



Polypsecadium apolobamba (Brassicaceae), a New Species from Bolivia

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ABSTRACT. *Polypsecadium apolobamba* Al-Shehbaz & A. Fuentes (Brassicaceae), a new species from Bolivia, is described and illustrated. It is readily distinguished from the other Bolivian species *P. harmsianum* (Muschler) O. E. Schulz by having uniseriate seeds, pilose leaves, and longer fruits, and from *P. rusbyi* (Britton) Al-Shehbaz by having shorter non-torulose fruits, smaller petals, and shorter and curved fruiting pedicels.

Key words: Bolivia, Brassicaceae, IUCN Red List, *Polypsecadium*, *Sisymbrium*.

Schulz (1924) established *Polypsecadium* O. E. Schulz (Brassicaceae) as a monotypic genus based on a species originally described by Muschler (1908) as *Thelypodium harmsianum* Muschler. The genus remained monotypic until Romanczuk and Boelcke (1982) added two new species from Argentina. Appel and Al-Shehbaz (2003) maintained the genus with three species, but, as recently shown by Bailey et al. (2007), one of those species (*P. burkartii* Romanczuk & Boelcke) belongs to *Exhalimolobos* Al-Shehbaz & C. D. Bailey.

Polypsecadium shows remarkable morphological similarities to several South American species previously assigned to *Sisymbrium* L. sensu Schulz (1924), Romanczuk (1982), and many others (see Al-Shehbaz, 2006). However, as shown by Warwick et al. (2002, 2006), *Sisymbrium* is not represented in South

America by any native species, and all such *Sisymbrium* species belong to other genera of the tribe Schizopetaleae (as Thelypodieae). Indeed, Al-Shehbaz et al. (2006) placed *Sisymbrium* in the tribe Sisymbrieae and maintained the Schizopetaleae as a distinct but related tribe. These extensive studies prompted Al-Shehbaz (2006) to transfer all of the native South American species previously assigned in *Sisymbrium* to other genera, including *Polypsecadium*. As delimited by Al-Shehbaz (2006), *Polypsecadium* consists of 14 species restricted to South America and distributed from Colombia southward into Patagonia.

Recent fieldwork in Bolivia by one of us (AFF), as part of the "Floristic Inventory of the Madidi Region Project," led to the discovery of a new species of *Polypsecadium*. This novelty is described and illustrated below and brings the total in the genus to 15 species.

Polypsecadium apolobamba Al-Shehbaz & A. Fuentes, sp. nov. TYPE: Bolivia. La Paz: Prov. Franz Tamayo, ANMI [Area Natural de Manejo Integrado] Apolobamba, Piara hacia Pelechuco, bosque de yungas montano superior pluvial transicionando a ceja de monte, 2700–2900 m, 14°47'48"S, 69°00'52"W, 17 Apr. 2006, A. Fuentes, M. Mendoza, M. C. Lopez & R. Roque 10076 (holotype, MO; isotypes, LPB, MO). Figure 1.

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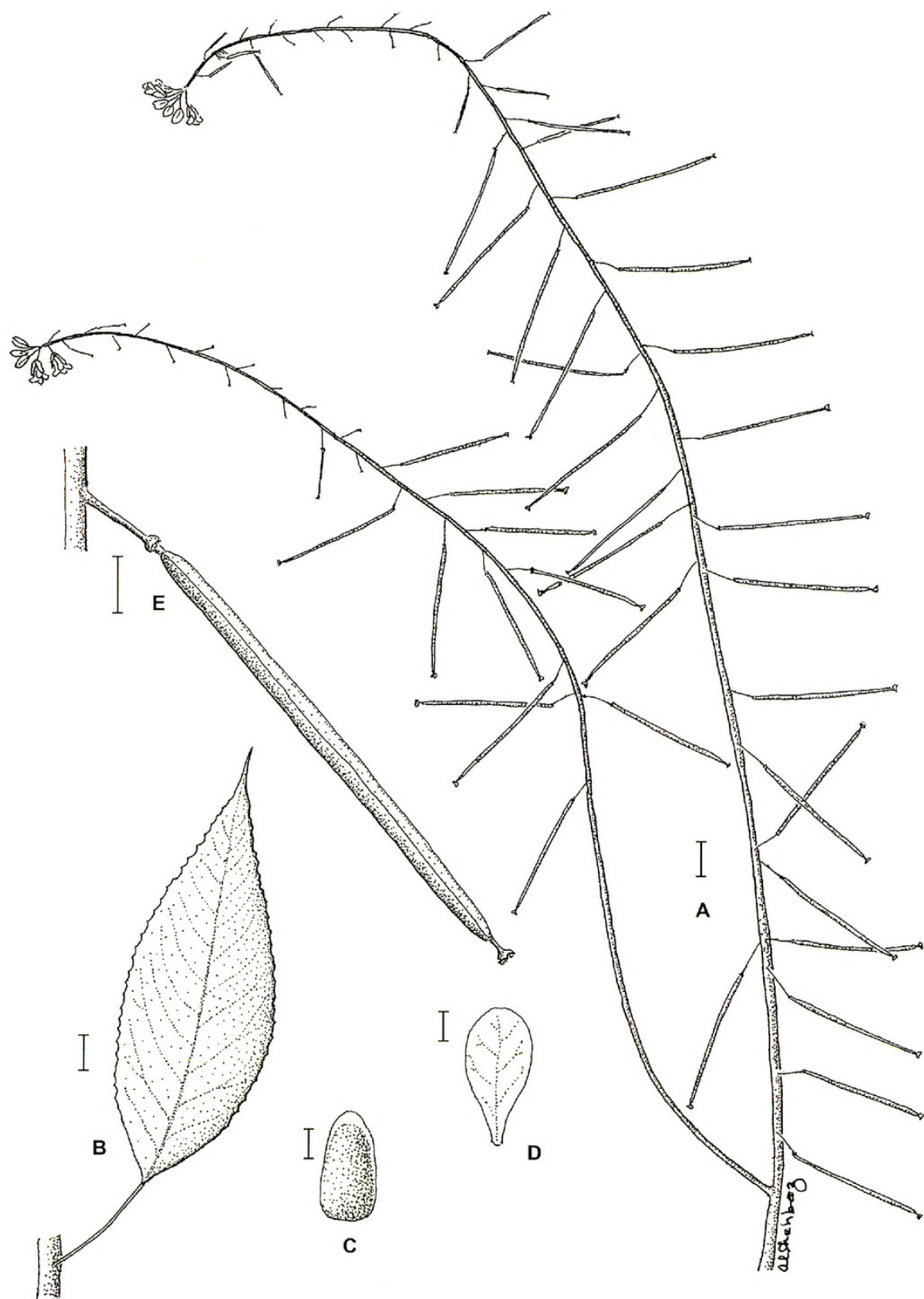


Figure 1. *Polypsecadium apolobamba* Al-Shehbaz & A. Fuentes. —A. Portion of fruiting raceme. —B. Middle cauline leaf. —C. Sepal. —D. Petal. —E. Fruit and fruiting pedicel. Scale bars: A, B = 1 cm; C, D = 1 mm; E = 5 mm. Drawn from the holotype, Fuentes *et al.* 10076 (MO).

Herba ca. 1.6 m alta; folia caulina mediana late lanceolata, 10–13 × 3.5–4.5 cm, denticulata, acuminata, parce pilosa; racemi ebracteati; pedicelli fructiferi reflexi vel horizontales, 7–10 mm longi, glabri, recti, crassi; sepala oblonga, 3.5–4 × 1.2–1.6 mm, glabra; petala

alba, obovata, 4–5 × 1.7–2 mm; ovula 66 ad 80. Fructus anguste lineares, 4–5.5 cm × 1.2–1.8 mm, glabri, recti; stylus 1–2 mm longus; stigma capitata; semina oblonga, uniseriata, 1–1.3 × 0.5–0.6 mm; cotyledones incumbentes.



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