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Salvia semiscaposa (Lamiaceae) a new species from Nanchititla, Mexico

ITZI FRAGOSO-MARTÍNEZ[1], MARTHA MARTÍNEZ-GORDILLO[2] & EFRAÍN DE LUNA[3]
[1]*Posgrado en Ciencias Biológicas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Av. Universidad 3000, 04510, Coyoacán, Distrito Federal, México*
[1,2]*Herbario de la Facultad de Ciencias (FCME), Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Apartado postal 70-399, 04510 México, D.F., México.*
E-mail: [1]itzi@ciencias.unam.mx, [2]mjmg_unam@yahoo.com
[3]*Red de Biodiversidad y Sistemática, Instituto de Ecología, A. C., Xalapa, 9100, Veracruz, México.*
E-mail: efrain.deluna@inecol.mx

Abstract

A new species of *Salvia* section *Lavanduloideae* from the Estado de México is described and illustrated. *Salvia semiscaposa* is a procumbent plant morphologically similar to *S. scaposa* and *S. helianthemifolia*. It differs from the former by having mostly obovate leaf blades, more than six flowers per verticillaster and posterior calyx lobes narrower and apiculate. On the other hand, *S. helianthemifolia* differs from the new species by the presence of an erect stem, ovate leaves and trichomes on the calyx surface distributed only on the veins.

Resumen

Se describe e ilustra una nueva especie de *Salvia* sección *Lavanduloideae* del Estado de México. *Salvia semiscaposa* es una planta procumbente morfológicamente similar a *S. scaposa* y *S. helianthemifolia*. De la primera difiere por presentar generalmente hojas obovadas, más de seis flores por verticilastro y lóbulos posteriores del cáliz más estrechos y apiculados. Por otro lado, *S. helianthemifolia* difiere de la especie nueva por la presencia de un tallo erecto, hojas ovadas y tricomas del cáliz presentes solamente en las venas.

Key words: multivariate analyses, *Calosphace*, geometric morphometrics

Introduction

Salvia Linnaeus (1753: 23) is the second most diverse genus in Mexico (Villaseñor 2004), with more than 300 species, of which 75% are endemic (Martínez-Gordillo *et al*. 2013). These numbers are continuously growing, as more species had been recently described by Klitgaard (2007), Turner (2008, 2013), Bedolla-García *et al.* (2011), Martínez-Gordillo & Lozada-Pérez (2011), González-Gallegos *et al.* (2012a, 2012b, 2013), Iltis *et al*. (2012), Fragoso-Martínez & Martínez-Gordillo (2013), González-Gallegos (2013), González-Gallegos & Castro-Castro (2013), González-Gallegos & Aguilar-Santelises (2014) and Lara-Cabrera *et al*. (2013).

Phylogenetic studies based on molecular data suggest that *Salvia* is paraphyletic and that only the Neotropical subgenus *Calosphace*, is monophyletic (Walker *et al*. 2004). *Calosphace* is the most species-rich subgenus of *Salvia* with ca. 600 species (Epling 1939, Santos 1995). The countries that hold most of the diversity of *Calosphace* are Mexico (310 spp.; Martínez-Gordillo *et al*. 2013) and Peru (81 spp.; Zarucci 1993). The Neotropical sages are distributed mainly along the mountain chains of Mesoamerica and South America, being especially diverse in montane tropical forests (Espejo & Ramamoorthy 1993). In Mexico the endemism of *Salvia* subgenus *Calosphace* is high in the Sierra Madre Oriental, Sierra Madre Occidental, and Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt (Ramamoorthy & Elliot 1998).

The great diversity of *Calosphace* has been classified in more than 100 sections (Epling 1939, 1940, 1941, 1947, 1951, Epling & Játiva 1966, Ramamoorthy 1984a, Ramamoorthy & Elliot 1998). *Salvia* section *Lavanduloideae* Epling (1939: 34) is a group of 12 species endemic to Mexico, except *Salvia lavanduloides* Kunth (1817: 287), which has been

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