



## *Deprea zamorae* (Physalideae, Solanoideae, Solanaceae): a new species from southern Ecuador

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### Abstract

*Deprea zamorae* Barboza & S. Leiva (Solanaceae), a new species from southern Ecuador (Loja and Zamora–Chinchipe), is described and illustrated. It is most similar to *D. cyanocarpa*, but differs by the presence of minute teeth on the calyx, the ratio of the corolla tube length to the lobe length, the orientation of the fruiting pedicels, and the color and shape of the fruiting calyx. Its distribution does not overlap with that of any other *Deprea* species. A key for all *Deprea* species is provided.

**Key words:** Endemism, Loja, pollen, taxonomy, seed, Zamora–Chinchipe

### Introduction

*Deprea* Rafinesque (1838: 57) is a small neotropical genus from South America comprising eight species (Garzón–Venegas & Orozco 2007). Based on morphological data, Hunziker (2001) placed the genus in the tribe Solaneae subtribe Witheringiinae Reveal, while Sawyer (2005), based on a morphological phylogenetic analysis, considered *Deprea* to be a member of the tribe Physalideae Miers. Recently, in agreement with Sawyer, Olmstead *et al.* (2008) included *Deprea* in the tribe Physalideae, although the genus was not assigned to any subtribe.

Morphologically, *Deprea* is considered close to *Larnax* Miers (1849: 37) (Barboza & Hunziker 1994, Sawyer 1998, 2005, Hunziker 2001, Garzón–Venegas & Orozco 2006). Sawyer (2005) redefined *Deprea* as a monophyletic group excluding *D. glabra* (Standley 1935: 32) Hunziker (1977: 25) and *D. sylvarum* (Standley & C.V. Morton 1938: 1036) Hunziker (1977: 25), which he transferred to *Larnax* (Sawyer 2001), and proposed *Brachistus* Miers (1849: 262) as its sister group. *Deprea* species are shrubs with showy colored flowers. The corolla is funnel-shaped in the majority of the species, with lobes shorter than the tube or rarely as long as the tube. The stamens are equal, with the basal end of the filament slightly expanded, not thickened, and fused to the corolla tube forming the so-called stapet. The fruiting calyx is accrescent, tightly or loosely enveloping the berry. *Deprea* species grow mostly in humid Andean forests from Colombia to northern Peru and also in central Bolivia, except *D. ecuatoriana* Hunziker & Barboza (1996: 109) which inhabits drier areas with low vegetation in the paramos of Ecuador and Peru (Sawyer 1999).

Recently, due to explorations in previously inaccessible regions of the Andes, several new species have been described (Leiva *et al.* 2005, Sawyer 2007, Garzón–Venegas & Orozco 2007). In recent field trips (2011–2012) to southern Ecuador (Loja and Zamora–Chinchipe), a peculiar *Deprea* species was found whose flowering and fruiting features were different from any other species of this genus. It is described here as a