



A new species and new records of *Dorstenia* (Moraceae, Dorstenieae) from Rwanda, East Africa

EBERHARD FISCHER & DOROTHEE KILLMANN

Institut für Integrierte Naturwissenschaften – Biologie, Universität Koblenz-Landau, Universitätsstraße 1, 56070 Koblenz, Germany.
e-mail: efischer@uni-koblenz.de; killmann@uni-koblenz.de

Abstract

The new species *Dorstenia marijanmatokii* from Rwanda is described. It differs from *Dorstenia nyungwensis* in the discoid and entirely purple receptacle with shorter primary appendages and more numerous and irregular secondary appendages, and the densely tomentose lower leaf surface with purple venation. First records of *Dorstenia brownii* and *D. psilurus* from Rwanda and a key to the species of *Dorstenia* for Rwanda are provided.

Key words: Moraceae, Dorstenieae, *Dorstenia marijanmatokii*, *D. nyungwensis*, *D. brownii*, *D. psilurus*, Nyungwe National Park, Albertine Rift endemic

Introduction

The genus *Dorstenia* Linnaeus (1753: 121) comprises about 108 species and occurs mainly in the tropics of America and Africa extending to Arabia (Berg & Hijman 1999). In the last years four new species have been described from Brazil (Machado & Vianna Filho 2012, Machado *et al.* 2014), Santos & Romaniuc 2012, Vianna *et al.* 2013). Another new species, *Dorstenia christenhuszii* M.W.Chase & M.F.Fay (2013: 46), was described from the Taita Hills in Kenya (Chase *et al.* 2013). Thus 59 species are currently known from tropical Africa (incl. Socotra) (Berg & Hijman 1999).

A first treatment for D.R. Congo, Rwanda and Burundi was published by Hauman (1948). However, no taxon was recorded for Rwanda at that time. Troupin (1966) was the first to list two species, *Dorstenia warneckeii* Engler (1911: 275) and *D. benguellensis* Welwitsch (1869: 71) from dry forests of Akagera National Park. Later, in preparation of the first volume of the “Flore du Rwanda” Troupin described the local endemic species *Dorstenia nyungwensis* Troupin (1977: 252) (Troupin & Lambinon 1977). The treatment of *Dorstenia* for Rwanda comprised now three species (Troupin 1978). Recently Berg & Hijman (1999) added *Dorstenia hildebrandtii* Engler (1894: 146) var. *schlechteri* (Engler) Hijman (1989: 34).

During research on the vegetation of montane forests in Rwanda in January 2011 the authors discovered a *Dorstenia* which superficially resembled *Dorstenia nyungwensis*. Close examination showed that it represented a new species that is described below.

The new species

Dorstenia marijanmatokii Eb.Fisch. & Killmann, *sp. nov.* (Figs. 1, 2, 4, Tab. 1)

Type:—RWANDA. Western Province, Nyungwe National Park, Cyamudongo Forest, understorey of montane rainforest, 10 January 2011, alt. 1840 m, *Eb. Fischer* 14015 (holotype BR!; isotype KOBL!).

Diagnosis:—The new species differs from *Dorstenia nyungwensis* (Tab. 1) in the receptacle which is discoid (flattened to navicular in *D. nyungwensis*), the dark purple flowering face 15–30 × 10 mm (blackish-purple and 15–22 × 3–7 mm in *D. nyungwensis*), the 3 mm wide light purple margin (1 mm wide and green in *D. nyungwensis*), the greenish-purple