



Four new endemic species of *Hippeastrum* (Amaryllidaceae) from Serra da Canastra, Minas Gerais State, Brazil

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Abstract

Four new endemic species of *Hippeastrum* (Amaryllidaceae) from Serra da Canastra (Minas Gerais State, Brazil) are described and illustrated. *Hippeastrum canastrense* is similar to *H. elegans*, while *H. diniz-cruzae*, *H. roseoalbum* and *H. sanfranciscanum* are similar to *Hippeastrum cipoanum*. An identification key for *Hippeastrum* species from Serra da Canastra is presented.

Resumo

Quatro novas espécies de *Hippeastrum* (Amaryllidaceae) da Serra da Canastra (Minas Gerais, Brasil) são descritas e ilustradas. *Hippeastrum canastrense* é similar a *H. elegans*, enquanto *H. diniz-cruzae*, *H. roseoalbum* e *H. sanfranciscanum* são similares a *Hippeastrum cipoanum*. Chave de identificação para espécies de *Hippeastrum* da Serra da Canastra é apresentada.

Key words: Amaryllidaceae, Campo rupestre, Serra da Canastra

Introduction

Hippeastrum Herbert (1821: 31) comprises about 60 species and are traditionally recognized as mostly terrestrial (rarely epiphytic or rupicolous), lorate-leaved geophytes (bulbous), a with lily-like epigynous declinate flowers. *Hippeastrum* species occur from México to Argentina, with the majority in Brazil and the Peruvian and Bolivian Andes (Meerow & Snijman 1998). In Brazil, there are approximately 34 species distributed in Atlantic Forest, cerrado, caatinga, campo rupestre and campo de altitude vegetation (Dutilh 2005, 2010; Arroyo-Leuenberger & Dutilh 2008; Alves-Araújo *et al.* 2009). They show great floral morphological variation that has been the source of an infra-generic classification, not supported by molecular data (Oliveira 2012).

Phylogenetic analyses of American Amaryllidaceae (Meerow *et al.* 2000b) and Brazilian *Hippeastrum* (Oliveira 2012), both based on ITS sequence of nuclear ribosomal DNA, resolve the genus as monophyletic. Some species are difficult to include in the traditional morphological characterization of the genus. One of these cases is *Hippeastrum cipoanum* (Ravenna 1970: 86) Meerow (2010: 159), originally described as *Rhodophiala* Presl (1844: 115) due to its narrow leaves. In this case, as in others, chromosome number and morphology were most helpful for the correct identification (Meerow *et al.* 2000a; Felix *et al.* 2011; Poggio *et al.* 2007).

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