



## A remarkable new *Manihot* (Euphorbiaceae) from the coastal sand plains of Sergipe, Brazil

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### Abstract

*Manihot breviloba* P.Carvalho & M.Martins is described and illustrated. This species is distinguished from other *Manihot* species by its vine-like habit, petioles clasping and leaves with extremely reduced lateral lobes.

**Key words:** Restinga, Wild Cassava, Vine-like habit

### Introduction

*Manihot* Miller (1754) is in need of further taxonomic study (Duputié *et al.* 2011). In the latest revision of the genus, Rogers and Appan (1973) recognized 80 species for Brazil. This number has changed with the publication of several additional taxa and new combinations (Allem 1977, 1978, 1979a, 1979b, 1979c, 1989, 1999). Expeditions for the collection of *Manihot* species with taxonomic and conservation purposes have been conducted in recent years in the Northeastern and Western-Central regions of Brazil. During one of these expeditions, a collection was identified as an unpublished species of *Manihot* from the sand coastal plains ('*restinga*') of Sergipe state. It has a vine-like habit, with clasping petioles and leaves with extremely reduced lateral lobes, a unique set of features within this genus.

### Material and Methods

Starting from January 2010, we began expeditions to collect species of *Manihot* in the Northeast Western-Central regions of Brazil. During these expeditions, a population of this new species has been identified in the municipality of Santo Amaro das Brotas, Sergipe. This material contained flowers and fruits. Seeds were collected and seedlings planted in the germplasm bank of Embrapa Mandioca e Fruticultura and Universidade Federal do Recôncavo da Bahia, both in Cruz das Almas, Bahia. The collections of the herbaria ASE, CEN, CEPEC, HB, HUEFS, R, RB, SP and SPF have been examined and the occurrence of this species was verified along the north coast of Sergipe, in the municipalities of the Barra dos Coqueiros, Santo Amaro das Brotas and Ilha das Flores, always in *Restinga* vegetation (coastal sand plains). The holotype was deposited at the HUEFS herbarium, and isotypes and paratypes were sent to ASE, CEN, CEPEC, HERB, HB, K, P e SP.