



## A new species of *Senegalia* (Fabaceae) from Brazil

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### Abstract

*Senegalia hoehnei* from the states of Bahia, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Pará, Paraná, and Santa Catarina, is described, illustrated, and compared to its probable nearest relative, *Senegalia martiusiana*.

**Key words:** Fabaceae, IUCN Red List, Mimosoideae, Brazil, *Senegalia*

### Introduction

Historically, the genus *Senegalia* has often been treated as part of *Acacia* s.l., but recent morphological and genetic studies have shown that this large genus is polyphyletic. Data derived from molecular studies have led to a better understanding of the relationships within the genus *Acacia* s.l., as well as the position of the genus within the Mimosoideae (Maslin *et al.* 2003a, Miller & Bayer 2003, Luckow *et al.* 2003, Miller *et al.* 2003, Rico-Arce & Bachman 2006, Seigler *et al.* 2006a, Bouchenak-Khelladi *et al.* 2010, Gómez-Acevedo *et al.* 2010, Murphy *et al.* 2010, Miller & Seigler 2012, Kyalangalilwa *et al.* 2013). Based on these data, *Acacia* s.l. is now regarded as comprising at least five genera, *Acacia* s. s., *Acaciella* Britton & Rose (1928: 98), *Mariosousa* Seigler & Ebinger (Seigler *et al.* 2006b: 415), *Senegalia* Rafinesque (1838: 119), and *Vachellia* Wight & Arnott (1834: 272) (see Miller & Seigler 2012 for overview of the new generic classification).

Members of *Senegalia* are shrubs, trees, or lianas, unarmed or armed with prickles, but without stipular spines. The prickles usually are scattered, but less commonly are grouped in twos or threes, usually at or near the nodes (Vassal 1972). Leaves are bipinnate and the petiole and primary rachis have sessile or stipitate glands of variable position. Flowers possess a more or less tubular nectary below the usually stipitate ovary. Inflorescences are globose heads or spikes, often grouped into complex terminal pseudo-inflorescences (synflorescences). Pods are dehiscent, separating into two valves at maturity, or less commonly indehiscent or separating into indehiscent one seeded articles. The seeds are uniseriate.

The genus *Senegalia* consists of approximately 100 taxa in the Americas (unpublished data), as well as 69 in Africa, 43 in Asia, and two in Australia (Maslin *et al.*, 2003a,b). Eight species occur in two or more areas. During the course of our work on the genus *Senegalia* of Brazil, a previously undescribed species was noted from herbarium materials of eastern and southeastern Brazil. This taxon is clearly distinctive and is herein proposed as new species.