



## A new species of *Tovomita* Aubl. (Clusiaceae) from the Brazilian Atlantic Forest

LUCAS MARINHO<sup>1</sup>, PEDRO FIASCHI<sup>2</sup> & ANDRÉ MÁRCIO AMORIM<sup>3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Programa de Pós-Graduação em Botânica, Universidade Estadual de Feira de Santana, Avenida Transnordestina s/n, Novo Horizonte, 44036-900, Feira de Santana, Bahia, Brazil. E-mail: lmarinho1@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup> Departamento de Botânica, Centro de Ciências Biológicas, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Trindade, 88040-900, Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil. E-mail: pedrofiасhi@gmail.com

<sup>3</sup> Centro de Pesquisas do Cacau, Herbário CEPEC, Km 16 Rodovia Itabuna-Ilhéus, 45650-970, Itabuna, Bahia, Brazil.

<sup>4</sup> Departamento de Ciências Biológicas, Universidade Estadual de Santa Cruz, Km 25 Rodovia Ilhéus-Itabuna, 45662-900, Ilhéus, Bahia, Brazil. E-mail: amorim.uesc@gmail.com

### Abstract

*Tovomita iaspidis*, a new species from the Brazilian Atlantic Forest, is described, illustrated, and its morphological affinities with other species and its diagnostic characters are discussed. The new species is similar to *Tovomita glazioviana*, from which it can be distinguished by having greenish patent petals and larger and reddish pistillode in the staminate flowers. While *T. glazioviana* is found in the Atlantic Forest in the states of Bahia, Minas Gerais, and Rio de Janeiro, *T. iaspidis* is so far only known from two small remnant areas of montane forest in southern Bahia State, Brazil.

**Key words:** Bahia, Clusiaceae, Malpighiales, northeastern, taxonomy

### Resumo

*Tovomita iaspidis*, uma nova espécie da Floresta Atlântica brasileira é descrita, ilustrada e suas afinidades morfológicas e caracteres diagnósticos são discutidos. A nova espécie é similar a *Tovomita glazioviana*, da qual pode ser diferenciada pelas pétalas esverdeadas e patentes e pelo pistilódio das flores estaminadas maior e avermelhado. Enquanto *T. glazioviana* é encontrada na Mata Atlântica dos estados da Bahia, Minas Gerais e Rio de Janeiro, *T. iaspidis* é conhecida apenas de dois remanescentes de floresta montana no sul da Bahia, Brasil.

**Palavras-chave:** Bahia, Clusiaceae, Malpighiales, Nordeste, taxonomia

### Introduction

*Tovomita* Aubl. (1775: 957) [(Clusiaceae s.s., tribe Clusiaceae Choisy (1824: 557)] comprises dioecious trees, treelets, and shrubs. Pistillate plants bears fewer flowers than staminate ones (Cuello 1998). The fruits are green outside, fleshy and dehiscent, exposing a red to purple endocarp with attached seeds that are covered with a bright orange aril (Cuello 2003). Vegetatively, the species of *Tovomita* have axillary shoots with a long proximal internode (the remaining internodes are short) and a white to yellowish (Cuello 1998), rarely hyaline, latex. It is estimated that *Tovomita* comprises about 45 neotropical species, mostly distributed in the Brazilian, Peruvian, and Venezuelan Amazon (Cuello 2003). Based on the Flora of Brazil list (Bittrich *et al.* 2015), 31 species are known from that country, 10 of which are found in the Atlantic Forest from Rio de Janeiro State north to Pernambuco State (Bittrich *et al.* 2015).

Traditionally, *Tovomita* has been separated into two sections: *Tovomita* sect. *Eutovomita* Engl. (1923: 7) and *T.* sect. *Dystovomita* Engl. (1923: 8), although the latter section was elevated to genus level by D'Arcy in 1978. The former of these two sections is subdivided into two subsections, which we consider here as informal groups: *T.* subsect. *Clusiaefoliae* Vesque (1895: 189) (= *Clusiaefoliae* informal group), characterized by having leaves with numerous thin secondary veins that are very close to each other and do not arch near the margin of the leaf blades, and *Tovomita* subsect. *Chrysochlamydidifoliae* Vesque (1895: 192) (= *Chrysochlamydidifoliae* informal group), with fewer, thicker and well-spaced secondary veins that arch close to the leaf blade margin (Vesque 1895).