

III.—NEW DIOSCOREAS FROM MEXICO.

BY E. B. ULIN.

Dioscorea pumicicola. Only ♂ plant seen. Stem slender, glabrous, dextrorsely twisted; leaves cordate at base, deltoid or sub-trilobate, lateral lobes rounded, median part ovate and blunt or abruptly acuminate at apex, about 7-nerved, glabrous above, sparsely pubescent on the nerves beneath; flowers arranged in 3-5-flowered cymules, which are short-pedunculate, and situated at the angles of the slender rhachis; anthers subsessile, triangularly disposed at the centre of the open campanulate greenish-brown corolla.

Leaves 8 to 12 cm. broad, little longer than wide. Petiole 4 or 5 cm. long, puberulent. Rhachis slender, angulate-flexuous, puberulent, 1 to 1.5 dm. long. Cymules 4 to 8 mm. apart, subsessile or on short peduncles. Flowers sessile, 3 mm. wide, with orbicular corolla-lobes, the inner whorl shorter. Anthers very minute.—This species is intimately related to *D. macrostachya* and *D. spiculiflora*, its inflorescence and flowers being essentially the same as the latter, but it differs radically from both in its lobed leaves and pubescence.

Morelos, lava beds near Cuernavaca; C. G. Pringle no. 7227 ♂, 1896.

D. oaxacensis, Uline in Engl. & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenf. Nachr. II, 5, p. 86, without characterization.—Glabrous, glaucous; leaves chartaceous, cordiform with wide sinus, 9-nerved, exterior nerves on both sides more or less forked; ♂ racemes elongate, simple; rhachises angulate; flowers shortly pedicellate, in 2-3-flowered rather remote fascicles (rarely solitary), segments of the subrotate 6-parted perianth oblong, rather acute, the interior ones slightly narrower; fertile stamens 3, subcentral, a little shorter than the segments of the corolla, *strongly incurved*, anthers extrorse in the bud, sterile filaments 3, very short, flat, entire, sometimes bearing effete anthers.

Stem compressed, angular, sinistrorsely twisted. Leaves scattered 2.5 to 4 cm. wide, acuminate. Petioles about 2 cm. long. Racemes as long as 1.5 dm. Floral fascicles 4 to 12 mm. distant, shortly pedunculate. Flowers 6 mm. wide, on short slender pedicels; corolla-segments thin-membranaceous, unequal, greenish-yellow.

Syn. *D. macrostachya*, Mart. & Gal. Bull. Acad. Brux. ix. pt. 2, p. 391 (1842), not Benth.

Mexico near Reyes, altitude 1,800 to 2,050 m., E. W. Nelson, no. 1786, in part, i. e., as to ♂ plant, in 1894. The only other specimen

of this plant known to be in existence was collected by Galeotti (no. 5456 ♂) and is in the herbarium at Brussels.

D. LOBATA, Uline, var. *morelosana*. Middle lobe of leaf obtuse, mucronate; larger leaves measuring 2.5 dm. long and wide; flowers with deeper tube; pedicels shorter and nearer together than in the species.

Morelos, lava beds near Cuernavaca, altitude 1,540 m., C. G. Pringle, no. 7341 ♂.

IV.—NEW PHANEROGAMS, CHIEFLY GAMOPETALAE, FROM MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

By B. L. ROBINSON.

Hechtia sphaeroblasta. Only ♂ plant known: leaves 7 dm. long, 4.5 cm. broad at the base, gradually attenuate to a slender pungent apex, gray and scurfy on the lower (in dried state concave) surface, pale green but nearly smooth upon the reverse face, armed on the margins at intervals of about 2 cm. with very sharp incurved stramineous spines (2 mm. in length): inflorescence many-branched; axes smooth and glabrous, at least 7 dm. high; bracts ovate-oblong, acute, entire, 1 cm. or more long, scarious, with many fine dark veins; branches 1 to 3 dm. long, angled, ascending, glabrous, 5–9-branched near the middle, bracts of the second order, small, scarious, about 2 mm. long; branchlets 4 to 12 cm. long, slender, ascending, loosely floriferous from the base to the tip, their bractlets scarious, 1 mm. long; buds broadly ovoid almost globose, 3 mm. long just before expanding: flowers 14 to 30 on each branchlet, borne singly or subverticillate, nearly sessile, 6 mm. broad in anthesis: calyx-divisions oval, 2 mm. long; petals (in dried state yellowish white) suborbicular, distinct or nearly so, 3 mm. long, obtuse: rudimentary ovary in ♂ flowers glabrous.—Collected by E. W. Nelson at Tlapa, Guerrero, Mexico, altitude 1,200 m., 3 December, 1894, no. 2044. Types in herb. Gray and herb. U. S. Nat. Museum. This species possessing subsessile flowers, elongated flowering branchlets, and glabrous ovary, evidently belongs in the group with *H. rosea*, Morr. (which has much larger flowers), *H. stenopetala*, Kl. (which has a much denser inflorescence and acuter petals), and *H. gamopetala*, Mez (which has the petals united).

SMILAX DOMINGENSIS, Willd., var. *microscola*. Stem rather thickly



Uline, Edwin Burton. 1900. "New Dioscoreas from Mexico." *Contributions from the Gray Herbarium of Harvard University* (18), 322–323.

<https://doi.org/10.5962/p.335915>.

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