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Taxonomic notes on South American Miconia (Melastomataceae). III

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Abstract

We propose nine synonyms and five lectotypifications for South American *Miconia* (Melastomataceae). *Miconia* acreana is synonymized under *M. erioclada*; *Miconia depauperata* and *M. doriana* under *M. paniculata*; *Miconia inconspicua* var. *glabrata* under *M. petropolitana*; *Miconia japuraensis* under *M. juruensis*; *Miconia martiusiana* under *M. cinnamomifolia*; *Miconia maximiliana* under *M. ibaguensis*, *Miconia pileata* under *M. ciliata* and *Miconia pseudonervosa* under *M. nervosa*. We propose lectotypes for *M. acreana*, *M. doriana*, *M. juruensis*, *M. longicuspis* and *M. pileata*.

Key words: Brazil, lectotypes, Miconieae, nomenclature, synonyms, taxonomy, types

Introduction

Miconia Ruiz & Pavon (1794: 60) is a genus with more than 1050 species native to the Neotropics (Goldenberg *et al.* 2008). As it should be expected for a large polyphyletic group occurring in a region with a recent history of collections and taxonomic revisions (i.e., outside Europe and North America), it is still badly in need of much basic taxonomic work. Paraphrasing a metaphor from J.J. Wurdack (1921–1998), one of the most prolific taxonomists of Melastomataceae, the rug is too big and a lot of sweeping is needed before laying something on it (H. Robinson, pers. comm.). This means that a complete monographic and systematic work on this group is still far from being achieved. There are still many undescribed species in the genus, mostly from Andean countries, and also a backlog of 18th to early 20th century taxonomy in need of evaluation and revision (Howard & Kellog 1986, Martin *et al.* 2007, Goldenberg & Martin 2008, Goldenberg *et al.* 2010, Michelangeli & Goldenberg 2012). This is the case for some of the species studied here, which were known only from the types (some of which are very poor specimens) collected almost two centuries ago. Other species descriptions were based on a sampling that was too poor to adequately understand morphological variation over wide geographic areas. In this paper we tried to solve some of these taxonomic problems regarding poorly circumscribed species, proposing synoymyzations and lectotypifications of some *Miconia* from South America, mostly from Brazil.

Taxonomy and Nomenclature

1. *Miconia ciliata* (Rich.) De Candolle (1828: 179). *Melastoma ciliatum* Richard (1792: 109). *Acinodendron ciliatum* (Rich.) Kuntze (1891: 949). Type:—FRENCH GUIANA. *Leblond s.n. in Herb. Richard* (Holotype: P!).