

A NEW SPECIES OF *ODONTOCARYA* (MENISPERMACEAE) FROM GUERRERO

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RESUMEN

Se describe del estado de Guerrero a *Odontocarya mexicana* sp. nov., miembro de un género macrotérmico de amplia difusión neotropical señalado en México hasta hoy día sólo de la tierra caliente de la costa del Pacífico en el estado de Chiapas. La nueva especie se distingue de *O. tamoides*, la especie chiapaneca, por sus hojas anchamente cordiformes, muy enteras, y por la ausencia de nectario plano descolorido en las axilas nervéas del hipófilo. *O. truncata* Standl., endémica de Costa Rica hasta el Chocó colombiano, se asemeja a *O. mexicana* en el coturno de las láminas pero difiere por las flores pequeñas (de 2, no de 3.515 mm de largo), por los nectarios poriformes del hipófilo, y por la estructura del androceo.

ABSTRACT

Odontocarya mexicana sp. nov., from the state of Guerrero, is described. The new species belongs to a macrothermal, widely spread neotropical genus which was until now known in Mexico only in Pacific lowland Chiapas. From the Chiapas species *O. tamoides* DC., the new species is distinguished by its broadly cordate, very entire leaves, and by the lack of a flat discolored nectary in the dorsal nerve-axils. *O. truncata* Standl., endemic from Costa Rica to the Colombian Chocó region, resembles *O. mexicana* in the shape of the leaf-blade but differs by the small flowers (2, not 3.5-5 mm long), by the poriform nectaries in the dorsal nerve-axils, and by the structure of the androecium.

Odontocarya mexicana Barneby, sp. nov. sect. *Odontocaryae pertinens*, ab affini *O. truncata* Standl. foliis latius cordiformibus dorso in venarum primum axillis nectario destitutis, floris ♂ duplo majoris sepalis interioribus 3.5-5 (nec $\pm$ 2) mm longis, synandrii filamentis 6 in columnam ultra medium aequaliter inter se concretis deinde liberis (interioribus haud antheras usque coalitis), patriaque a genere suo valde remota optime diversa. — MEXICO. Guerrero: La Venta Vieja. 1,100 m, 2.VI.1979, fl. ♂, Eric Halbinger 329 ex parte. — Holotypus, MEXU 275869; isotypus, NY. — Ibid., 2.VI.1979, fl. ♀, Halbinger 329 ex parte. — Paratypi, MEXU 275874, NY. — Ibid., 6.VI.1970, foliis maturis, 6.VII.1971, fl. ♂, 10.V.1974, fl. ♀, Halbinger 329 ex parte. — MEXU 212520.

Glabrous vines attaining 10 m, the annotinous and older stems clad in pallid pergammentaceous epidermis, the hornotinous stems striate, all elenticellate; petioles

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5-10 cm, at base twisted livid, at middle 0.8-1.7 mm diam; leaf-blades membranous becoming papery, pale green concolorous, basifixed and broadly cordate 5.5-12 x 5-13 cm, at apex abruptly triangular-acuminate the acumen $\pm$ 5-8 mm obtuse mucronulate, the shallow open basal sinus 0.5-2 cm deep; primary venation of 5-7 nerves radiating from petiole, the straight midrib and adjacent incurved-ascending nerves giving rise (the former on both sides, the latter on outer side only) to 2-3 slender ascending secondaries, these with finer tertiary and reticular venules pallid and sharply raised beneath, less so above, the ultimate areoles of mature blade $\pm$ 1-2 mm diam, but a finer immersed mesh visible in youth.

Inflorescences σ arising from axils of coetaneous leaves on new branchlets, either simply pseudo-racemose or weakly branched, the primary axis 4-8 cm, the secondary axes when present not over 1 cm, the flowers solitary, paired, or paired with a branchlet; bracts linear-lanceolate 1-2 mm; pedicels at anthesis 2-4 mm; 3 outer sepals either ovate or linear-attenuate 1.3-1.5 x 0.3-0.8 mm 3 inner sepals ovate or oblong-obovate 3.5-5 x 2-2.7 mm, at apex deltately subacute erose; petals 6 subequal carnosulous elliptic-cymbiform obtus or subacute 2.7-3.5 x 1-1.15 mm; androecium 6-merous, the erect, slenderly bottle-shaped filaments 1.2-1.5 mm, united through more than half their length into a column, free and attenuate distally, the narrowly ovate anthers erect 0.5-0.6 mm, the contiguous thecae dehiscent vertically. Inflorescences ρ solitary, shortly supra-axillary to new leaves, racemously $\pm$ 10-15-flowered, the axis including peduncle 6-10 cm pedicels at anthesis $\pm$ 2 mm; sepals carnosulous membranous-margined, the 3 outer obovate $\pm$ 2 x 1.5 mm, the 3 inner suborbicular 3-3.3 x 3-3.5 mm, petals oblong-ovate cymbiform carnosulous 2-2.2 x 1-1.2 mm, each nidulating a subulate staminode $\pm$ 1 mm; pistils 3 glabrous, the sessile stigma 3-lobed; ovule solitary pendulous; drupe unknown.

Habitat not recorded, but to be looked for in moist thickets or along streams at $\pm$ 1,100 m; known only from the type-locality, this not precisely identified.
- Fl. May-July.

The Neotropical genus *Odontocarya* Miers, consisting of some 30 species (Barneby, 1970), is most diverse and numerous in the basins of the Amazon and Orinoco rivers and limitrophe premontane foothills. Only 2 species have been encountered northwest of the Panama Canal, *O. truncata* Standl. which extends from northern Chocó in Colombia to Costa Rica, and *O. tamoides* interruptedly circum-Caribbean, which is known from one collection in Pacific lowland Chiapas. Consequently the discovery of and undescribed *Odontocarya* in Guerrero marks a significant range-extension for a primarily equatorial and South American genus.

Odontocarya mexicana belongs, like *O. truncata* and *O. tamoides*, to section *Odontocarya*, characterized by simple or weakly branched staminate and strictly racemose pistillate inflorescences borne on contemporaneous new growth. Its broadly cordate, very entire glabrous leaf-blades suggest affinity to *O. truncata*, but they differ in the lack of poriform nectaries in the dorsal nerve-axils. Moreover the staminate flower of *O. mexicana* is much larger than that of *O. truncata*, the three interior sepals being 3.5-5 (not $\pm$ 2) mm long, and its six filaments are equally united into a columnar synandrium, not differentiated into two unequally united sets. *Odontocarya tamoides* is comparable to *O. mexicana* in flower-

size, but its leaf-blades, always scabrous-pubescent northward from Venezuela, are at least incipiently lobulate and bear flat discolored nectaries in the dorsal nerve-axils. The endocarp of *O. mexicana*, which may well furnish definitive differential characters, is unfortunately not yet known.

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LITERATURE CITED

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