



A new species and a new geographical record of *Calyptranthes* (*Myrcia* s.l., Myrtaceae) from Brazil

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Abstract

Taxonomic studies on *Calyptranthes* have led to the identification and proposal of a new species, *Calyptranthes serrana*, endemic to the Atlantic rainforest. It is mainly characterized by its orbicular to orbicular-elliptic and coriaceous leaf blades, with abruptly acuminate apices, and 6–7 mm long buds. It is here described and illustrated, with comments concerning its distribution and habitat of occurrence. Considering the data available, the species is recognized as Endangered (EN) according to the IUCN criteria. *Calyptranthes dryadica*, a species previously considered as endemic to the state of São Paulo, is here registered for the state of Espírito Santo.

Resumo

Estudos com *Calyptranthes* levaram à identificação e proposta de uma nova espécie, *Calyptranthes serrana*, endêmica da Mata Atlântica. É caracterizada principalmente pelas folhas orbiculadas a orbiculado-elípticas e coriáceas, com ápice abruptamente acuminado e botões florais com 6–7 mm compr. A espécie é aqui descrita e ilustrada, com comentários acerca da sua distribuição e habitat de ocorrência. Considerando os dados disponíveis, a espécie é reconhecida como “Endangered” (EN), de acordo com os critérios da IUCN. *Calyptranthes dryadica*, uma espécie conhecida previamente como endêmica do estado de São Paulo, é aqui registrada para o estado de Espírito Santo.

Introduction

Calyptranthes Swartz (1788: 79) is a Neotropical genus growing from Mexico and the Caribbean to northern Argentina (Landrum & Kawasaki 1997), with approximately 260 currently known species (WCSP 2013). In Brazil, 71 species are known, of which 58 are endemic, occurring mainly in the Atlantic and Amazon domains, with few species in the Caatinga and Cerrado (Sobral *et al.* 2014).

Calyptranthes is thus far recognized as monophyletic, nested within a large *Myrcia* s.l. clade, *Myrcia* s.s. (De Candolle 1827: 406) being paraphyletic (Lucas *et al.* 2011). *Calyptranthes* is an older name than *Myrcia*; to maintain nomenclatural stability, the latter name has been proposed for conservation over the former (Lucas & Sobral 2011). Until a nomenclatural decision is made by the International Association for Plant Taxonomy, we maintain the use of *Calyptranthes*. The main diagnostic morphological feature of *Calyptranthes* is the calyx opening by the dehiscence of a calyptra. However, this character is still subject to discussion since McVaugh (1968) raised concerns about lack of consistency in using calyx opening as a diagnostic character for a genus in the Myrcioid group (species with the “myrcioid embryo” according to Barroso 1999). Even so, anthesis by means of a calyptra has been shown to be an important feature for recognition of the sub-generic clade 1 as defined by Lucas *et al.* (2011), which includes the species sampled in that analysis, presently named in *Calyptranthes*.

Taxonomic studies on Myrtaceae have increased in Brazil in recent years, including an increase in new records and new species described, as well as a taxonomic deflation due to synonymization (Souza & Morim 2008; Amorim & Alves 2012a, b; Sobral *et al.* 2012; Faria & Proença 2012; Lourenço *et al.* 2013; Amorim *et al.* 2013; Sobral 2014). This fact demonstrates the importance of monographic work in a diverse but still poorly understood family like Myrtaceae (Thomas *et al.* 1998). Species in *Calyptranthes*, as in most of the American genera of Myrtaceae, are morphologically

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