

STUDIES IN COURSETIA (LEGUMINOSAE). I.

Velva E. Rudd, Smithsonian Institution

While checking a specimen recently sent for determination the following two species were noted as worthy of recognition. They appear to be related to Coursetia mollis Robinson & Greenman (Proc. Am. Acad. 29: 384. 1894), non C. mollis (H.B.K.) Macbride (Field. Mus. Pub. Bot. 13 (3): 390. 1943) as "C. mollis (Benth. & Oerst.) Macbr."

COURSETIA GUATEMALENSIS Rudd, sp. nov.

Frutex, C. molli Robinson & Greenman affinis sed foliolis plerumque paucioribus, minoribus, aristulatis, inflorescentiis spicatis, floribus minoribus, numerosioribus, fructibus glabrescentibus differt.

Shrub, to about 3 m. tall; stems tomentulose, glabrescent; leaves paripinnate or imparipinnate, 9-14-foliolate, the axis about 4-9 cm. long, pilose or tomentulose; stipules subulate, subspinescent, about 3-8 mm. long, 0.2 mm. wide at the base, pilose, glabrescent; stipels subulate, 2 mm. long, caducous; leaflets elliptic to elliptic-ovate, (0.5-) 1.5-4 cm. long, (0.3-) 0.5-1.5 cm. wide, acute, aristulate, the base rounded to cuneate, the upper surface puberulent but essentially glabrous at maturity, the lower surface moderately to densely sericeous; inflorescences villous, spicate, many-flowered, the pedicels about 1 mm. long or less; bracts subulate, 3-5 mm. long, 1 mm. wide at the base or less; flowers 7.5-8 mm. long; calyx villous, 4-4.5 mm. long, the tube 1.5-2 mm. long, the teeth subulate, 2.5-3 mm. long; petals glabrous, the vexillum dark red, the keel and wings pale yellow or greenish; stamens diadelphous 9:1 with the vexillar filament separate to the base; fruit linear, compressed, 2-valved, dehiscent, somewhat torulose, more deeply compressed between the seeds but not septate, 3.5-5 cm. long, 4-5 mm. wide, sessile, about 8-seeded, puberulent, usually glabrate at maturity; seeds dark brown, smooth, suborbicular, compressed, 3 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, 1 mm. thick, the hilum apical, 0.3 mm. in diameter.

Type: P. C. Standley 60354, Guatemala, Sacatepequez, near Antigua, dry brushy hillside, alt. 1500-1600 m., Nov. 1938-Feb. 1939 (holotype US no. 1970655; isotype F). Paratype: A. Molina R. 21381, Guatemala, Huehuetenango, cliff of Río Selegua, 47 km. from Huehuetenango, between Puente Cuevas and Los Monos, road to La Mesilla, alt. 1400 m., Nov. 20, 1967 (F).

COURSETIA HINTONII Rudd, sp. nov.

Frutex, C. molli Robinson & Greenman affinis sed foliolis paucioribus, aristulatis, spinis stipulis longioribus argutioribus, fructibus angustioribus, minus pubescentibus differt.

Shrub, to about 3 m. tall; stems puberulent and pilose with multicellular, capitate, glandular hairs; leaves imparipinnate, 13-19-foliolate, the axis 2-10 cm. long, glandular-pilose; stipules subulate, spinescent, 5-13 mm. long, 1-1.5 mm. wide at the base, puberulent and glandular-pilose, glabrescent; stipels apparently lacking; leaflets elliptic, 0.5-2 cm. long, 0.3-0.8 cm. wide, obtuse to acute, aristulate, the base rounded to cuneate, the upper surface puberulent to subsericeous, the lower surface sericeous or subsericeous, the veinlets drying dark-reddish; inflorescences puberulent and glandular-pubescent, racemose, many-flowered, the pedicels 3-7 mm. long; bracts subulate to lanceolate, 2-6 mm. long, to about 1.5 mm. wide at the base; flowers 15-17 mm. long; calyx glandular-pubescent, about 10 mm. long, the tube about 3 mm. long, the teeth subulate, 6-7 mm. long; petals greenish, drying with reddish or purplish stripes, the vexillum puberulent on the outer face; stamens diadelphous 9:1 with the vexillar filament separate to the base; fruit linear, compressed, 2-valved, dehiscent, torulose, more deeply compressed between the seeds but not septate, about 12-15-seeded, 7-8.5 cm. long, 5 mm. wide, sessile, moderately puberulent and glandular-pilose; seeds light brown or chestnut, suborbicular, compressed, 3-3.5 mm. in diameter, 1 mm. thick, the hilum orbicular, 0.5 mm. in diameter.

Type G. B. Hinton 7051, México, México, Temascaltepec, Palmar, hill, November 27, 1934 (holotype US no. 1636808). Paratypes: G. B. Hinton 2983, México, México, Temascaltepec, Plaza de Gallos, alt. 1200 m., December 20, 1932 (US); B. P. Reko 5015, México, Guerrero, Achotla, alt. 900 m., October 1926 (US).

Another species to be assigned to Coursetia is Pictetia microphylla Benthams ex Hemsley. Examination of the syntypes at Kew has shown them to be referable to C. glandulosa A. Gray, as cited below:

COURSETIA GLANDULOSA A. Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. 5: 156. 1861.

Type: L. J. Xantus 25, México, Baja California del Sur, "Cape St. Lucas, &c., Lower California", August 1859 - January 1860 (holotype GH; isotype US).

Pictetia microphylla Benthams ex Hemsley, Diagn. Pl. Nov. 8.

1878. Type: T. Coulter s. n., "México: Sonora Alta" (lectotype K). Syntype: "Parkinson, sine habitatione" (K).

Coursetia microphylla A. Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. 17: 201. 1882.

Type: C. G. Pringle s. n., Arizona, "rocky canyons of the Santa Catalina Mts.", April 14, 1881 (lectotype GH; isotype US); syntype: Mr. & Mrs. J. G. Lemmon (GH).



Rudd, Velva E. 1973. "Studies in Coursetia (Leguminosae). I." *Phytologia* 25, 257–258.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/47048>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/37429>

Holding Institution

New York Botanical Garden, LuEsther T. Mertz Library

Sponsored by

The LuEsther T Mertz Library, the New York Botanical Garden

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: Phytologia

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.