



A new species of *Orthophytum* (Bromeliaceae) from Chapada Diamantina, Bahia, Brazil

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Abstract

In this paper we describe and illustrate *Orthophytum argentum* as a new species from campos rupestres of Espinhaço Range, morphologically similar to *Orthophytum toscanoi*.

Resumo

No presente estudo é descrita e ilustrada *Orthophytum argentum* como uma nova espécie dos campos rupestres da Cadeia do Espinhaço, morfologicamente similar à *Orthophytum toscanoi*.

Key words: Bromelioideae, Espinhaço Range, campos rupestres

Introduction

Orthophytum is a medium-sized genus comprising about 60 species restricted to Brazil known for the Brazilian states of Ceará, Paraíba, Pernambuco, Alagoas, Sergipe, Bahia, Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo.

There are two centers of diversity for the genus: one in the Espinhaço Range, and the other one in the Atlantic Rainforest areas (Louzada & Wanderley 2010). The *Orthophytum* species are generally saxicolous, but few species can be terrestrial. They grow in areas of soil on top of granitic-gneiss inselbergs (Atlantic Rainforest and Caatinga) or quartzite-sandstone rock outcrops of campos rupestres (rock fields) forming mats or sometimes as isolated individuals.

Two morphological groups can be distinguished: the sessile inflorescence group and the pedunculate inflorescence group (Wanderley & Conceição 2006, Louzada & Wanderley 2010), although both are clearly not monophyletic groups (Louzada *et al.* in prep). Based on morphological studies of dry and living material in collections and field studies, we describe a new species with a pedunculate inflorescence, from campos rupestres of Chapada Diamantina, Bahia, morphologically similar to *Orthophytum toscanoi* Leme (2003: 23).

Orthophytum argentum Louzada & Wand., sp. nov., Fig. 1 A–I

Type:—BRAZIL. Bahia: Rio de Contas, Fazenda Vacaro, Caminho para o Morro da Teta, 13°32'50"S, 41°52'24.2"W, 1,250 m, 12 February 2009, R.B. Louzada, M.G.L. Wanderley & A.M. Benko-Iseppon 110 (holotype SP, isotype HUEFS).

Orthophytum argentum *O. toscanoi* Leme simile, sed bracteis floralibus et sapis atrovinaceis, aculeis laminarum glabris, haud ad basim intumescens differt.