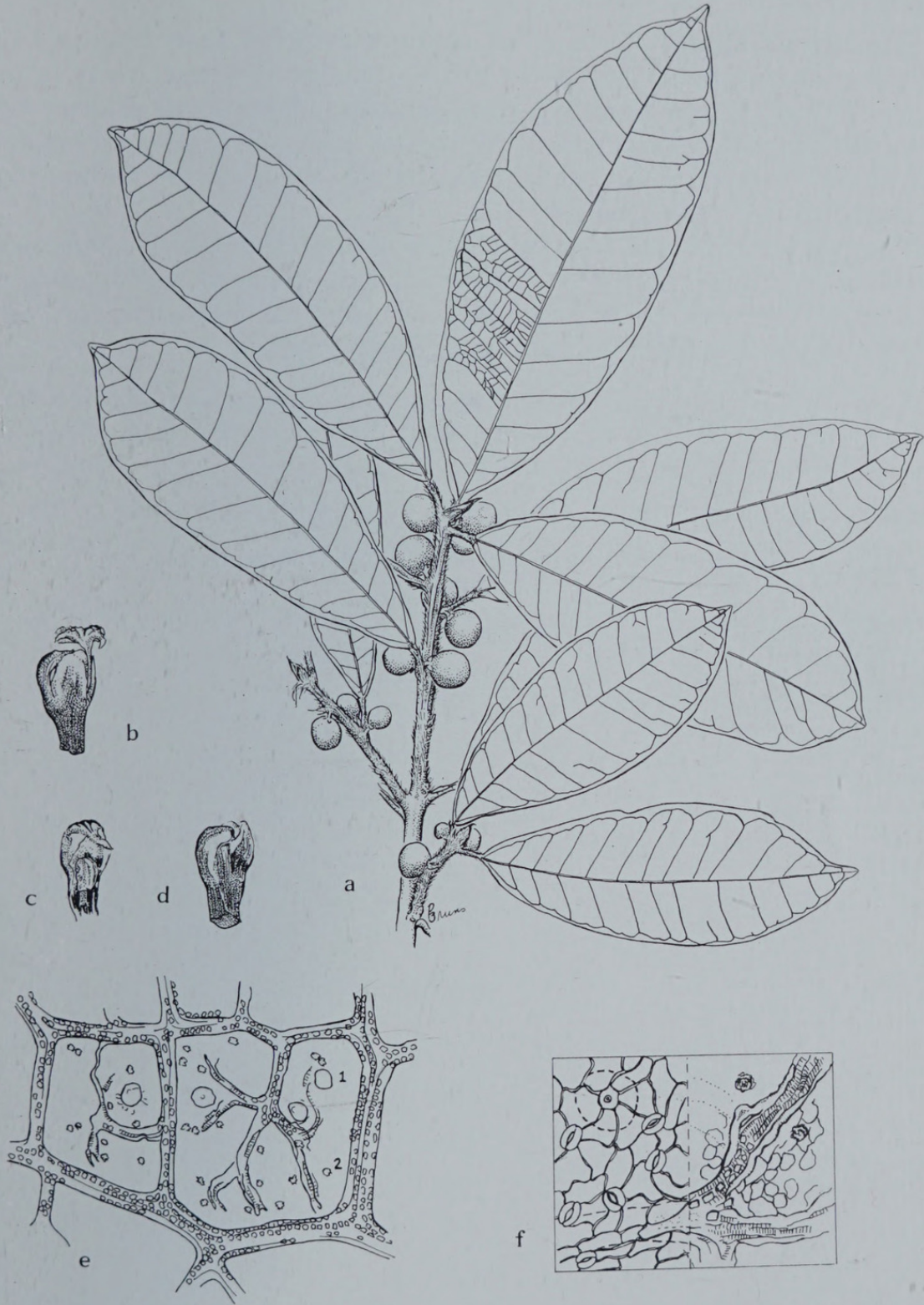


FIGURE 1. *Ficus Lanjourwii*. a, twig, $\times 1$; b, female flower, $\times 15$; c, d, male flower, $\times 15$; e, lower surface of leaf, $\times 600$, without cellular detail, showing tabular crystals of calcium oxalate along the veins, cystoliths (1) and druses of calcium oxalate (2); f, lower surface of leaf, $\times 600$, showing cellular detail, at left, view of epidermis showing stomates and (top) a cystolith; at right, subepidermal view showing sclereids along the veins, tabular crystals of calcium oxalate along the veins, and druses of calcium oxalate (upper center and upper right).

epidermal cells plane; stomates superficial; druses present in the mesophyll cells; tabular crystal cells present.

This species appears to be allied to the widespread *Ficus trigona* L. f. It differs from that species in the greater number of lateral veins in the leaves (10 to 15 pairs *vs.* 3 to 9 pairs) and their lower angle of departure from the midrib; in the orifice of the fig not being surrounded by a raised rib of receptacular tissue; and in having the tepals of the flowers narrowly lanceolate (not hooded).

The species is known from three collections taken from a single tree between 1918 and 1922. I take pleasure in commemorating the name of the Senior Editor of the *Flora of Suriname*, who has been connected with studies of the Moraceae for more than thirty years.

TYPE SPECIMEN: Plantae Surinamenses, communicatae ex Herb. Acad. Rheno-traiect. Hab. Sectie O. Arbor no. 790, Coll. B.W.¹ no. 4639, d. d. 21-iv-1920 (A, holotype; U, isotype).

Additional specimens: data as above, B.W. 3639 (A, U); B.W. 5859 (A, U).

¹ B.W. = Collection made by the Forestry Bureau (Boschwezen).

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