



Two new combinations in Brazilian *Dendropanax* (Araliaceae)

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Abstract

New combinations and lectotypes are here proposed for two Brazilian species of *Dendropanax* (Araliaceae): *Dendropanax simplicifolius* for *Didymopanax simplicifolius* from northern Mato Grosso Amazonian forests, and *Dendropanax pruinosis* for *Gilibertia pruinosa*, known only from gallery forests in the Chapada dos Veadeiros region. Both of these species are very poorly known and more collections will be required to achieve a better understanding of their morphological variability and circumscription.

Resumo

Combinações novas e lectótipos são aqui propostos para duas espécies brasileiras de *Dendropanax* (Araliaceae): *Dendropanax simplicifolius* para *Didymopanax simplicifolius*, das florestas amazônicas do norte do Mato Grosso e *Dendropanax pruinosis* para *Gilibertia pruinosa*, conhecida apenas de florestas ciliares da região da Chapada dos Veadeiros. Essas duas espécies são pouco conhecidas e mais coletas serão necessárias para um entendimento mais adequado da sua variabilidade morfológica e circunscrição.

Key words: Chapada dos Veadeiros, *Didymopanax*, *Gilibertia*, Juruena, Mato Grosso

Introduction

Dendropanax Decaisne & Planchon (1854: 107) is a taxonomically poorly known genus of Araliaceae, with estimates of species numbers ranging from 50 to almost 100 from tropical and subtropical Asia and Western Malesia, Central and South America, and the West Indies (Fiaschi & Jung-Mendaçolli 2006, Mabberley 2008, Shang & Lowry 2007, Cannon & Cannon 2009). Frodin & Govaerts (2003, publ. 2004) formally listed 92 species for *Dendropanax*, leaving a few others unplaced. The greater part of the genus is in the Neotropics, with centers of diversity in Jamaica, southern Mesoamerica (Smith 1944, Cannon & Cannon 2009), northwestern South America, and eastern Brazil (Fiaschi 2005, Fiaschi & Jung-Mendaçolli 2006).

While working on the taxonomy of eastern Brazilian species of *Dendropanax*, the first author came across two species that were previously described under *Didymopanax* Decaisne & Planchon (1854: 109) and *Gilibertia* Ruiz López & Pavón (1794: 50, t. 8) but, if accepted, now require combinations in *Dendropanax*. These new combinations, *Dendropanax pruinosis* replacing *Gilibertia pruinosa* Taubert (1896: 448) and *Dendropanax simplicifolius* replacing *Didymopanax simplicifolius* Hoehne (1915: 59), are proposed here. While we regard these two species as distinct taxa and the combinations therefore justified, more collections of both—particularly of *Dendropanax simplicifolius*—are, however, required to achieve a better understanding of their morphological variability, and to circumscribe them more effectively with regard to the presumably related and widespread eastern South American species *Dendropanax cuneatus* (Candolle 1830: 262) Decaisne & Planchón (1854: 107).

With reference to the first of the above-mentioned species, the new combination presented here completes the necessary transfers of Brazilian *Gilibertia* to *Dendropanax*. From its first publication in 1794—sixty years before *Dendropanax*—and particularly in the nineteenth century, *Gilibertia* came into wide use in the Americas, including

Dendropanax simplicifolius shares with other species of *Dendropanax* the simple leaves, umbels with the peduncle typically possessing bracteate articulation, and petals with an internal apical projection. This species is known only from the type material, collected about one hundred years ago in Juruena, Mato Grosso. Hoehne's description of the type locality as "campo baixo" probably refers to an Amazonian white-sand "campina," following the terminology of Pires & Prance (1985).

This species may be related to *Dendropanax cuneatus*, from which it can be distinguished by the sessile leaves, with petioles up to 1 cm long (vs. petioles > 1 cm long), and shorter inflorescences included within the subterminal flush of leaves (vs. inflorescences not included within the leaves).

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