



## ***Croton campinarenis* (Euphorbiaceae), a new species from eastern Amazonian Brazil**

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### **Abstract**

A new species of Euphorbiaceae from eastern Amazonian Brazil, *Croton campinarenis*, is described and illustrated here. It belongs to *Croton* section *Geiseleria* and shares some features with *C. strobiliformis*, another Amazonian species of white sand habitats.

### **Resumo**

Uma nova espécie de Euphorbiaceae, *Croton campinarenis*, da Amazônia Oriental brasileira, é aqui descrita e ilustrada. Essa espécie pertence a *Croton* seção *Geiseleria* e compartilha alguns caracteres com a *C. strobiliformis*, também de uma campina da Amazônia brasileira.

**Key words:** Amazonian Brazil, *Croton* sect. *Geiseleria*, white sand campina

### **Introduction**

*Croton* Linnaeus (1753: 2004) is one of the largest genera of Euphorbiaceae, with an estimated 1223 species distributed mostly in the New World and Old World tropics (Govaerts *et al.* 2000). Van Ee *et al.* (2011) recently presented a revised phylogeny and sectional treatment of the New World species of *Croton*, for which they recognized 712 species in 31 sections. Of these, 311 species are known to occur in Brazil (Lista de espécies da Flora do Brasil 2012).

Since the treatment of *Croton* in *Flora Brasiliensis* by Müller (1873), the Brazilian species have not been revised taxonomically, although a number of new species have recently been proposed from the country (e.g., Caruzo *et al.* 2008, 2010, Cordeiro *et al.* 2008, Gordillo & Luna 2005, Secco 2004, 2009, Secco *et al.* 2005, 2010). Despite recent treatments of some South American groups by Cordeiro (1992), Secco (1992, 2008), Murillo (1999), Webster *et al.* (1999), Guimarães & Secco (2010), and Riina *et al.* (2010), there are still numerous specimens at the main Amazonian herbaria (IAN, INPA, and MG) that are unidentified or misidentified, and ongoing field work has produced additional specimens that cannot be readily identified. This indicates that there are still numerous species of *Croton* from Amazonian Brazil that are waiting to be recognized and described.

According to Secco (2008), there are currently 42 species of *Croton* known from Amazonian Brazil, which includes the states of Acre, Amapá, Amazonas, Maranhão, Pará, Rondônia, and Roraima. Field work in an area of white sand vegetation known as ‘campina’ in the municipality of Acará, in the state of Pará, has revealed another new species of *Croton* that is described and illustrated below.