

A NEW SPECIES OF BRUNELLIA FROM PANAMA

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BRUNELLIA DARIENENSIS Cuatrecasas et Porter sp. nov.

Arbor parva. Rami terminales foliosi atrovirides, subteretes, leviter vel inconspicue striolati, glabrescentes, pilis brevibus tenuibus, adpressis dilutis. Ramuli hornotini virides, complanati striati, dilute puberuli, pilis albidis (hyalinis) tenuibus, rectis vel leviter flexuosis, 0.2-0.5 mm longis, adpressis vel subadpressis. Stipulae geminae utroque latere petioli, lanceolato-acuminatae, acutissimae, 4-5 mm longae, basi 1 mm latae, sursum pubescentes, pilis antrorsis, erectis, subadpressis.

Folia opposita imparipinnata 5-7-juga, axi 16-34 cm longo, puberulo pilis tenuibus 0.2-0.5 mm subadpressis, petiolo 5.5-11 cm longo basim versus gradatim ampliato, adaxiale plus minusve sulcato, ceterum leviter striolato, interjugis 2.5-4.5 cm longis, plerumque anguste vel angustissime sulcatis, supremis carinatis, stipellis geminis crassiusculis subulatis, acutis parce pilosulis, circa 2 mm longis. Foliola chartacea, viridia, supra nitida, subtus opaca, petiolulis mediocribus basi dilatatis, paulo puberulis, supra sulcatis, lateralibus 5-6 mm, terminali 12-20 mm longis. Lamina foliolorum elliptico-oblonga apicem versus attenuata, acuminata, basi asymmetrica obtusa, margine simple crenato-serrata, dentibus ascendentibus minutis, callosis, obtusis, plerumque 8-12 mm distantibus; pagina adaxiali sublaevis, dilute puberula, costa et nervis lateralibus prominulis, discolore conspicuis, reticulo venulorum laxo, leviter conspicuo; pagina abaxiali moderate pubescens, pilis brevibus subadpresse ascendentibus, ad nervos copiosis, intra reticulum laxum valde dilutis, costa ochroleuca bene elevata, nervis secundariis ochroleucis, 13-15 utroque latere prominentibus, parallelis angulo 40-45° ascendentibus, leviter curvatis in dentem marginalem callosum terminantibus, nervis tertiis transversis prominulis, bene conspicuis cum nervulis minoribus reticulum laxum, subplanum, discolorem formantibus; laminae laterales 10-15 cm longae, 3-4.2 cm latae, basales 8 cm longae 2.5 cm latae, acumine subulata, acuta, 1.5-2 cm longa.

Paniculae cymosae in specimine modestae, statu fructifero, maxima 15 cm longa 7 cm lata, rhachis pedunculoque compressis striatis, parcissime puberulis, ramis ramulisque teneris compressis, striolatis, patulis, ultimis 2-3 pedunculos floriferos ferentibus.

Pedicelli fructiferi teretes teneri sed rigidi, parce subadpresseque puberuli, 2-4 mm longi cum pedunculis 0.5-2 mm

longis articulati. Bracteolae deciduae absentes. Flores pentameri, hermaphroditi. Calyx fructiferus expansus circa 6 mm diametens, lobis 2-2.2 X 1.5-1.7 mm, ovatis, acutis, adaxiale sursum et marginibus minute papilloso-strigosis, abaxiale minute, sparseque strigoso-puberuli, pilis adpressis circa 0.1 mm longis. Stamina, filamentis 2-2.5 mm longis, inferne dilatatis denseque hispidulis, pilis rigidulis acutis circa 0.2 mm longis. Antherae ellipsoideae 0.5 mm longae. Ovaria densiuscule sericea, pilis brevibus, adpressis, circa 0.05 mm ad apicem longioribus, copiosioribus, antrorsis, 0.1-0.2 mm. Folliculi saepe omnes 5 evoluti, pentafoolliculo maturo stellato, 5 mm diametro. Singulum folliculum ovoideo-ellipsoideum, leviter e latere compressum, 3 X 2.5 mm, nonangulato-apiculatum, minute pubescente, pilis copiosis, papillosis, subadpressis, 0.05-0.1 mm longis, apicem versus paulo longioribus ad 0.2-0.3 mm, patulo-ascendentibus, parte proximali styli persistenti rigida, patula, 1-1.5 mm longa. Endocarpium monospermum, cartilagineum, ellipsoideum puncto insertione obtuso, 2 X 1.8 X 1.5 mm, siccitate appertum U-forme. Semina ellipsoideo-ovoidea, paulo compressa, 1.8 X 1.6 X 1.2 mm, nitida, brunnea.

Type: PANAMA, DARIÉN: Cerro Pirre, 2500-4500 ft. cloud forest, 9-10 August 1967, J. A. Duke & T. S. Elias no. 13850. Holotypus, MO; isotypus, US.

Brunellia darienensis is related to the species of Subsection Comocladifoliae, but it departs from them in the extreme reduction of its follicle pubescence. Other distinguishing characteristics of this new species, besides the combined sizes of each of its parts, are the smooth, almost glabrate branchlets, the precarious, minute, and rather adpressed pubescence on the calyces and inflorescences, the 5-7-jugate, thin, papyraceous, acuminate leaflets, and the rather flat, discolored venular reticulum.

The general trend to glabrescence of Brunellia darienensis parallels similar tendencies exhibited by B. hygrophorica Cuatr., a species known from the extremely wet rainforest of the Pacific Coast of Colombia (cf. J. Cuatrecasas, Brunelliaceae, Fl. Neotropica Monogr. 2, pp. 63, 89). Brunellia heretofore has not been reported from Panama. A drawing will appear in the Flora of Panama.



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