



The Second Known Species of the Recently Described Genus *Keraunea* (Convolvulaceae)

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Abstract

This paper describes *Keraunea capixaba*, the second known species of *Keraunea* (Convolvulaceae), native to the Brazilian Atlantic Rain Forest. It is easily distinguished from the only other known species of the genus by its almost complete hairlessness, bigger calyx and corolla lobes, longer corolla tube, and inflorescence type.

Resumo

Este artigo descreve *Keraunea capixaba*, a segunda espécie conhecida de *Keraunea* (Convolvulaceae), nativa da Mata Atlântica brasileira. A presente espécie é facilmente distinguida da única outra espécie anteriormente conhecida por sua quase completa glabrescência, lobos do cálice e corola maiores, tubos da corola mais longos e tipo da inflorescência.

Keraunea Cheek and Simão-Bianchini (2013: 452) was described with only one species, *K. brasiliensis* Cheek & Simão-Bianchini (2013: 452). The authors connected *Keraunea* to the neuropeltoid group that includes also two paleotropic genera of Convolvulaceae, *Neuropeltis* Wall. in Roxburgh (1824: 43) and *Neuropeltopsis* Ooststroom (1964: 365). These three genera were grouped together by the authors because their pedicels possess adnate foliaceous bracteoles, a characteristic in Convolvulaceae known only in the neuropeltoids (Cheek & Simão-Bianchini 2013).

The type species of the genus, *Keraunea brasiliensis*, was collected twice by me, in 1997, on the boundary of the town of Januária in the state of Minas Gerais (Lombardi 1819 and 2107 [BHCB, K]). It was not described before 2013 because these two specimens possessed only very young buds and immature fruits, which initially hindered even their recognition as Convolvulaceae. Using the above mentioned specimens and additional material, Cheek & Simão-Bianchini (2013) recognized *K. brasiliensis* as belonging to Convolvulaceae and described the new genus.

The species described in this paper was discovered in September 2012, when André Moreira de Assis collected it in Sooretama, Espírito Santo State. After seeing photos of his collection on the internet (Detweb Facebook page), I recognized it as distinct from, but related to the taxon that I had found during my previous collections. In December 2012, this new species was collected again at a nearby site. Unfortunately it was sterile, and its population could only be collected, in a fertile state, in September 2013. Its distinction from *Keraunea brasiliensis* was then clearly observed.

Herbarium material and fixed samples, preserved in 70% ethyl alcohol, have been studied using classical taxonomical methods. The fixed flowers were dissected and measured under a binocular microscope.

Keraunea capixaba Lombardi, *sp. nov.* (Fig. 1, 2).

Resembles *Keraunea brasiliensis* in the 3-flowered inflorescences with bracteoles adnate to pedicels, but differs by its almost completely glabrescent vegetative and reproductive parts (vs. conspicuously hairy branches, leaves, bracteoles and calyx), bigger calyx lobes (11–14 x 2.3–3 mm vs. 2.8–3.8 x 0.6–0.9 mm), longer corolla tubes (4.9–7.4 mm vs. ca. 0.5 mm), larger corolla lobes (20.4–24.5 x 7.4–10 mm vs. 3.5–4 x 1.5–1.7 mm), and umbeliform rather than corymbose inflorescence.

Type:—BRAZIL. Espírito Santo: Jaguaré, perto da Comunidade São Jorge de Paduá, sentido para Fátima, 95 m, 18°54'29"S 40°08'44.9"W, 25 September 2013 (fl), G.S. Siqueira 891 (holotype, CVRD; isotypes, HRCB, K, SP).

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