

STUDIES IN THE EUPATORIEAE (ASTERACEAE). XLVII.

A NEW GENUS, STEYERMARKINA.

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The genus is based on a group of species resembling closely the scandent species of Critonia but differing by the area of dense pubescence on the inside surface of the corollas near the bases of the lobes. The genus differs from Critonia also by the lack of distinct lactifers along the sides of the veins of the leaves. Individual species also show corolla lobes cut to below the bases of the anther sacs, hairs on the outer surface of the throat of the corolla, glands on the outer surfaces of the lobes, or dense pubescence on the leaves, characters unlike Critonia.

The previously described species of this genus have all been native to eastern and southern Brazil. The phytogeography of the genus proves more complicated, however, by the discovery of a previously undescribed species in western Venezuela in the mountains east of Lake Maracaibo. The new species, which is described below, represents a nearly two thousand mile extension of the range of this group following no geographic pattern presently recognized in higher plants. It is possible, of course, that future collections will close some of this gap in the range of the genus as presently understood. It seems much more probable, however, that when other groups are understood to the degree that is possible here that other similar patterns will be discovered.

We take great pleasure in naming this new genus in honor of our friend and colleague, Dr. Julian A. Steyermark, the collector of the new Venezuelan species in this genus. Dr. Steyermark has contributed greatly to Neotropical botany both in his publications and collections.

Steyermarkina R.M.King and H.Robinson, genus novum Asteracearum (Eupatorieae). Plantae scandentes paucè ramosae. Caules teretes striati. Folia opposita distincte petiolata, laminis ovatis firme membranaceis, inferne glabris vel pubescentibus. Inflorescentiae laxè paniculatae. Involucri squamae imbricatae valde inaequilongae oblongae glabrae 4-5-seriatae; receptacula convexa vel conica plerumque glabra. Flores 3-5 in capitulo; corollae anguste infundibulares, cellulis anguste oblongis, parietibus leviter vel non sinuosis, lobis anguste lanceolatis extus glabris vel glanduliferis estomatiferis intus laevibus,

faucibus intus hirsutis; filamenta antherarum in parte superiore angusta, cellulis infernis plerumque quadratis, parietibus leniter plerumque transverse ornatis, cellulis exothecialibus subquadratis vel brevioribus, appendicibus antherarum longe triangularibus; styli inferne non nodulosi glabri, appendicibus linearibus mamillosis; achaenia prismatica 4-5-costata, costis et lateribus dense breviter setiferis; carpopodia distincta, cellulis multifariis parvis quadratis; pappus setiformis uniseriatus, setis ca. 30, scabris persistentibus in apicem leniter dilatatis, cellulis apicalibus acutis.

Few branched woody vines. Stems terete, striate. Leaves opposite, petioled, blades ovate, firmly membranous; glabrous to pubescent below. Inflorescence a lax panicle, some nodes with extra axillary branches. Phyllaries imbricated, very unequal, oblong, glabrous, in 4-5 series. Receptacle convex to conical, usually glabrous. Heads 3-5 flowered, corollas narrowly funnelform, cells narrowly oblong, walls slightly or not sinuose, lobes 2-4 times as long as wide, outer surface of lobes glabrous, corolla often setose outside, inner surface of corolla glabrous except for a thick mass of uniseriate, septate eglandular hairs in area below bases of lobes. Anther appendages large, anther collars rather slender, composed of mainly rectangular cells, walls ornate with annular thickenings. Styler appendages linear mamilliose. Achenes prismatic, 4-5 ribbed; carpopodia distinct, of many tiers of small quadrate cells. Pappus of ca 30 scabrous setae which are slightly enlarged at tips.

Type species : Eupatorium pyrifolium A.P.Decandolle

Our studies of the genus indicate that it contains the following four species. A key to the Brazilian species has been provided by Cabrera (1963).

Steyermarkina dispalata (Gardner) R.M.King & H.Robinson, comb. nov. Eupatorium dispalatum Gardner, London Journ. Bot. 4: 117. 1845. Brazil.

Steyermarkina dusenii (Malme) R.M.King & H.Robinson, comb. nov. Eupatorium dusenii Malme, Kungl. Svensk. Vet. Akad. Handl. 12(2): 38. 1933. Brazil.

Steyermarkina pyrifolia (A.P.Decandolle) R.M.King & H.Robinson, comb. nov. Eupatorium pyrifolium A.P.Decandolle, Prodr. 5: 153. 1836. Brazil.

Steyermarkina triflora R.M.King & H.Robinson, sp. nov.
Folia opposita, petiolis pubescentibus 2 cm longis laminis

ovatis ad 9 cm longis ad 5 cm latis integris fere glabris. Involucri squamae ca. 15; receptacula convexa glabra. Flores plerumque 3 in capitulo ca. 5 mm longi; corollae albae extus glabrae, lobis ca. 0.6 mm latis ca. 2.0 mm longis.

Type: VENEZEULA: Trujillo: Steep forested slopes along Quebrada Los Riitos. Selva virgen, arriba de Escuque, entre Escuque y La Mesa de San Pedro. Altura: 1300-1650 metros. Vining; leaves firmly membranous, dull green both sides; flowers whitish; involucre pale green. 20-23 Febrero 1971. Julian A. Steyermark 104684. [Holotype US! Isotype Venezeula!]

The new species is closest to S. pyrifolia of Brazil but the latter has 5 flowers per head, corolla lobes less deeply divided and anthers hastate at the base.

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Reference

Cabrera, A.L. & N.Vittet. 1963. Compositae Catharinenses. II. Eupatorieae. Sellowia, 15: 149-258.



King, Robert Merrill and Robinson, Harold E . 1971. "Studies in the Eupatoricae (Asteraceae). XLVII, A new genus, Steyermarkia." *Phytologia* 22(1), 43–45.

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