



***Magnolia lacandonica* (subsection *Talauma*, Magnoliaceae), a new rainforest species from Chiapas, Mexico**

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Abstract

A new species of *Magnolia* from the rainforest of Chiapas, Mexico, is described and illustrated. *Magnolia lacandonica* belongs to section *Talauma* subsection *Talauma* and is similar to *M. mexicana*, but it differs from the latter in having larger number of carpels and stamens, the dorsal wall of carpels unhumped vs humped, an outer spathaceous bract topped with a reduced leaf blade vs lacking leaf blade and petals entirely white vs tinged with purple.

Key words: “jolmashté”, *Magnolia inbioana*, *Magnolia mexicana*, Mexican endemic, *Talauma*, “tajchak”

Resumen

Se describe e ilustra una especie nueva de *Magnolia* del bosque tropical perennifolio de Chiapas, México. *Magnolia lacandonica* pertenece a la sección *Talauma*, subsección *Talauma* y es similar a *M. mexicana*, pero difiere de esta última por tener mayor cantidad de carpelos y estambres, pared dorsal de carpelos sin joroba vs con joroba, bráctea espatácea exterior coronada con una lámina foliar reducida vs sin lámina foliar reducida y pétalos enteramente blancos vs teñidos de púrpura.

Introduction

Here, we describe and illustrate *Magnolia lacandonica*, a new species of *Magnolia*, endemic to the Lacandonian tropical rainforests in Chiapas, Mexico. The lack of fresh flowering material and mature fruits did not previously permit understanding this widely distributed but locally infrequent species; however, recent collections of mature fertile material at both Chajul and Misolhá permitted the authors to contrast these specimens with similar taxa and conclude that this taxon was actually an undescribed species, often confused previously with *M. mexicana* Candolle (1817: 451).

There are 21 species of *Magnolia* Linnaeus (1753: 535) *s.l.* reported for the flora of Mexico, 14 belong to section *Magnolia*, six to section *Talauma* (Jussieu 1789: 281) Baillon (1866: 66), subsection *Talauma* and one to section *Macrophylla* Figlar & Noteboom (2004: 92) (Vázquez-García 1990, 1994; Vázquez-García *et al.* 2002, 2012a, 2012b, 2012c; Jiménez *et al.* 2005, 2007; Cruz-Durán 2008). Currently, Chiapas is known to have six species, four belonging to *Magnolia* section *Magnolia*: *M. mayae* A. Vázquez & Pérez-Farr. (2012: 109), *M. aff. poasana* (Pittier 1910: 93) Dandy (1927: 263), *M. sharpii* Miranda (1955: 29), *M. aff. yoroconte* Dandy (1930: 147) and two belonging to section *Talauma* Baillon (1966: 66), subsection *Talauma*, usually