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Baccharis nebularis (Asteraceae, Astereae): a new species of *B.* subgen. *Tarchonanthoides* sect. *Curitybenses* from the mountains of Southern Brazil

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Abstract

Baccharis nebularis, a new species belonging to *B.* subgen. *Tarchonanthoides* sect. *Curitybenses*, is described, illustrated, and compared to *B. chionolaenoides* and *B. curitybensis*. A key for its identification is provided. The new species occurs in patches of cloud forest thickets mixed with high altitude tropical grasslands in the southern Brazilian mountains. Data on distribution and habitat, phenology, conservation status, as well as a list of specimens examined are also presented.

Resumo

Baccharis nebularis, uma nova espécie pertencente a *B.* subgen. *Tarchonanthoides* sect. *Curitybenses* é descrita, ilustrada, comparada a *B. chionolaenoides* e *B. curitybensis* e uma chave de identificação é fornecida. A nova espécie ocorre em capões de mata nebular entremeados com manchas de campo de altitude nas montanhas do Sul do Brasil. Dados sobre a distribuição e o habitat, fenologia, estado de conservação e uma lista de espécimes examinados também são apresentados.

Key words: Atlantic rainforest, Baccharidinae, Compositae, cloud forests, tropical highland grasslands

Introduction

Baccharis Linnaeus (1753: 860; Asteraceae: Astereae) is a New World genus that comprises between 354 and 400 species (Bremer 1994, Müller 2013). *Baccharis* sect. *Curitybenses* Giuliano (2005: 536) was described to accommodate *B. curitybensis* Heering ex Malme (1933) which was not placed in a subgenus and neither in a section before. The monotypic section was justified by the unusual characters of the species, since number and structure of the achene ribs and number of series and caducous condition of the pappus bristles are similar to those of *B.* subgen. *Baccharis*, whereas the style branches in *B. curitybensis* are lanceolate as in the remaining subgenera of *Baccharis* (Giuliano 2005).

Müller (2006) did not follow any sectional scheme for infrageneric classification of *Baccharis* and treated *B. curitybensis* within *B.* subgen. *Tarchonanthoides* Heering (1904: 26) along with 13 other eastern South American species. Later, *B. chionolaenoides* Falkenberg & Deble (2010: 64) was described and placed into *B.* subgen. *Tarchonanthoides* sect. *Curitybenses*.

Heiden & Pirani (2012a, 2012b) published a synopsis of *Baccharis* subgen. *Tarchonanthoides,* including four sections and 22 species (of which one species was new). In this treatment, *B.* sect. *Curitybenses* comprised the two aforementioned species. Recently Deble (2012) had proposed to segregate *B.* subgen. *Tarchonanthoides* as a new genus, *Lanugothamnus* Deble (2012: 11), a proposal which was rejected by Heiden (2013) for phylogenetic reasons. The ongoing studies on this subgenus allowed the recognition of a further species belonging here, the third to be included in *B.* sect. *Curitybenses*. The new species is described here and its affinities are discussed as follows.

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