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Autor: Lombardi, Julio Antonio
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One new species of *Cissus* L. (Vitaceae) from Middle America

JULIO ANTONIO LOMBARDI

ABSTRACT

LOMBARDI, J. A. (1997). One new species of *Cissus* L. (Vitaceae) from Middle America. *Candollea* 52: 105-107. In English, English and French abstracts.

Cissus osaënsis Lombardi, a new species of *Vitaceae*, is described for Costa Rica. Besides the description and illustration, comments on its probable relationships and distribution are presented.

RÉSUMÉ

LOMBARDI, J. A. (1997). Une Nouvelle espèce du genre *Cissus* L. (Vitaceae) d'Amérique Centrale. *Candollea* 52: 105-107. En anglais, résumés anglais et français.

Cissus osaënsis Lombardi, une nouvelle espèce de *Vitaceae*, est décrite du Costa Rica. Outre sa description et son illustration, l'auteur discute des relations de cette espèce ainsi que sa distribution.

KEY-WORDS: *Cissus* – *VITACEAE* – Central America – Costa Rica.

Cissus L. is the largest genus of *Vitaceae* in the world, with about 350 species (MABBERLEY, 1987). Since the monograph of PLANCHON (1887) the last regional treatment of *Vitaceae* in Middle America has been presented by ELIAS (1968) in the Flora of Panama. Apart from that, few other *Cissus* species have been described for the entire Middle America (CROAT, 1973, 1976).

While working on a taxonomic revision of Neotropical *Vitaceae* the author has recognized 17 species from Middle America. One of these, was considered as an undescribed species. It is presented and illustrated here.

***Cissus osaënsis* Lombardi, spec. nova** (Fig. 1)

Holotypus: COSTA RICA, Puntarenas: Rincón de Osa, road to Pacific, S and W of the airstrip, 24 Jul 1974 (fl), Utley, J. & T. Utley 1232 (F!).

Frutex scandens, foliis ternatis, Cissum serrulatifolia L. *O. Williams* et *C. ulmifolia* (Baker) Planch. *simulans, sed ramis et petiolis alatis, foliis pilosis, foliolis siccis discoloribus, laminibus supra cum nervis fuscis marmoratis differt.*

Liana; stems hispid to pubescent, 4-angled and winged; drying tile red. Tendrils dichotomous, with adhesive discs, hispid in the basis and puberulous in the remainder; tendrils scales ca. 0.2 cm long, puberulous. Trichomes not ramified and not secretory mixed with sparse long-peduncled and secretory ones. Leaves trifoliolate; petioles 3.7-10.9 cm long, hispid to pubescent, winged; stipules 0.3-0.4 cm long × 0.25-0.8 cm wide, deltate, hispid in abaxial side, pube-

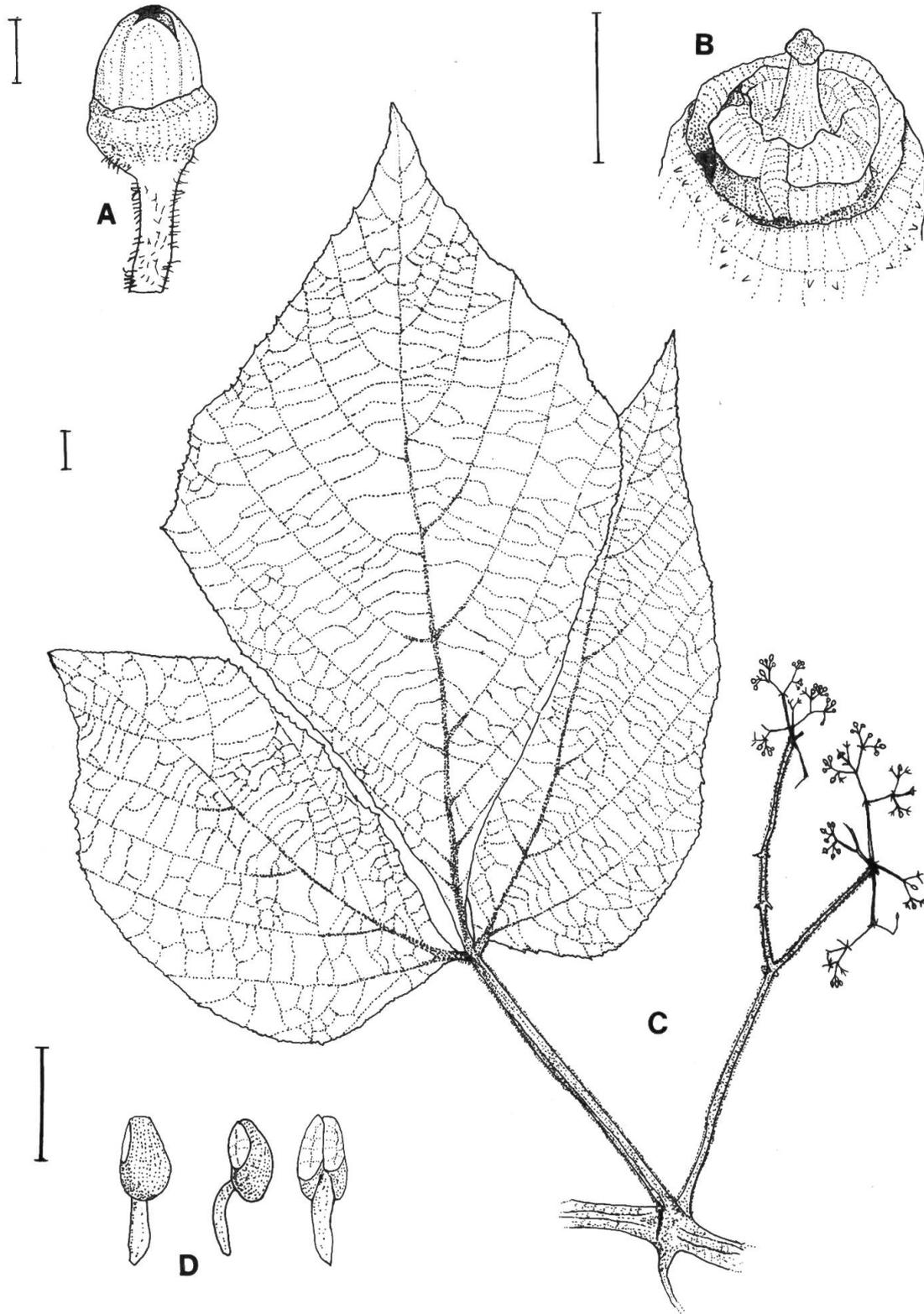


Fig. 1. – *Cissus osaënsis* Lombardi. **A**, flower bud; **B**, nectariferous disc and pistil; **C**, leaf and leafless reproductive branch with stipules and inflorescences; **D**, stamens, dorsal, lateral, and ventral views. **A-D** from Utley, J. & T. Utley 1232. Scales: A-B, D = 1 mm; C = 1 cm.

ulous to glabres in adaxial side, ciliate, carnosae, caducous; central petiolules 0.25-0.4 cm long, lateral petiolules 0.2-0.4 cm long, both densely hispid to pubescent, winged; lamina of central leaflets 12.1-23 cm long \times 5.5-12.1 cm wide, truncate to elliptic, basis attenuate; lamina of lateral leaflets 8.3-15 cm long \times 3.4-7.1 cm wide, subelliptic to subovate, basis oblique to cuneate; both central and lateral leaflets apex acute to caudate, margin denticulate to dentate, pubescent to hispid in abaxial side, chiefly along the nerves, pubescent to estrigose in adaxial side, chiefly along the nerves, herbaceous, drying tile red but along the nerves marked in adaxial side clearer and greyish red. Compound cymes 4.6-6.4 cm long \times 6.2-6.6 cm wide, in leafless branches; peduncles 3.2-3.6 cm long, hispid, green but drying tile red; bracts ca. 0.2 cm long, triangulate, glabrous in the apex, puberulous in the basis, ciliate; pedicels 0.25-0.45 long, puberulous, green but drying tile red; calyx 0.1 cm long \times 0.2 cm diam., truncate, puberulous, carnosae, green but drying tile red; corolla in bud 0.2 cm long \times 0.15 cm diam.; petals glabrous, papillose, carnosae, green but drying tile red; stamens 4, thecae diminutives, dehiscence extrorse, connective triangulate, gibbous, granulose, drying dark brown; disc apex concave, yellow, basis drying dark brown; style cylindrical, stigma slightly capitate. Fruit not seen, seed not seen.

Cissus osaënsis is distinct from other Neotropical ternate leaved species with its dense indumentum, dried plant color, leaves with marked and clear red areas along nerves in adaxial side, and flowers with pilose pedicels and calyx.

The name of the species is from the Peninsula de Osa (Costa Rica), the locality of the two unique collections known by the author. Its habitat is the moist forest of the valley.

Cissus osaënsis is similar to *Cissus serrulatifolia* with its ternate leaves sometimes with dentate margin, but is easily distinguished by winged stems and petioles, attenuated basis of leaflets, its marked nerves and indumentum. The new species is also similar to *Cissus ulmifolia* with its dried plant color and ternate leaves, but also easily distinguished by the wings, apex and basis of leaflets, its nerves and indumentum.

The paratype collection from Costa Rica is a very poor one, with galls in the leaves and a big witch broom in the inflorescence, probably caused by the common *Cissus* smut: *Mycosirynx cissi* (Poir.) G. Beck (*Basidiomycotina: Ustilaginales*).

Paratypes: GUATEMALA, Izabal: along Río Frío, 19 Dec 1941 (est), *Steyermark 41598* (F). COSTA RICA, Puntarenas: NW of airstrip at 50-200 m, ca. 5 km W of Rincón de Osa, Osa Peninsula, 8°42'N, 83°31'W, 24-30 Mar 1973 (inflorescence with witch broom), *Burger & J. L. Gentry Jr. 8930* (F [2 sheets], U).

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