



## Two new species of *Pavonia* section *Lebretonia* subsection *Hastifoliae* (Malvaceae: Malvoideae) from southern Brazil

MARTIN GRINGS<sup>1</sup> & ILSI IOB BOLDRINI<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Programa de Pós-Graduação em Botânica, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Av. Bento Gonçalves, 9500, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, 91501-970, Brazil. E-mail: martin\_grings@yahoo.com.br

<sup>2</sup>Departamento de Botânica, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Av. Bento Gonçalves, 9500, Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul 91501-970, Brazil. E-mail: ilsi.boldrini@ufrgs.br

### Abstract

Two new species of *Pavonia* section *Lebretonia* from the Brazilian states of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina are described, *Pavonia salmonea* and *Pavonia exasperata*. The first inhabits highland grasslands and scrub, and edges of *Araucaria* forest in the Brazilian Atlantic Rainforest biome, being distinguished from similar species by its salmon pink corollas, leaves with large stellate trichomes and features of its mericarps. The second species inhabits dry and rocky grasslands and forest edges in the Pampa biome, being distinguished from similar species by its larger apiculate mericarps with lateral acute tubercles, and by the presence of lobate basal leaves. Descriptions, illustrations, images and a distribution map for the two new species, as well as a diagnostic key, are presented.

### Resumo

Duas novas espécies de *Pavonia* seção *Lebretonia* do Rio Grande do Sul e Santa Catarina, Brasil, são aqui descritas, *Pavonia salmonea* e *Pavonia exasperata*. A primeira habita campos de altitude e nas bordas destes com florestas de Araucária, bioma Mata Atlântica, sendo claramente diferenciada das espécies próximas devido as suas flores de coloração salmão, grandes tricomas nas folhas e por características dos mericarpos. A segunda espécie habita campos e no contato destes com florestas, no bioma Pampa, sendo claramente diferenciada das espécies próximas devido aos seus mericarpos maiores e apiculados, os quais apresentam tubérculos laterais agudos e pela presença de algumas folhas basais lobadas. Descrições, ilustrações, imagens e um mapa de distribuição das duas espécies novas, além de uma chave dicotômica para diferenciá-las das espécies próximas, são apresentados.

**Keywords.** Atlantic Rainforest biome, grasslands Pampa biome, taxonomy

### Introduction

*Pavonia* Cav. belongs to the tribe Malvaceae, due to the presence of twice as many styles and stigmas as carpels. Distinctive characteristics of *Pavonia* (in comparison with other genera in the tribe) include: absence of leaf nectaries, flowers subtended by an epicalyx with nonpeltate bracteoles, petals without basal auricles and schizocarps with five mericarps, lacking glochidiate spines (Esteves 2001). The genus encompasses prostate herbs, subshrubs, shrubs and rarely small trees, comprising 250 species worldwide, 224 in the Americas (Fryxell 1999) and 123 in Brazil (Esteves 2010).

*Pavonia* section *Lebretonia* is a very complex group, comprising many similar species based on minor differences, such as: mericarp height and ornamentation, flower size and color, presence or absence of some types of trichomes, and morphology and width of epicalyx bracts (Krapovickas & Cristóbal 1962, Grings *et al.* 2011). These characters are also used by Fryxell (1999) in his key for species of subsection *Hastifoliae*.