



***Baccharis scopulorum*, a new species of section *Caulopterae* (Asteraceae: Astereae) from rocky cliffs of southern Brazil**

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Abstract

A new species of *Baccharis* sect. *Caulopterae* endemic to rocky cliffs in southern Brazil, is here described as *Baccharis scopulorum*. This new species is characterized by the general presence of basal and persistent leaves, mostly solitary capitula born at the tips of the branches, and many flowered capitula, the pistillate capitula with an urceolate to campanulate involucre. The new species is morphologically most similar to *B. altimontana* and *B. opuntioides*, both inhabiting mountain summits in eastern Brazil. A description of *B. scopulorum*, together with illustrations, a distribution map, habitat description, conservation assessment and diagnostic comparison with *B. altimontana* and *B. opuntioides* is presented.

Resumo

Uma nova espécie de *Baccharis* seção *Caulopterae*, endêmica de penhascos rochosos do Sul do Brasil, é aqui descrita como *Baccharis scopulorum*. Esta nova espécie é caracterizada pela presença de folhas desenvolvidas e algo persistentes, geralmente basais, e capítulos plurifloros e solitários no ápice dos ramos, sendo os femininos com involucre urceolado a campanulado. A nova espécie é morfolologicamente mais similar às espécies alopatricas *B. altimontana* e *B. opuntioides*, que ocorrem em topos de montanhas ao longo do leste do Brasil. Uma descrição de *B. scopulorum*, junto com a ilustração, mapa de distribuição, habitat, avaliação do estado de conservação e comparações com *B. altimontana* e *B. opuntioides* são fornecidos.

Key words. Atlantic rain forest, *Baccharis* subgenus *Molina*, Compositae, rocky outcrops, Santa Catarina state

Introduction

Baccharis L. (Asteraceae, Astereae) is a New World genus comprising approximately 340 species (Müller 2010). The tufted indumentum of the leaves and stems, with adjoining basal cells of the trichomes, and the common occurrence of dioecy are probably synapomorphic characters (Müller 2006). The last treatment of *Baccharis* for Brazil, which encompassed 125 accepted names, was undertaken by Barroso (1976). Currently 150 species of *Baccharis* are recorded for Brazil (Heiden & Schneider 2010).

Baccharis sect. *Caulopterae* DC. is represented by ca. 30 species restricted to South America (Giuliano 2001, Heiden *et al.* 2009b, Heiden & Schneider 2010, Müller 2006, Schneider 2009). Section *Caulopterae* is characterized by presence of winged stems, epaleaceous clinanthia densely covered with biseriate glandular hairs, papillose glabrous achenes, and pappus bristles of female flowers enlarged basally and fused into a ring. Section *Caulopterae* has a distinct distribution being most common in the Andes from Colombia to Argentina and in eastern Brazil, northern Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay (Müller 2006).